



As the largest single source of funding for mental health (MH) and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and support services, Medicaid, along with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), underpins delivery of care for MH conditions and SUDs across the United States and provides critical support for millions of people with these conditions. Improving access to good quality MH and SUD treatment is among the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) highest priorities and is integral to the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services' (CMCS) partnership with states to provide health care coverage. CMCS also collaborates closely with other federal agencies, particularly the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to improve the quality and availability of MH and SUD services for Medicaid and CHIP enrollees.

Medicaid and CHIP can provide unparalleled coverage for a full array of services and supports for people with MH conditions and SUDs, including services that generally are not covered by other health care programs or plans. Providing the full array of services and supports is particularly critical for individuals with more serious MH conditions and/or SUDs as they are more likely to be enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.

CMCS' three overarching goals with prioritized strategies that guide CMCS' actions to improve treatment and support for Medicaid and CHIP enrollees with MH conditions and/or SUDs are outlined below:

I. Increase Access to Prevention and Treatment by

A. Improving Coverage of MH and SUD Screening and Therapies and Promoting Parity by

1. Supporting Connections to Health Care Coverage through
 - a. Engagement with States on Medicaid Renewals and
 - b. Connecting Kids to Coverage Campaign
2. Increasing Network Adequacy and Participation by MH and SUD Treatment Providers through
 - a. Managed Care and Access Rulemaking
 - b. Improved Reimbursement through Section 1115 Demonstrations
 - c. Demonstration to Increase SUD Provider Capacity
3. Ensuring Compliance with Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act and Other Requirements
4. Improving Implementation of Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services Requirements (EPSDT)

B. Supporting Integration and Coordination of MH and SUD Treatment with Other Health Care by

1. Encouraging Support for Use of Health Information Technology (HIT) among MH and SUD Treatment Providers
2. Supporting Continued and Improved Coverage of Telehealth
3. Increasing Availability of MH and SUD Treatment through Interprofessional Consultation

II. Improve Engagement in Care by

A. Increasing Treatment and Support in Home and Community-Based Settings by

1. Funding a Continuum of Crisis Stabilization Services through
 - a. Mobile Crisis Intervention Services Grants and State Plan Amendments
 - b. Guidance and Technical Assistance on Medicaid and CHIP Support for Crisis Services
 - c. Support for Crisis Response by Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics
2. Expanding the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Demonstration
3. Strengthening Support for Home and Community-Based Services
4. Increasing Awareness of Medicaid Coverage of Peer Supports

B. Supporting Access to MH and SUD Services through Non-Traditional Settings and Services by

1. Improving Connections to Care and Support for Individuals Leaving Jails and Prisons
2. Increasing Support for Youth Leaving Juvenile Justice Settings
3. Promoting School-Based Services including MH and SUD Prevention and Treatment
4. Improving Connections with Supports to Address Health Related Social Needs

III. Enhance Quality of Care by

A. Encouraging Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices by

1. Leveraging Medicaid, CHIP, and Other Federal Programs in the Delivery of Behavioral Health Services for Children and Youth
2. Working with States on SUD and Serious Mental Illness/Serious Emotional Disturbance (SMI/SED) Section 1115 Demonstration Initiatives
3. Supporting State Efforts to Improve Access to Contingency Management
4. Providing Learning Collaboratives to Address Pressing Issues

B. Improving Quality Measurement by

1. Implementing Mandatory Reporting on Core MH and SUD Measures

C. Analyzing and Publicizing Data on Key Topics by

1. Posting SUD and SMI/SED Section 1115 Demonstration Evaluation Rapid Cycle Reports
2. Developing and Posting the SUD Databook
3. Analyzing TMSIS Data and Posting Findings Regarding Enrollees with MH Conditions