

# CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center CCBHC Criteria Series

## Scope of Services: Opportunities for an Ideal Crisis System

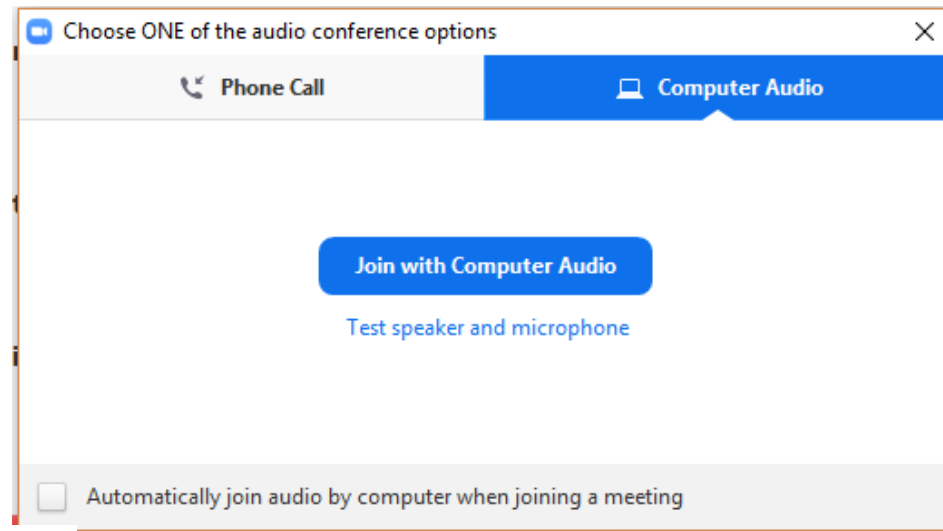
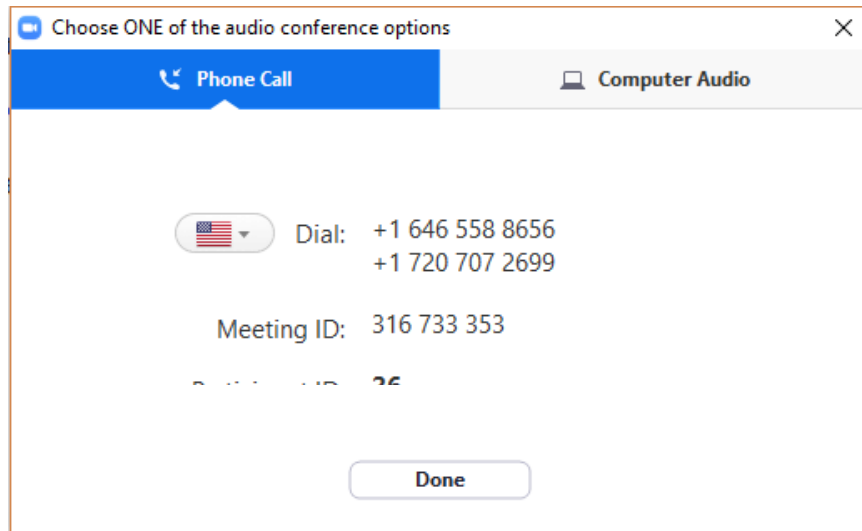
April 26, 2022

**CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center**

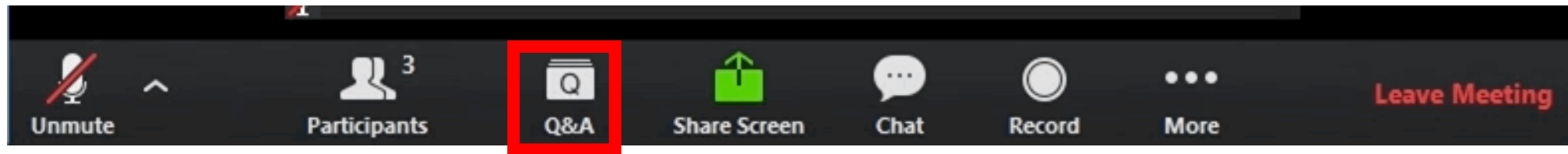
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# Zoom Logistics

- Call in on your telephone, or use your computer audio option
- If you are on the phone, remember to enter your Audio PIN so your audio and computer logins are linked



# How to Ask a Question



Share questions throughout today's session using the **Q&A Feature** on your Zoom toolbar. **We'll answer as many questions as we can throughout today's session.**



# Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

*This publication was made possible by Grant Number 1H79SM085856 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views, opinions, or policies of SAMHSA, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).*



# Post Evaluation Survey

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CCBHC-E National TTA Center

## CCBHC-e Webinar Criteria Series: Monthly Follow Up Post Evaluation Survey

### CCBHC Criteria Webinar Series: Optimizing Staffing in the CCBHC Model Evaluation Survey

Thank you for participating in the CCBHC-E NTTA Center event CCBHC Criteria Webinar Series: Optimizing Staffing in the CCBHC Model, hosted on January 25th, 2022. Please take a moment to complete this brief, anonymous post event survey. Your feedback is essential to help us better understand your need for training, technical assistance and resources. Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire.

\* 1. Were you the only one who watched the session on your device?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. If not, how many people were viewing the session with you on your device?

\* 3. The speakers for the session provided a very engaging and informative presentation

☐ Strongly Disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly Agree

Please note that we will be sending out **post-evaluation survey** within the next month to gather your feedback!

