



*Working together to develop and deliver
mental health resources
for Colorado communities.*

CBHC is a non-profit 501(c)3 membership organization that represents Colorado's statewide network of community mental health providers. This includes the 17 community mental health centers (CMHCs), two specialty clinics—Asian Pacific and Servicios de la Raza—and the 5 Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) which are the state's Medicaid mental health managed care companies. CBHC member organizations contract with the State of Colorado and work together to provide comprehensive behavioral and psychiatric services to every region of the state.

CBHC works with policy makers and community leaders to enhance the community mental health system and improve the health of Colorado citizens. Each community mental health center provides a comprehensive continuum of outcomes-based, culturally appropriate services in partnership with a range of community organizations that often include:

- Early Childhood/Head Start Centers
- Schools & School-Based Health Centers
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Criminal Justice , Probation & Parole Systems
- Hospitals & Primary Care Facilities
- Social & Human Service Organizations
- Local Police and Law Enforcement
- Other Business and Community Organizations

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Criminal Justice System



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Overview

- The Department of Corrections (DOC) estimates that 28.7% of all DOC court commitments in FY '07 (up from 19.9% in FY '04) had moderate to severe mental health needs, while over 61% had a mild to severe mental health condition.
- Proper treatment, which addresses criminogenic factors in combination with mental health services, shows the greatest reduction in recidivism for this population.
- Mental illness and substance abuse conditions can be effectively treated in the community for much less than the cost of keeping the individual in jail or prison.
 - It costs between \$25,000-60,000 per year to keep an individual in a Colorado prison
 - It costs between \$6,000-8,000 per year to treat a seriously mentally ill offender in the community
- CBHC members are working on innovative jail diversion programs and prison transition options for individuals with serious mental illness.

SB07-097— Offender Mental Health Services Fund

- SB07-097 directs 12% of the unused tobacco settlement money to the Offender Mental Health Services Fund to provide resources for Colorado's Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) to create treatment programs for adults and juveniles involved in the criminal justice system.
- Currently 11 CMHCs have created offender treatment programs through this fund.

Denver Metro Area County Commissioners (MACC) Study

- The MACC has convened a Task Force of jail captains, sheriffs and community mental health centers to study the impact of mentally ill offenders in the local jails.
- Initial findings show that mentally ill inmates in the seven-county, Denver-metro area have an average jail stay of **127 days vs. 25 days** for non-mentally ill inmates. They also have much higher rates of recidivism.
- The MACC also found that these severely mentally ill inmates cost the seven counties an **average quarterly cost of nearly \$9.5 million.**

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