



# Crisis External Advisory Committee Meeting

July 3rd

9:00 – 10:00 AM

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and  
Substance Use Services (DMHDDSUS)

# Agenda

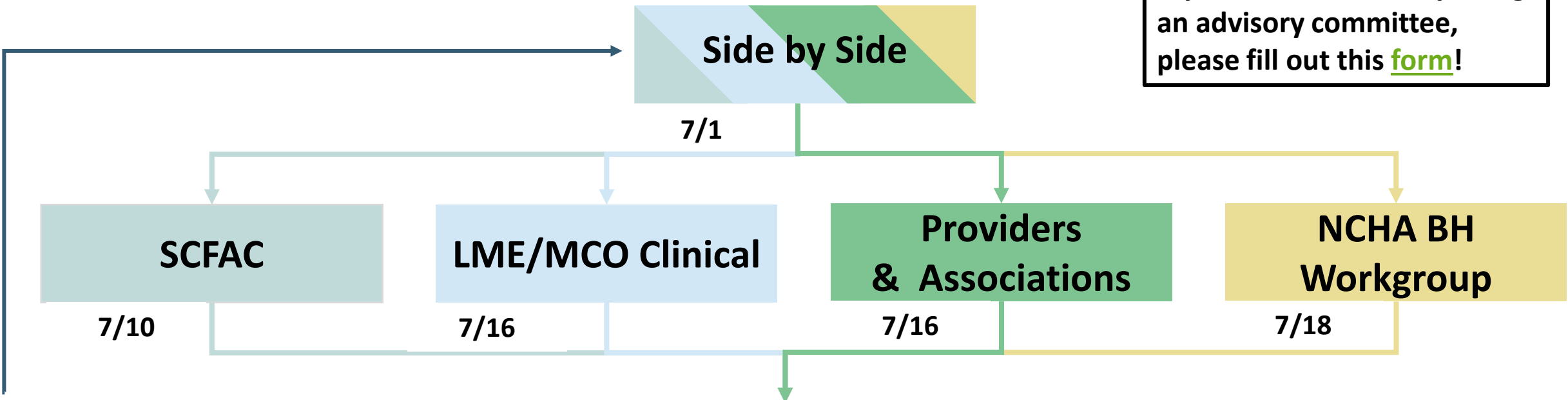
- Community Collaboration Model
- Crisis Investments Update
- Discussion
  - Mobile Crisis Improvements

**DMH/DD/SUS**  
**Community Collaboration Model**

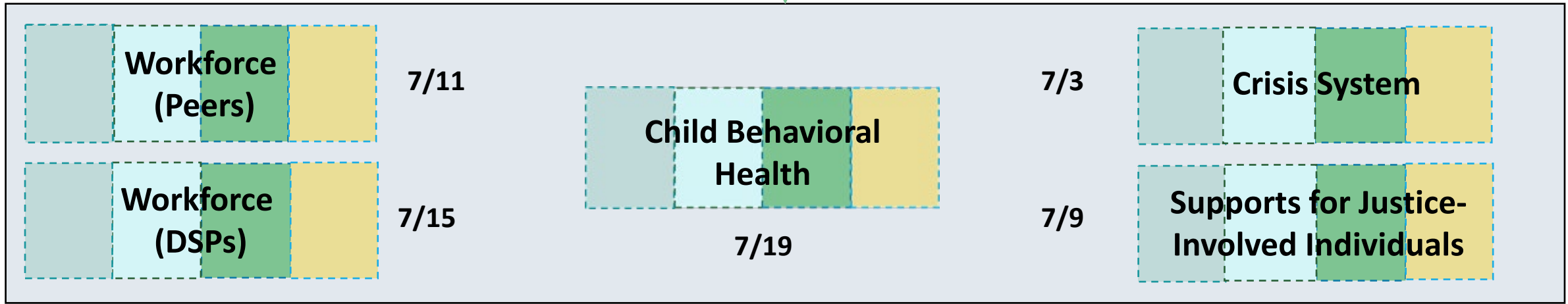


# July Community Collaboration

If you're interested in joining an advisory committee, please fill out this [form!](#)



Advisory Committees



# **Crisis Investments Update**

# \$1.35 M Investment to Pilot Mobile Crisis and Crisis Co-Responder Services

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, NC DHHS announced investments to pilot trauma-informed mobile crisis and co-responder services.



## Crisis Co-Responder for Law Enforcement (CORE)

*Buncombe County, Person County and the City of Burlington*

Under the CORE model, mental health professionals trained in trauma response work together with law enforcement to determine the best response when someone is experiencing a behavioral health crisis.