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# Agenda

- Welcome
- Today's Presenters
- ZiaPartners
- Clinic Perspectives – Integral Care Team and Best Self
- Q&A Period



# Today's Presenters



**Samantha Holcombe**  
Senior Director Practice  
Improvement Consulting  
National Council for  
Mental Wellbeing



**Ken Minkoff**  
Senior System Consultant,  
ZiaPartners



**Sherry Blyth**  
Director, Crisis Services,  
Specialty Substance Use  
Treatment and Justice  
Initiatives



**Rita Cuda**  
Senior Vice President of Children  
and Family Clinic Services,  
BestSelf Behavioral Health



# Crisis Behavioral Health Services (4.C)

- Unless there is an existing state-sanctioned, certified, or licensed system or network for the provision of crisis behavioral health services, the CCBHC will directly provide robust and timely crisis behavioral health services, which must include:
  - 24-hour mobile crisis teams,
  - Emergency crisis intervention services, and
  - Crisis stabilization
- Services provided must include suicide crisis response and services capable of addressing crises related to substance use and intoxication, including ambulatory and medical detoxification.

## Today's Highlights

- Thinking globally – considering the ideal crisis system
- Acting locally – the role and opportunity of CCBHCs in the crisis system

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# ZiaPartners

Ken Minkoff

**CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center**

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# Guiding Principles and Values of an Ideal Crisis System

## *Ideal BH Crisis Systems are*

- *Based on a shared set of values.*  
Welcoming and engaging, customer-centered, hopeful, safe, compassionate, empowering, recovery-oriented, trauma informed, and culturally appropriate.
- *Accountable for all people and populations*
- *Designed for the expectation of complexity*  
MH and SUD, plus I/DD, health, housing, criminal justice, child/adult protection, etc.
- *Designed to be clinically effective and cost effective*
- *Able to use value-based involuntary intervention - only when necessary*
- *Organized to share and use data for continuous improvement*



# Vision

- Every individual/family in every community in the U.S. will have access to a continuum of best practice BH crisis services that are welcoming, person-centered, recovery-oriented, and continuous.
- An excellent Behavioral Health Crisis System is an essential community service, just like police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS).
- Every community should expect a highly effective BH crisis response system to meet the needs of its population.
- A BH crisis system is more than a single crisis program.

It is an organized set of structures, processes, and services that are in place to meet all types of urgent and emergent BH crisis needs in a defined population or community, effectively and efficiently.

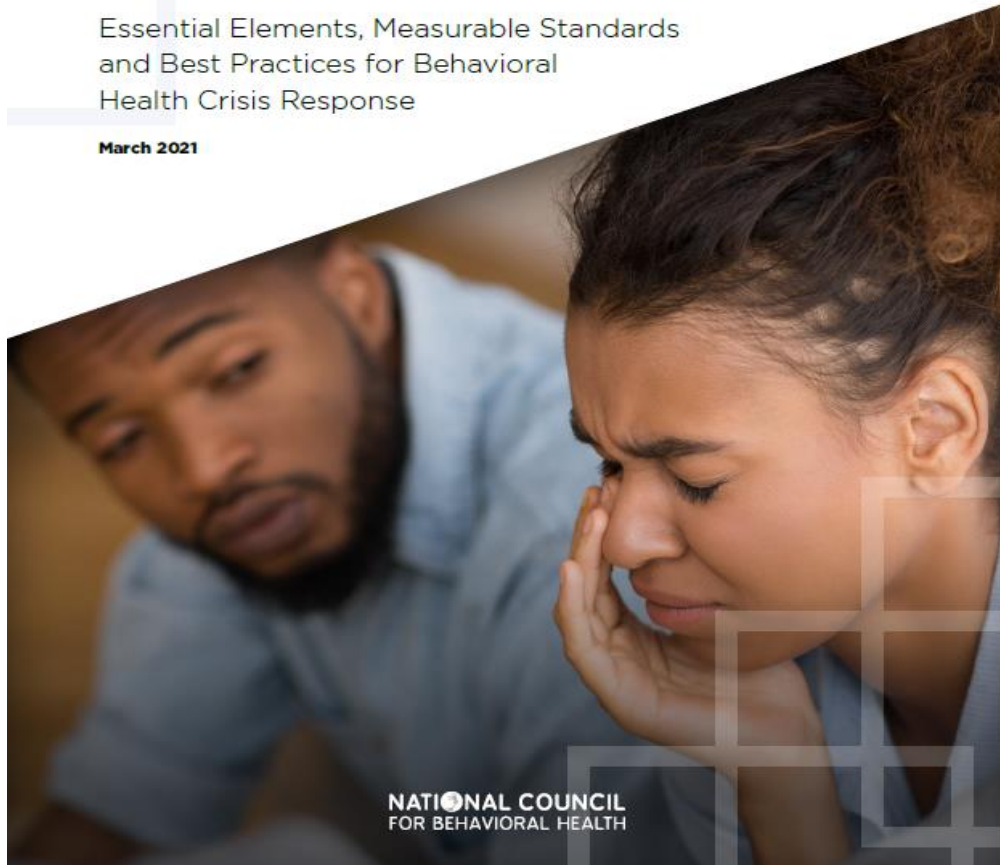




# ROADMAP TO THE IDEAL CRISIS SYSTEM

Essential Elements, Measurable Standards  
and Best Practices for Behavioral  
Health Crisis Response

March 2021



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FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

## A report of the Committee on Psychiatry and the Community for the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry

Jacqueline Maus Feldman MD co-chair  
Ken Minkoff, MD co-chair



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# Elements of an Ideal Crisis System



# Section I: Accountability And Finance



FINANCING



FLOW AND THROUGHPUT



ELIGIBILITY (ALL-PAYER)



COMPREHENSIVE CLIENT  
TRACKING DATA SYSTEM



GEOGRAPHIC ACCESS AND  
NETWORK ADEQUACY



FORMAL ASSESSMENT OF  
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION



QUALITY METRICS



STANDARDIZED UTILIZATION  
MANAGEMENT AND LEVEL OF  
CARE DETERMINATION



PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES



RELATIONSHIP TO THE REST  
OF THE SERVICE SYSTEM

- An ideal behavioral health crisis system must have both a mechanism to finance and implement a comprehensive continuum of crisis services and a mechanism to ensure oversight, accountability, and quality of the performance of that continuum.
- This section defines the concept of an **Accountable Entity**, which is a structure and a mechanism for allocating responsibility and accountability that holds the behavioral health crisis system accountable to the community for meeting performance standards and the needs of the population. There are numerous different models of these structures.



## Section I: Accountability And Finance – Key Takeaways

- There is an entity accountable for behavioral health crisis system performance for everyone and for the full continuum of system capacities, components and best practices.
- There is a behavioral health crisis system coordinator and a formal community collaboration of funders, behavioral health providers, first responders, human service systems and service recipients.
- There is a stated goal that each person and family will receive an effective, satisfactory response every time.
- Geographic access is commensurate with that for EMS.
- Multiple payers collaborate so that there is universal eligibility and access.



## Section I: Accountability And Finance – Key Takeaways

- There are multiple strategies for successfully financing community behavioral health crisis systems.
- Service capacity of all components is commensurate to population need.
- Individual services rates and overall funding are adequate to cover the cost of the services.
- There is a mechanism for tracking customers, customer experience and performance.
- There are shared data for performance improvement.
- Quality standards are identified, formalized, measured and continuously monitored.





# Section II: Crisis Continuum: Basic Array Of Capacities And Services



| Elements Of The Continuum   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|    | Crisis Center or Crisis Hub                         |    | Intensive Community-based Continuing Crisis Intervention |
|    | Call Centers and Crisis Lines                       |    | 23-hour Evaluation and Extended Observation              |
|    | Deployed Crisis-trained Police and First Responders |    | Residential Crisis Program Continuum                     |
|   | Medical Triage and Screening                        |   | Role of Hospitals in Crisis Services                     |
|  | Mobile Crisis                                       |  | Transportation and Transport                             |
|  | Behavioral Health Urgent Care                       |   |  |

An ideal behavioral health crisis system has:

- Comprehensive array of service capacities,
- A continuum of service components
- Adequate multi-disciplinary staffing to meet the needs of all segments of the population.

## Section II: Crisis Continuum: Basic Array Of Capacities And Services

- The system has welcoming and safe access for all populations, all levels of acuity and for those who are both voluntary and involuntary.
- Family members and other natural supports, first responders and community service providers are priority customers and partners.
- Crisis response begins as early as possible, well before 911 (or 988) and continues until stability is regained.
- There is capacity for sharing information, managing flow and keeping track of people through the continuum.
- There is a service continuum for all ages and people of all cultural backgrounds.
- All services respond to the expectation of comorbidity and complexity.
- Welcome all individuals with active substance use in all settings in the continuum.
- Medical screening is widely available and is not burdensome.
- There is a full continuum of crisis components, including a crisis call center, mobile crisis, walk-in urgent care, secure crisis center, 23-hour observation, residential crisis services, hospitalization and intensive crisis outpatient services.
- Telehealth is provided for needed services not available in the local community.
- Program components are adequately staffed by multidisciplinary teams, including peer support providers.
- There is clinical/medical supervision, consultation and leadership available commensurate with provisions for emergency medical care.



# Section III: Basic Clinical Practice

An ideal behavioral health crisis system has guidelines for utilization of the best clinical practices for crisis intervention with associated processes for practice improvement and developing workforce competency.



**CORE COMPETENCIES FOR  
ENGAGEMENT, ASSESSMENT  
AND INTERVENTION**



**POPULATION-SPECIFIC  
CLINICAL BEST PRACTICES**



**SCREENING AND  
INTERVENTION TO PROMOTE  
SAFETY**



**COLLABORATION,  
COORDINATION AND  
CONTINUITY OF CARE**



**PRACTICE GUIDELINES  
FOR INTERVENTION AND  
TREATMENT**



## Section III: Basic Clinical Practice

- The system has expectations of universal competencies based on values. Welcoming, hope and safety come first.
- Engagement and information sharing with collaterals is an essential competency.
- Staff must know how to develop and utilize advance directives and crisis plans.
- Essential competencies include formal suicide and violence risk screening and intervention.
- “No force first” is a required standard of practice.
- Risk screening guidelines for medical and substance use disorder (SUD)-related issues must facilitate rather than inhibit access to behavioral health crisis care.
- Utilizing peer support in all crisis settings is a priority.
- Behavioral health crisis settings can initiate medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for SUD.
- Formal practice guidelines for the full array of ages and populations, including integrated treatment for mental health, SUD, cognitive and medical issues.
- Utilize best practices for crisis intervention, like critical time intervention, to promote successful continuity and transition planning.





