

Subject: Alabama Targeted Subpopulations

Requirements

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1. **Programs Affected:** All CCBHC Demonstration participants.
2. **Background and Purpose:** Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) designated by the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH) as Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) must provide CCBHC services to Alabama’s targeted subpopulations in accordance with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) CCBHC Certification Criteria, either directly or via a Designated Collaborating Organization (DCO) partnership. ***This bulletin describes the targeted subpopulations for the Alabama CCBHCs.***

3. SAMHSA CCBHC Criteria Authority

Per CCBHC Criteria 2.A.

- 3.1. SAMHSA CCBHC Certification guidance indicates that programming must be tailored to the needs of the populations being served and must be delivered by professionals trained to meet the needs of these populations. This may be accomplished through programming offered by the CCBHC or a DCO.

Per CCBHC Criteria 5.B.

- 3.2. The CCBHC’s Continual Quality Improvement (CQI) plan includes an explicit focus on populations experiencing health disparities (including racial and ethnic groups and sexual and gender minorities) and addresses how the CCBHC will use disaggregated data from the quality measures and, as available, other data to track and improve outcomes for populations facing health disparities.

4. ADMH Target Subpopulations Requirements

4.1. ADMH identified the following populations of focus (POF):

- All ages, races, ethnicities, genders, disability statuses, sexual orientations, and gender identities with serious emotional disturbance (SED), serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorder (SUD), opioid use disorder (OUD), and co-occurring mental and substance disorders (COD), and those with or at risk of HIV and Hepatitis C due to injection drug use.
- Opioid Use Disorder with emphasis on African American Population
- The rural population
- Those who identify as LGBTQ+, with a particular focus on youth
- Those at risk of gun violence
- Pregnant and Parenting Women (PPW)
- People experiencing homelessness.

4.2. ADMH expects that each CCBHC will actively track outcomes and disparities for the POFs. Any disparities noted will be addressed through the agency’s formal CQI process.

4.3. Each CCBHC is required to complete a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) at minimum once every 3 years. The CNA should be used to inform focus areas for treatment and should strive to have

representation from all populations of focus. Additionally, the CNA should be used to identify any emerging groups facing disparities in the community. If new high-risk populations are identified, this should be shared with ADMH in order to update communications with SAMHSA.

4.4. It will be incumbent upon the CCBHCs to ensure accessibility and meet the needs of the population to be served, such as settings in the community and as appropriate and feasible, in the homes of people receiving services.

4.5. *CCBHCs will use the SDOH ICD-10-CM Chapter Z codes to identify the specific designation of the Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) – and in this case Homeless (Z59.0), Sheltered Homeless (Z59.1), and Unsheltered Homeless (Z59.2). CCBHCs will also use the appropriate physical health codes to indicate co-occurring disorders and priority populations.*

4.6. Transportation or vouchers should be used to the extent possible with relevant funding. Also, services should be available in the evenings or on the weekends if needed.

4.7. Staffing plans should also align with needs of community to include positions such as community outreach workers, etc.

4.8. Each CCBHC should ensure that services are offered on some evenings and/or weekends to meet the needs of the population while ensuring access and availability to care.

4.9. Training around cultural competency, Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) Data Capturing and National CLAS standards are applicable to implementation.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this implementation bulletin is for general information purposes only. For more details on the specific subject area covered in this bulletin, please refer to the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Certification Updated March 2023.

¹ <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/ccbhc-criteria-2023.pdf>