## Crisis Assistance, Response and Engagement (CARE) team

*Orange County*

The CARE team includes a crisis counselor, peer support specialist and EMT — will respond in lieu of law enforcement to behavioral health and low-level, non-violent offense calls as designated by the Chapel Hill Police Department and 911 Call Center.

\*To read the press release, click [here](#)

# On June 19<sup>th</sup> the Alamance Behavioral Health Center Opened

The center includes 24/7 crisis services, including triage, risk assessment, and intervention. In addition, it will also offer pharmacy services, a peer living room, and a dedicated child/family entrance.



\*To read the press release, click [here](#)

# **Mobile Crisis Discussion**



# Mobile Crisis Management (MCM) Overview

As a part of NC DHHS' work to strengthen the crisis system, the Department is seeking stakeholder feedback on potential changes to Mobile Crisis Management\* in North Carolina. Changes to reimbursement to reflect these changes and make this service more sustainable are also being explored.

## What is Mobile Crisis Management (MCM)?

- MCM teams provide an immediate, community-based response to a mental health or substance use crisis by meeting the person where they are and providing de-escalation and support.
- MCM is available 24/7/365.
- MCM is typically provided by a Qualified Professional (QP) responder with a Licensed Clinician providing backup.
- MCM teams conduct crisis assessments and help connect people to the care they need.

## Stakeholder Feedback Received to Date

- MCM team responses can exceed 2 hours in certain parts of the state.
- The level of service provided by a MCM team may be inconsistent and doesn't always allow the person to be stabilized in the community.
- Not all MCM teams transport people when a higher level of care is needed.
- The MCM reimbursement model does not support 24/7/365 mobile crisis coverage.

\*DHHS is also exploring changes to **Mobile Outreach, Response, Engagement, and Stabilization (MORES)** to expand mobile crisis services for youth.

# Goals of Possible Changes to the Mobile Crisis Management (MCM) Service

North Carolina seeks to ensure that individuals experiencing crises are met quickly and, to the extent possible, have their crises resolved in their communities.

## MCM Goals:

- Further align the MCM service definition with evidence-based practice for serving people of all ages experiencing behavioral health crises.
- Expand mobile crisis capacity by maximizing flexibility for multiple models (e.g., co-response and community response models, use of telehealth).
- Improve response times and community stabilization rates.
- Ensure mobile crisis teams have access to training and technical assistance resources.
- Maximize federal Medicaid funding through [enhanced state match](#) authorized by section 9813 of the American Rescue Plan Act.

# Overview of Possible Changes: Multiple Delivery Models and Hybrid Teams (1/4)

DHHS seeks to create more flexibility for MCM teams to help build capacity and improve response times.

## Flexible Service Delivery Models

- Changes to the MCM clinical coverage policy could allow for different types of teams to respond if they meet minimum staffing requirements.
- New models could include co-responder models, community response, and community paramedicine.
  - These models could help increase capacity in areas of the state where “traditional” mobile crisis teams are difficult to sustain.

## Hybrid Teams

- While it is best practice to have at least two in-person responders as part of the team, the requirement can be a barrier to timely response.
- The state is considering revising the mobile crisis service to include a tiered model that allows for both one and two-person response (one team member can participate via telehealth).
- The state is considering a tiered rate that would incentivize a two-person response with both team members in-person.

# Overview of Possible Changes: Transportation (2/4)

Adding transportation as a reimbursable component of the MCM service would help address the gap in community-to-facility transportation.

## MCM Transportation

- When it is safe to do so, the mobile team could provide transportation to individuals after completing the initial crisis assessment.
- If the MCM team cannot provide transportation, the team could help arrange it.
- Other states have implemented this approach to ensure that individuals in crisis are receiving trauma-informed care.
- This proposed change would complement North Carolina's Non-Law Enforcement Transportation Pilot which will provide transportation between crisis facilities and transportation home upon discharge.

# Overview of Possible Changes: Staffing and Training (3/4)

Increasing staffing flexibility and expanding training for MCM teams will help ensure team members who respond to crises are qualified and trained to provide people the help they need.

## Staffing

- Require all mobile crisis teams to have access to clinical staff who can complete crisis assessments, access to staff with I/DD and TBI expertise, and access to a staff member who is a certified first examiner for IVC.
- Increase timely response by allowing both one-person and two-person response to crises.
- One-person responses would need to include a QP or provider with comparable qualifications (or higher) who has access to a licensed professional via telehealth.
- Two-person responses could include additional types of staff members (e.g., peer support specialists, EMTs, and community health workers).
- Anyone responding must carry naloxone.