# The Role and Opportunity of CCBHCs

CCBHCs are required to provide: crisis call line, 24/7 mobile crisis teams, crisis stabilization, and emergency crisis intervention

Many also provide:

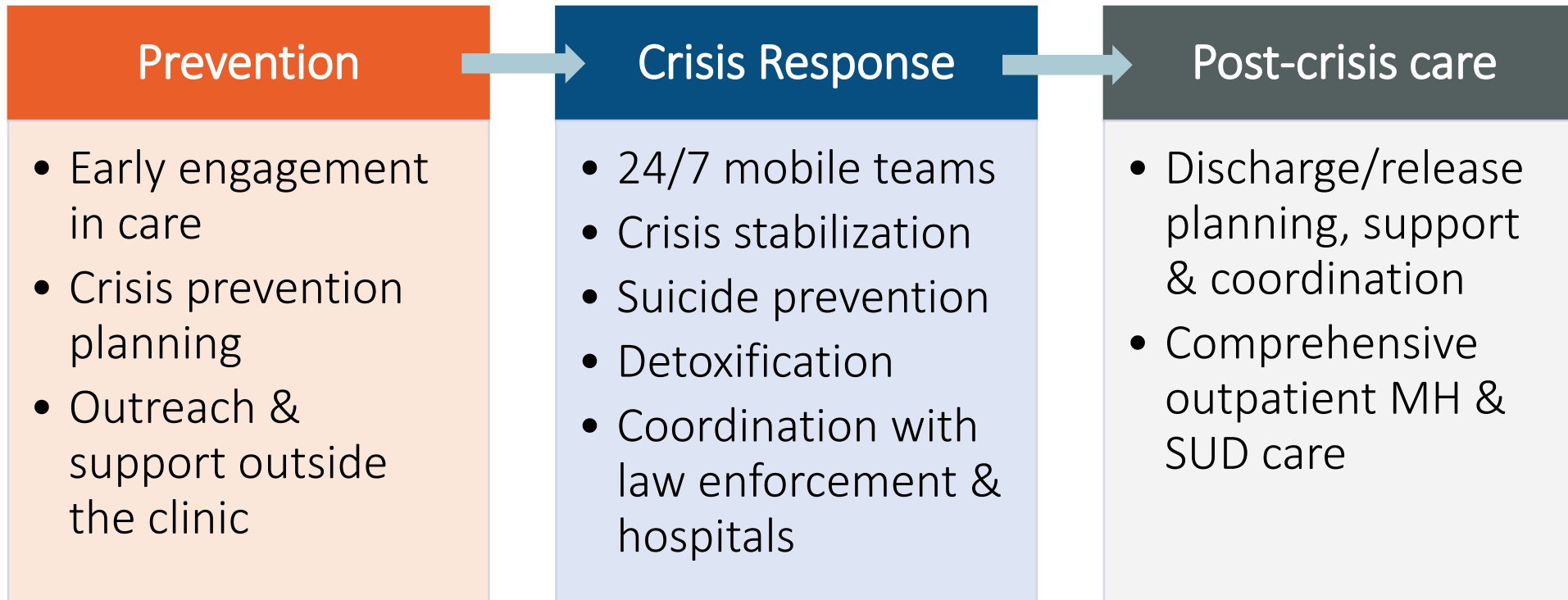
- ER diversion
- Crisis Stabilization/Drop-in Centers
- Co-response with police/EMS
- Diversion of calls and mobile response instead of police

- 75% of CCBHCs directly operate a crisis call line
- 21% report they participate in the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network
- 91% are engaging in one or more identified **high-impact activities** in crisis response, including:
  - Coordinating with hospitals/emergency departments to support diversion from EDs and inpatient (79%);
  - Operating a crisis drop-in center or similar facility for crisis stabilization (33%)
  - Behavioral health provider co-responds with police/EMS (38%);
  - Mobile behavioral health team responds to relevant 911 calls instead of police/EMS (19%);
  - Partnering with 911 to have relevant calls routed to CCBHC (17%);
  - Providing telehealth support to law enforcement officers responding to mental health/SUD calls (20%)

CCBHC Impact Report: <https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-CCBHC-Impact-Report.pdf?dof=375ateTbd56>



# CCBHCs' Role in the Crisis Continuum



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# Integral Care

Sherry Blyth

**CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center**

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Integral Care supports adults and children living with:

- mental illness
- substance use disorder
- intellectual and developmental disabilities

We help people build health and well-being so everyone has the foundation to reach their full potential.

