

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Oregon Health Authority Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Human Services Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Gelser Blouin

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On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Human Services Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) evaluating the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic program, or CCBHCs.

The report was requested by a budget note in HB 5024, OHA's primary budget bill in the 2021 session. The report was to evaluate whether CCBHCs: 1) increase access to behavioral health treatment for residents of this state, 2) provide integrated physical and behavioral health care, 3) offer services that resulted in improved health outcomes, lower overall health care costs, and improve overall community health, and 4) reduce the cost of care for coordinated care organization members. OHA contracted with the Oregon Health and Sciences University - Portland State University School of Public Health to address the budget note and write the report.

The report includes both successes and other areas with mixed results. Access to care was improved by 3.2% statewide and by 23.4% in rural communities, primarily attributed to the use of the Prospective Payment System method for reimbursement that pays for non-billable activities like care coordination and outreach. CCBHC participants had a lower use of mental health emergency department visits and 22.4% less use of inpatient services in comparison to prior years, but an increased use of residential treatment facilities.

The report showed mixed results on whether the services improved health outcomes, lowered overall health care costs, or improved overall community health.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends acknowledging receipt of the report.