## Training

- Consider adding new training for all staff in crisis assessments, I/DD and TBI, and naloxone administration.
- Consider establishing a statewide technical assistance entity to support training development and oversight.

# Overview of Possible Changes: Follow-Up and Timely Response (4/4)

DHHS would like to ensure that all individuals who receive MCM services receive timely access to services and follow-up care.

## Follow-Up

- Follow-up should be used to support continued resolution of the crisis and include the creation of or updates to the beneficiary's crisis safety plan, and additional referrals to ongoing supports as needed.
- MCM would be required to conduct follow up with an individual within 72 hours of the initial response.
- MCM would need to notify an individual's health plan within 24 hours of the initial response.
- Any team member can conduct follow-up activities in person or via telehealth.

## Timely Response

- North Carolina can work towards building a network of MCM teams that offers beneficiaries access to in-person MCM services within **30 minutes in urban areas** and **within 60 minutes in rural areas**.
- DHHS is exploring how it can support new MCM teams to expand capacity across the state.

# Discussion Questions

- What are your thoughts on the ability of existing mobile crisis teams to send two team members in person (e.g., QP + peer) or have a team member available virtually throughout the response?
  - What type of support would mobile crisis teams need to implement this model (e.g., TA, technical assistance, technology)?
- To what extent will mobile crisis teams be able to identify and contract with licensed professionals who can conduct an IVC first exam if needed? What support would be needed to support this?
- How many additional teams would be needed to achieve a 30-minute response time in urban areas and 60-minute response time in rural areas?
- How feasible is it for a mobile crisis team to provide transportation? What support would be needed to add this to the service?
- Are there additional changes the state should consider that weren't discussed?

# Ongoing and Upcoming Crisis Priorities



## Non-Law Enforcement Transportation Pilot

Pilot program that offers NLET to people requiring hospitalization or crisis services due to a behavioral health condition.

RFP expected to be released late summer/early fall 2024.

Service delivery to begin early 2025.



## Crisis to Care Design

Standardization and improvements across the crisis system, including: Mobile Crisis, MORES, FBC, BHUC.



## Crisis Technology

Creating a system to support the crisis continuum, including Bed Registry, Mobile Crisis, and 988.



# Appendix

# **Advisory Committee Members**

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Providers	
Name	Organization
Amanda Green	Atrium Health - Behavioral Health Charlotte
Amanda Johanson	Triangle Springs
Annette K. Gibbs	Carobell. Inc.
Ashley Sparks	Alexander Youth Network
Barbara-Ann Bybel	UNCH
Benjamin Horton	Veterans Services of the Carolinas - ABCCM
Brianne Winterton	Coastal Horizons
Brittney Peters-Barnes	NC START
Carson Ojamaa	Children's Hope Alliance
Christine Beck	North Carolina Children and Families Specialty Plan
Cindy Estes	Novant Health
Corie Passmore	Tammy Lynn Center
Corye Dunn	Disability Rights NC
Dave Jenkins	Cone Health
Eileen Slade	NC START Central
Elizabeth Barber	Threshold, Inc.
Erika Taylor	Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, Dept. of Family Medicine
Erin Jamieson Day	Community Impact NC
Glenn Simpson	ECU Health
Heather Hicks	Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center
Jacob Schonberg	UNC Institute for Best Practice
Jade Neptune	Carolina Dunes Behavioral Health employee, student
Jill Hinton	Licensed Psychologist
Joel Maynard	NPCPC
Joyce Harper	Freedom House Recovery Center, Inc.

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Providers	
Name	Organization
Karen McLeod	Benchmarks
Kelvin Barnhill SR	Flovi Services
Kerri Erb	Autism Society of NC
Kirsten Smith	Children's Hope Alliance
Laura McRae	Pinnacle Family Services
Lisa Goins	Addiction Recovery Care Association Inc.
Luke McDonald	Novant Health
Luwanda Smith Daniels	Alternative Behavioral Solutions Inc.
Lysha Best	RI
Marcie Boyes	Easterseals UCP
Margaret Hunt	Youth Villages
Micah Krempasky	WakeMed
Michelle Ivey	Daymark
Michelle Klutz	NC START East/West
Mona Townes	Integrated Family Services, PLLC
Morgan Coyner	APNC
Natasha Holley	Integrated Family Services, PLLC
Nicholle Karim	NC Healthcare Association
Pablo Puente	ServiceSource
Paula Bird	Novant Health
Peggy Terhune	Monarch
Rachel Crouse	Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.
Rebecca Peacock	CriSyS
Robyn Codrington	CriSyS
Russell Rainear	Private EOR