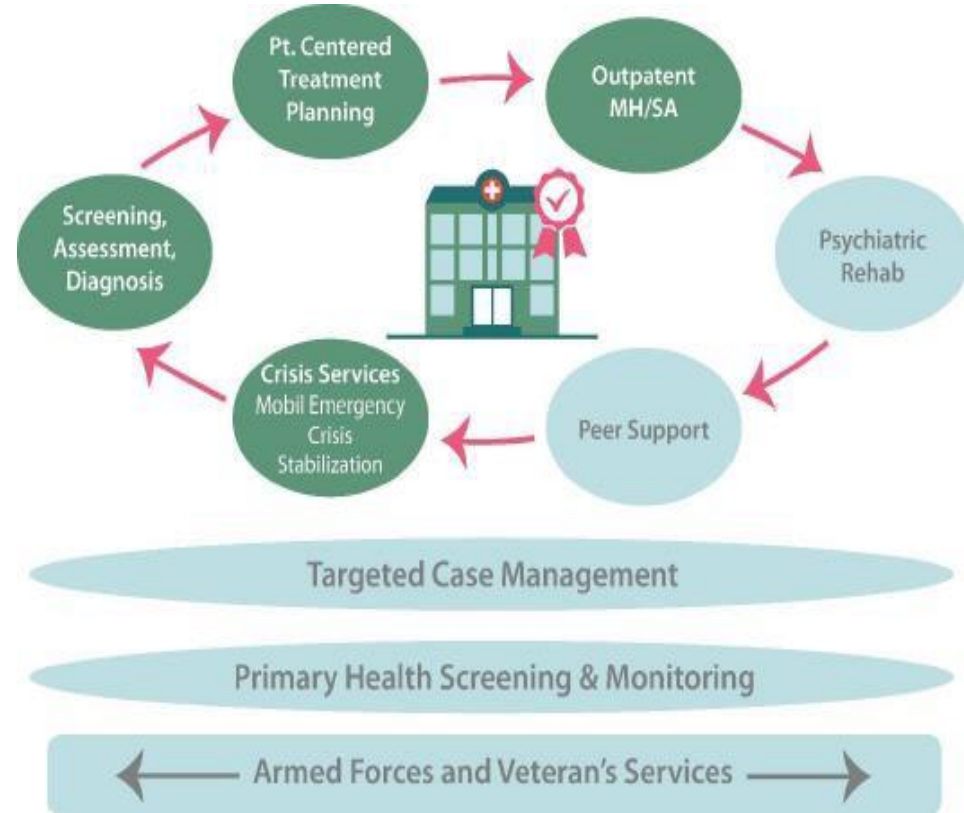


# Austin, Texas (Travis County) Snapshot

- Population 2021:
  - 1,328,720,
  - Rapid growth
  - Primarily Urban
- Demographics:
  - Race/Ethnicity: White 55%, Hispanic 33%, Multi-Race 16%, African 8%, Asian 8%
  - Median Age: 35 years
  - Median Income: \$80,690
- Capital of Texas
- University of Texas- Student population over 50,000
- UT Dell Medical School
- Hosts several events
  - Film/Music Festivals
  - Professional/Collegiate Sporting events
  - Formula 1 Circuit of the Americas



# CCBHC Operations in the Community



# First Responder Collaborations

- Austin Police Department
  - Overview
  - Crisis Intervention Team
  - Integration in to the 911 Call Center
  - Mental Health Training
- Austin Travis County Emergency Medical Services
  - Overview
  - Community Health Paramedics
  - Mental Health Training



# Crisis Services

Integral Care offers mental health crisis support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – on the phone and in the community. Our crisis services help people recover from a mental health crisis and rebuild their well-being.



A helpline for anyone who needs immediate emotional support



Tools and resources to prevent suicide



Teams that go anywhere someone needs help



Mental Health Urgent Care



# EMCOT Overview

- EMCOT provides specialized response to people in mental health emergencies anywhere someone is in crisis
- Goal of the team is to decrease/prevent arrests and emergency department visits, release first responders to other needs and connect people to the specialized care they need
- Provides follow-up care for up to 90 days
- Developed based on local community needs, drawing from best practice models across the U.S.
- EMCOT services are voluntary, never forced or required
- How it works:
  - Answer mental health calls to the 911 call center
  - Co-response with law enforcement and EMS to the scene
  - Dispatched by 911 to the scene or requested by Travis County Jail personnel
  - Provide telehealth to support law enforcement and EMS
  - Follow-up services to support ongoing stabilization and connection to care



# EMCOT Services

- Individuals
  - De-escalation and stabilization on scene
  - Assessments
  - Screening and Triage
  - Navigation to intensive crisis support as needed
  - Crisis counseling
  - Case management
  - Medication Management
  - Psychosocial Rehabilitation
  - Rehabilitation Skills Training
- Agencies
  - Co-response
  - Training



# EMCOT Timeline

FY 2013: Established as an 1115 Medicaid Waiver Project (21 FTE)

FY 2019: Funding shifted due to changes in federal program

- Travis County (40%)
- City of Austin (60%)

FY 2020: City of Austin provided additional funding (28.5 FTE)

- Provide Telehealth Services to first responders
- Integrate EMCOT clinicians into 911 Call Center with APD

FY 2021: City of Austin provided additional funding (41 FTE)

