



## CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINICS (CCBHC)

The Illinois Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Act (Senate Bill 2294/Public Act 102-0043) required that by January 1, 2022, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services establish a program for the implementation of CCBHCs in the state.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has provided grant funding to Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) for the establishment of CCBHCs, which are designed to provide a comprehensive range of behavioral health and substance use disorder services, particularly to vulnerable individuals with the most complex needs. The federal grants awarded to individual CMHCs are \$2 million per year, for two-year terms with opportunities for extensions.

Signed into law in 2021, the Illinois Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics Act stipulates that CMHCs that have received federal grant funding from SAMHSA for the implementation of CCBHCs prior to July 1, 2021, shall be eligible to participate in the Illinois program. Since that time, additional CMHCs in Illinois have achieved recognition by and federal grant funding from SAMHSA for CCBHC implementation, which make them eligible for short-term federal funding but ineligible for future funding under the state's program.

**UnityPoint Health supports the SAMHSA CCBHC model as the standard of care for individuals with complex behavioral health care needs and urges the Illinois General Assembly to expand its current program to provide long-term support for Illinois CMHCs that have achieved this recognition.**

**POLICY RECOMMENDATION:** The Illinois CCBHC program should be expanded to include any CMHC that is currently providing CCBHC services through SAMHSA. Enhanced provider reimbursement established by the Illinois CCBHC program should recognize the comprehensive array of services that are offered by CMHCs to Illinoisians with complex behavioral health needs.

**For more information, contact:**

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