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Providers	
Name	Organization
Ryan Edwards	CBCare
Ryan Estes	Coastal Horizons
Samuel Pullen	Novant Health
Sandy Feutz	RHA
Sarah Huffman	RHA
Sarah Roethlinger	Youth Focus, Inc.
Sherrell Gales	Abound Health
Tammy Margeson	The Hope Center for Youth and Family Crisis/Kidpeace
Teri Herrmann	SPARC Network
Therese Garrett	WellCare NC
Tisha Jackson	Abound Health
Trish Hobson	The Relatives
Venkata Ravi Chivukula	Novant Health

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

LME-MCOs and Standard Plans	
Name	Organization
Dr. Uzama Price	Alliance Health
Brian Perkins	Alliance Health
Melissa Payne	Alliance Health
Natalie Barnes	Alliance Health
Jay Patel	Alliance Health
Sandhya Gopal	Alliance Health
Liza Go-Harris	Partners Health Management
Doug Gallion	Partners Health Management
Tara Conrad	Partners Health Management
Michelle Stroebel	Partners Health Management
Cindy Ehlers	Trillium Health Resources
Benita Hathaway	Trillium Health Resources
Hannah Coble	Trillium Health Resources
Laurie Whitson	Vaya Health
Lesley Jones	Vaya Health
Tina Weston	Vaya Health
Tracy Hayes	Vaya Health
Eric Harbour	WellCare NC

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Consumers and Family Members	
Name	Organization
April DeSelms	SCFAC
Bob Crayton	Vaya CFAC
Carol Conway	PACID
Church Wendy	Self
Crystal White	Easterseals UCP
Hannah Russell	Special Education Consultant
Jessica Aguilar	Grupo Poder y Esperanza
Johnnie Thomas	SCFAC and Wake NC 507 CoC
Michelle Laws	SCFAC
Nancy Johns	NAMI-Wake, Alliance CFAC, NCCPSS, HEYPEERS
Patricia-Kay Reyna	Center on Brain Injury Research and Training
Patty Schaeffer	SCFAC
Sharon O'Donnell	Self
Sherri McGimsey	NAMI

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Community Partners	
Name	Organization
Alicia Brunelli	Freedom House Recovery Center, Inc.
Amber Howard	Appalachian District Health Department
Anthony Marimpietri	NAMI - Orange County
Ashley Barber	Alamance County Health Department
Avi Aggarwal	NAMI Wake County
Ben, Millsap	CCR Consulting
Cait Fenhagen	Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Center
Chiquita Evans	Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods
Darryl Hubbard	Alcohol/Drug Council of North Carolina (ADCNC)
Dawn Koonce	Murdoch Development Center
Denise Foreman	Wake County
Denise, Price	Forsyth County Government
Desireé Gorbea-Finalet	Disability Rights North Carolina
Diane Coffey	Parent to Parent Family Support Network
Gayle Rose	UNCG - Center for Youth, Family and Community Partners
Jai Kumar	North Carolina Healthcare Association
Jeremy Fine	UNC
Johana Troccoli	Duke Health
Kristy LaLonde	Pride in NC
Marvin Swartz	Duke
Michele Chassner	The Hope Center for Youth and Family Crisis/Kidpeace
Naglaa Rashwan	UNCG
Nancy Keith	ECU Health
Philip Woodward	North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD)
Shagun Gaur	Autism Society of North Carolina



# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Community Partners	
Name	Organization
Tara Fields	Benchmarks
Tracie Potee	Soar Parenting and Life Wellness Coaching Services Inc.
Troy Manns	CHPD/CHT Crisis Unit
Vicki Smith	Alliance of Disability Advocates
William Edwards	Transitional Services Center, inc

# Crisis System Advisory Committee Membership

Internal/Consultants	
Name	Organization
Hannah Harms	DHHS
Jessie Tenenbaum	DHHS
Renee Clark	DHHS Office of Rural Health
Kelsi Knick	NC Medicaid
Michelle Merritt	NC Medicaid
Sandy Terrell	NC Medicaid
Stephanie Wilson	NC Medicaid
Kelly Crosbie	DMHDDSUS
Erica Asbury	DMHDDSUS
Tanya Thacker	DMHDDSUS
Charles Rousseau	DMHDDSUS
Elliot Krause	DMHDDSUS
Kelly Crosbie	DMHDDSUS
Keith McCoy	DMHDDSUS
Lisa DeCiantis	DMHDDSUS
Saarah Waleed	DMHDDSUS
Essie Santillano	Accenture
Mary Ambrosino	Accenture
Jocelyn Guyer	Manatt
Ashley Traube	Manatt
Erica Brown	Manatt
Ahimsa Govender	Manatt
Jacob Rains	Manatt