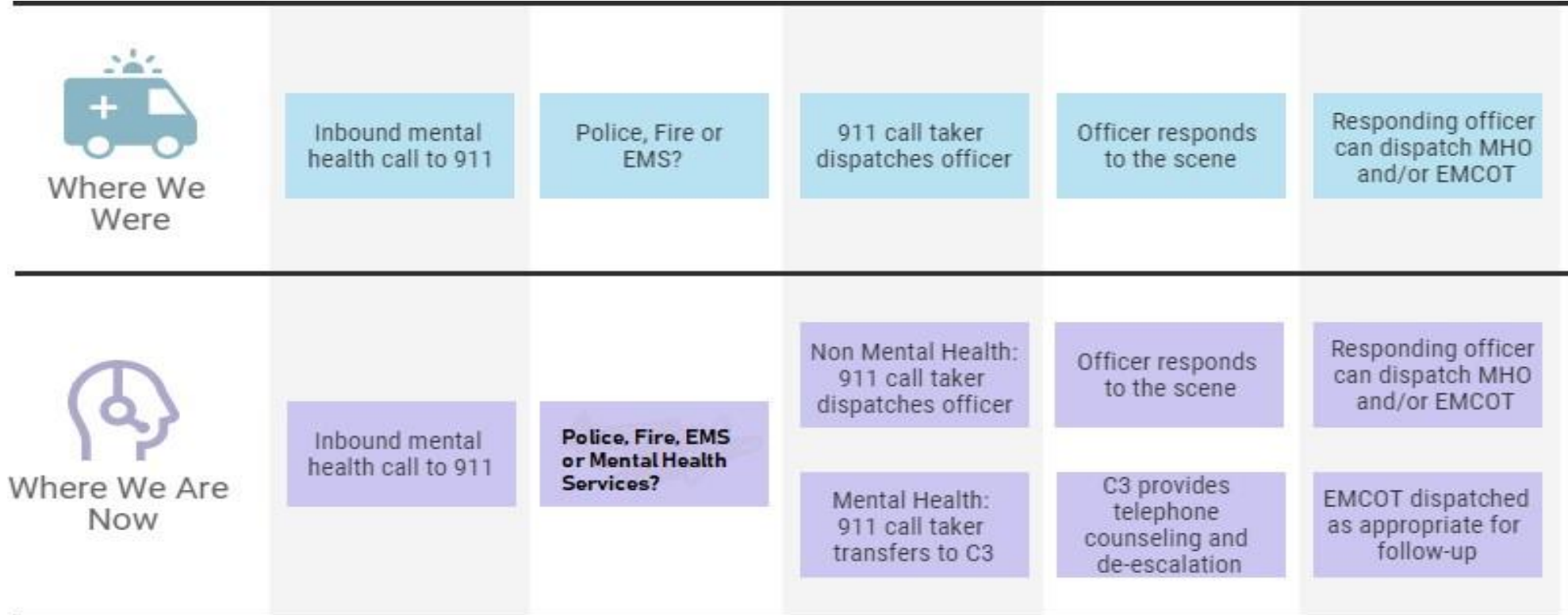
- Provide Telehealth Services
- Expand to 24/7 integration with 911 Call Center

FY 2022: Travis County invests in 911 integration (45 FTE)





# Background



# Call Center Diversion (CCD)

- CCD focuses on diverting appropriate mental health related calls received by Austin Police Department's Emergency Communications Division to a Center Crisis Clinician (C3) imbedded on the Operations Floor.
- The goal is to engage the caller in addressing mental health issues in the mental health treatment system as opposed to the criminal justice system.
- The C3 position will serve as an add-on service to a 911 Operator answering a call with a suspected or confirmed behavioral health crisis component.



# 911 Calls Ineligible for C3 Transfer

- An individual in possession of firearms, knives, or any other weapons
- An individual under the influence of alcohol or drugs to the extent requiring medical intervention (overdose or detox) or exhibiting violent behavior
- An individual threatening or at imminent risk of hurting self or others/ of killing self or others
- When an individual has committed a crime (e.g. family violence)
- Hot Shot calls (calls where life and/or property are in imminent danger)
- Priority 1 calls, with the exception of Check Welfare Urgent calls *if* the call does not have other disqualifiers



# C3 Support When First Responders Assigned

The C3 have many opportunities to assist the caller and APD without diverting the call.

C3s ...

- Are a source of support for the caller during his/her immediate crisis
- Provide resources to better prepare the caller to handle future mental health related crisis. C3s provide referrals during the call or during follow up calls.
- De-escalate the crisis prior to APD arriving on scene, which creates a safer environment for the caller and first responders.
- Provide additional information to the 911 Operator, which would otherwise be unknown to first responders arriving on scene - Consult.

# 9-1-1 Calls Appropriate for C3 Transfer

- Callers experiencing a mental health (MH) crisis and **NOT** actively attempting suicide or physically violent toward themselves or others
- Callers indicating there is a verbal dispute or disturbance only with a MH component
- Callers requesting police due to psychosis or an altered mental state
- Parents requesting police due to child behavioral issues
- Repeat callers with a known MH history
- A caller experiencing a mental health crisis and requesting a Mental Health Officer
- A caller experiencing an mental health crisis and the call does not meet the transfer criteria, if the 911 Operator believes the C3 could assist in de-escalation prior to the officers' arrival.
- Second party callers concerned about the welfare of someone who has a known or suspected mental health history



