

December 23, 2022

Governor Douglas A. Ducey
Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Ducey,

AHCCCS is providing a report of the Children’s Behavioral Health Service Fund, in accordance with ARS §36-3436.01, which requires that:

The administration shall compile a report based on the surveys received from participating school districts and charter schools as well as utilization data for behavioral health services received pursuant to the children's behavioral health services fund established by section 36-3436. On or before December 31 each year, the administration shall provide the report to the governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and provide a copy of the report to the secretary of state. The report shall include at least all of the following information:

1. *The number of students served.*
2. *The types of behavioral health services provided.*
3. *The costs of the behavioral health services provided.*

During the reporting period, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, the total number of students referred for behavioral health services by schools was 9,773. Of those referrals, 711 students were referred for the Children’s Behavioral Health Service Fund (CBHSF), while the remaining 9,062 were eligible under other funding streams. The number of referrals significantly increased during this reporting period compared to 170 students during the last reporting period. The low utilization during the prior reporting period was attributed to both the ramp-up of the referral program established under ARS §36-3436, and the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) which resulted in many school-aged children attending classes virtually.

The Number of Students Served Under CBHSF

Month	Number of Students Served
October 2021	142
November 2021	232
December 2021	281
January 2022	297
February 2022	317
March 2022	439
April 2022	424
May 2022	586
June 2022	576
July 2022	472
August 2022	505
September 2022	392

Individuals may have received services over multiple months and are therefore included in the count for each month in which they received services, while other individuals were transitioned from CBHSF to another funding source following assessment and further diagnosis. Not all individuals who are referred to the CBHSF receive services funded under the Fund, as it is the payor of last resort, and most students are determined to be eligible for other funding sources.

The Type and Cost of Behavioral Health Services Provided and Funded by CBHSF

Cost of Behavioral Health Services		
Service Description	Amount	% of total
Treatment Services	\$898,239.35	45.74%
Rehabilitation Services	\$290,516.65	14.79%
Medical Services	\$40,052.35	2.04%
Support Services	\$12,556.54	0.64%
Peer Support Services	\$75,935.53	3.87%
Family Support Services	\$37,498.76	1.91%
Crisis Intervention Services	\$42,094.54	2.14%
Case Management Services	\$417,375.49	21.25%
Inpatient Services	\$64,648.70	3.29%
Detoxification Services	\$51,137.10	2.60%
Behavioral Health Residential Services	\$11,588.43	0.59%
Behavioral Health Day Program Services	\$1092.96	0.06%
Transportation Services	\$8,482.98	0.43%
Pharmacy	\$12,565.25	0.64%
Total	\$1,963,711.44	100%

Survey Results

From October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022, there were 85 surveys completed by parents or caregivers of individuals receiving services under the CBHSF; responses were received from 62 schools. The average age of individuals served is 13, and range from 5 to 18 years old. Required survey elements include:

- Whether the parent opted into the program: 93% of parents reported being happy with the process for obtaining consent or opting-in to a referral for behavioral health services.
- Whether the parent was notified before the referral took place: 89% of parents reported being happy with how they were notified of the behavioral health referral.
- Whether the behavioral health services referred were appropriate to meet the student's need: 81% of parents reported being happy with the services their child received.
- Whether the parent is satisfied with the choice of behavioral health service providers: 80% of parents reported being happy with the choice of behavioral health service providers.
- Whether the parent intends to opt into a program again in the following school year: 93% of parents reported that they would consent to or opt-in to a referral for behavioral health services again in the future.

Each Arizona Complete Care Contractor with a Regional Behavioral Health Agreement (ACC-RBHA) was sent the feedback for school districts in their geographic service area. RBHAs were asked to follow up on any comments or concerns for referral pathways or access to care.

Please feel free to contact Megan Woods at megan.woods@azahcccs.gov or (602) 417-4086 if you have any questions about this report.

Sincerely,



Jami Snyder
Director

cc: The Honorable Karen Fann, President Arizona State Senate
The Honorable Russell Bowers, Speaker, Arizona House of Representatives
Richard Stavneak, Director, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Matt Gress, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Art Harding, Director of Legislative Affairs, Governor's Office