Build on success, improve behavioral health care through Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

**Issues:**

- It’s rare to get treatment for both mental illness and substance use disorder through the same program. People with both issues often work with several different programs to get the treatment and supports they need. Yet care coordination is critical before they are in crisis.
- Minnesota is one of eight states testing a new model of community-based care for mental health and substance use disorder through Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs).
- Six clinics in Minnesota provide comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder services for children and adults, including screening, assessment and diagnosis, treatment planning, and outpatient and rehabilitative services. They also monitor chronic illnesses and coordinate with primary care providers. They are part of a federal demonstration project that runs through June 2019.
- State legislation is needed to expand Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics beyond the current six sites. More providers are interested and ready to start working under this promising model.
- Minnesota has applied for a federal waiver to continue federal matching funds beyond July 2019.
- Congress approved funding for additional Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, including two clinics in Minnesota. State legislation and funding are needed for these clinics to become CCBHCs.

**Proposal:**

Governor Tim Walz’s budget includes these measures:

- Transition from a demonstration project to an ongoing service model.
- Move the services to a traditional Medicaid benefit, allowing the current six sites to continue and leading to five new providers offering this model of care over the next four years. Two providers that recently received federal grants will be able to move forward, and the Department of Human Services will issue a Request for Proposals to identify three more providers by January 2020.
- Provide resources to support improvements and ensure the long-term sustainability of this model.

**Benefits:**

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics increase access, improve services and serve as a “one-stop shop” for mental health and substance use disorder care, especially for those who are underserved.
- They served more than 17,000 Minnesota children and adults in the first year of the demonstration.

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Early results show better access to care, shorter wait times, better coordination, more services and better capacity to meet individual needs.

The clinics change the payment model for mental health and substance use disorder treatment, moving toward reimbursement based on actual costs and pay-for-performance.

**Fiscal impact:**

- Invests $4.7 million in FY 2020-21 and $18.2 million in FY 2022-23

**Related information:**

- Adult mental health webpage: [mn.gov/dhs/adult-mental-health](mn.gov/dhs/adult-mental-health)
- Mental health programs and services webpage: [mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/mental-health/programs-services/](mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/mental-health/programs-services/)

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