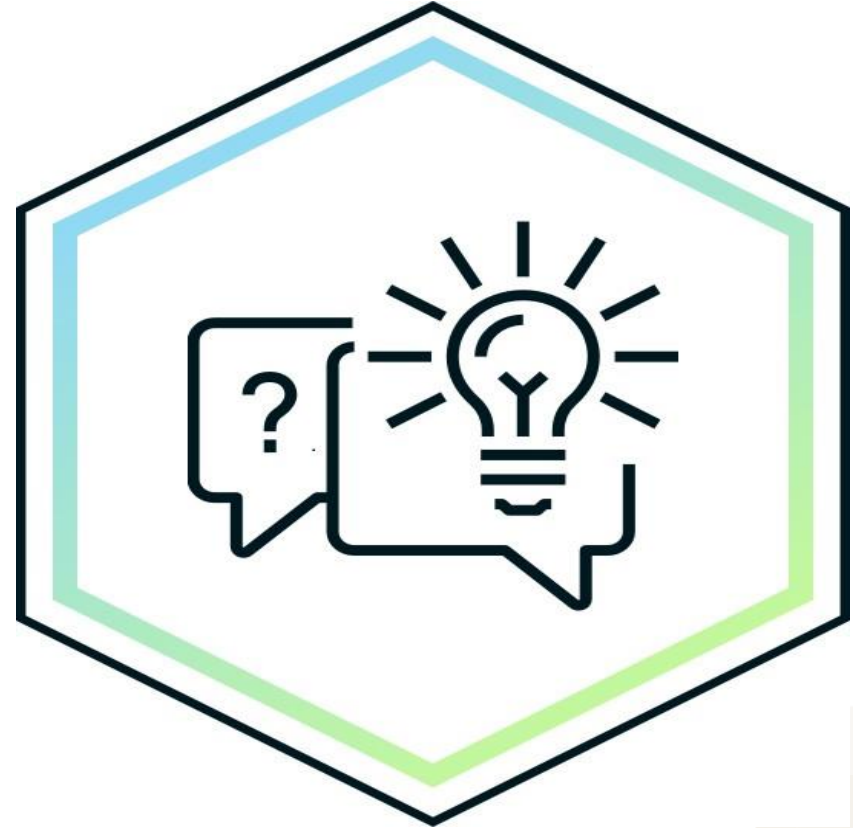
# Key Strategies

- Site Visits
- Observations (Call Takers/MCOT)
- Build relationships with first responder partners
- Interlocal, Memorandum of Understanding
- Integrate Emergency Communication Centers (benefits to same location)
- Data Collection



# Lessons Learned

- Technology
- Training
- Recruitment for positions



# FY 2021 Data

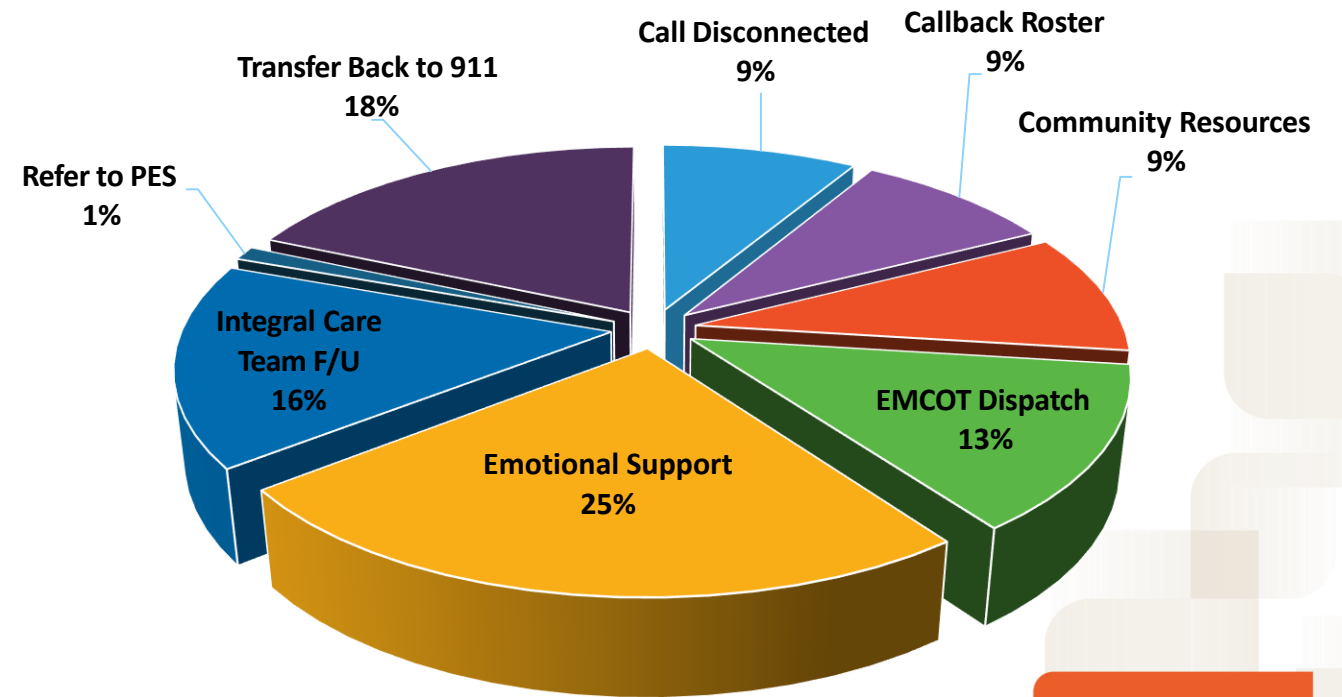
**FY2021 (10/1/2020-9/30/21)**

- Number of Calls Transferred to EMCOT C3: 4,497
- Percent of Calls Diverted from Police Response: 81%

