
Behavioral Health Update

Senate Interim Committee on Mental Health

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COVID-19 and Behavioral Health

Information and communication

- Outreach and engagement with consumers and families, providers and CMHPs
- Public Communication
 - Behavioral health resources on OHA's COVID-19 webpage
 - Social media, including new Spanish language page for Facebook
 - Safe + Strong campaign
 - Newsletters and other email updates, including the Recovery Report

Schools and Mental Health

- Collaboration with Oregon Department of Education (ODE)
- Information for students, families, and educators
- Mental health guidance for school counselors
- Additional resources related to mental health and social supports on ODE website
 - How to talk to children about COVID-19
 - Supports for children and families
 - Supports for high school seniors

Suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention

- S-PIP workgroup
 - Expanded funding for David Romprey Warmline
 - Workforce support and guidance documents for clinical providers
 - Media outreach to youth and families
 - Data and risk assessment
 - Safety planning and other supports for school staff
- Monitoring of information related to suicide

Maintaining system capacity and addressing provider needs

- Infection control and other written guidance
- PPE prioritization plan includes behavioral health providers
- Cross-agency workgroup on short-term provider financial stability
- Weekly webinars

Increasing Access to Telehealth

- OHA took immediate steps to increase access to telehealth services whenever possible and when medically or clinically appropriate.
- Telehealth services can be delivered to a person in any private space by telephone or video.
- Services available by telehealth include Intakes, assessments, therapy, group therapy, medication management, psychiatric evaluations, team meetings with family, Medication Assisted Therapy and crisis services.
- OHA and DCBS have worked together to ensure that coverage for telehealth includes individuals covered by commercial insurance.
- OHA continues to evaluate additional steps that can be taken to increase access to telehealth.

Pressing Behavioral Health COVID Needs

- Crisis Support with particular focus on older adults and communities of color
- Emotional support for all Oregonians
- Harm Reduction and Safe Use supplies
- Recovery Support
- Outreach and engagement, particularly for high risk populations

Potential Budget Reductions

Governor's Behavioral Health Advisory Council

Questions