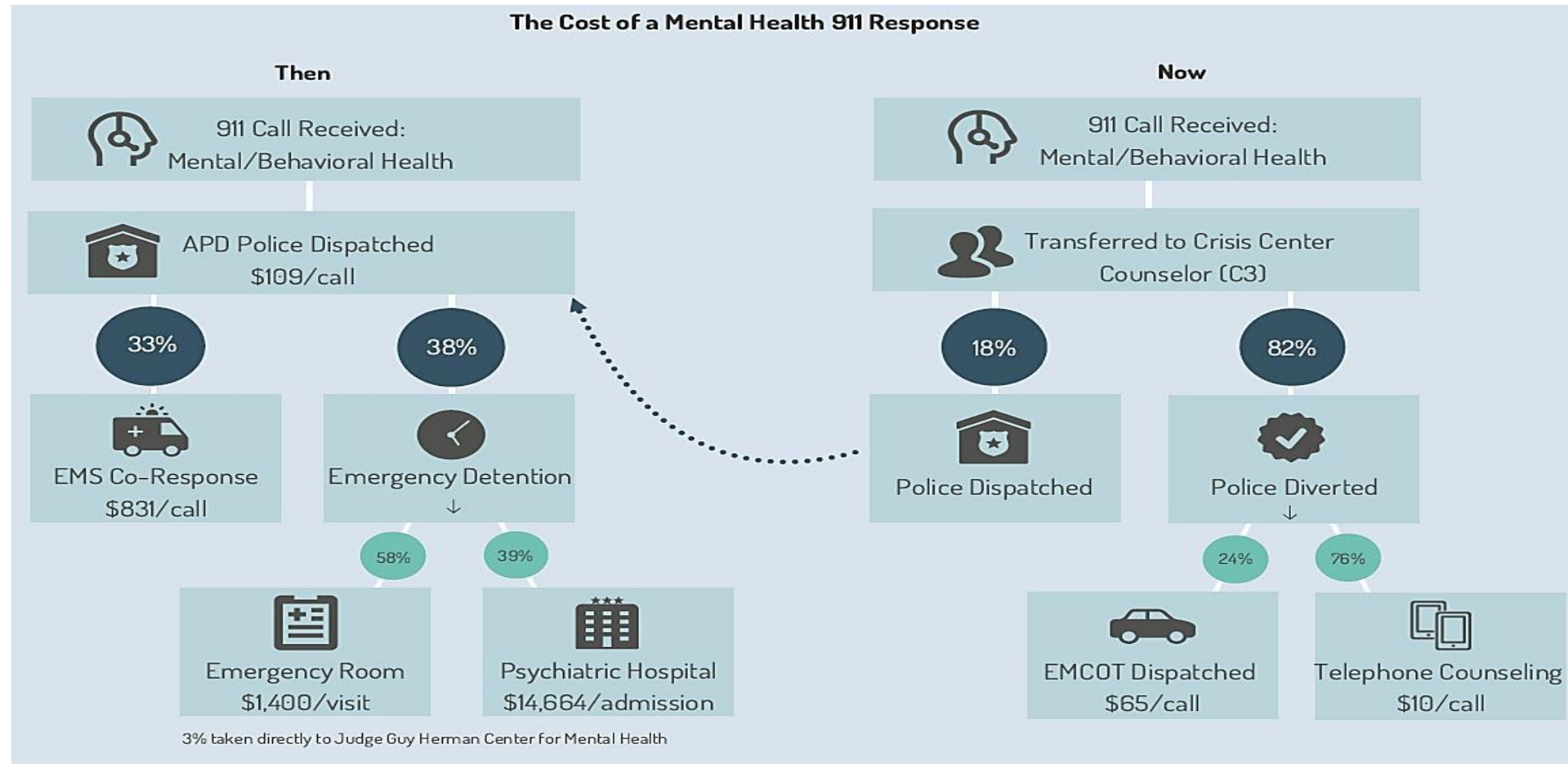




# Primary Outcomes: 10/1/20-9/30/21



# Cost Savings and Cost Avoidance



# Projected Program Impact

| Projected Total Cost Avoidance for Calls Diverted to C3 - Annual      |               |                |                  |
|---|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Encounter Type  | Cost per Unit | Diverted Calls | Cost Avoidance   |
| Austin Police Department Mental Health Response                       | \$ 109.00     | 4,210          | \$ 458,890.00    |
| Typical response involving ambulance and/or fire truck                | \$ 831.00     | 1,389*         | \$ 1,154,259.00  |
| Emergency Detention   | -----         | 1,600*         | -----            |
| Emergency Detention – Emergency Room Admission                        | \$ 1,400.00   | 928*           | \$ 1,299,200.00  |
| Emergency Detention – Private Psychiatric Hospital Admission          | \$ 14,663.60  | 624*           | \$ 9,150,086.40  |
| Projected Total Cost Avoidance – 12 Months Scaled                     |               |                | \$ 12,062,435.40 |
| Projected Average Cost Avoidance per Diverted Call – 12 Months Scaled |               |                | \$ 2,865.19      |



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# Bestself Behavioral Health

Rita Cuda

**CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center**

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# Questions?



# Reminder: Sign up for Office Hours

**Thursday, April 28<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – 1:00-2:00pm ET**

**Register [here](#)**

Looking for more time to dive deeper with our presenters,  
get your questions answered or exchange ideas?

Join our follow-up office hours session!



# Questions or Looking for Support?



## Receive assistance from our team of experts!

The CCBHC-E National Training and Technical Assistance Center provides consultation and technical assistance on CCBHC implementation to expansion grantees. Fill out this form to request assistance today.

Request Training/Assistance

Fields marked with an (\*) are required.

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| First name *         | Last name *            |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>   |
| Title *              | Organization/Company * |
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Visit our website and complete the  
**Request Technical Assistance** form

<https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/ccbhc-e-nttac/>



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# Explore National Council Interest Groups

[TheNationalCouncil.org/national-council-interest-groups](https://TheNationalCouncil.org/national-council-interest-groups)

## Crisis Response



Connect and learn more about how to contribute to the ongoing evolution of the crisis response continuum, including the once-in-a-generation opportunities related to 988.

## Substance Use



Pulling from the fields of research, advocacy, policy and practice, this interest group will explore the latest innovation and guidance from across the field and throughout the full continuum of substance use prevention, treatment and recovery.





# Thank You

Please take a moment to share your feedback in the **post-webinar survey**.  
It will pop up once the webinar is closed.

