

Maryland Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Program Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Notes

April 24, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Participants

Kirsten Bosak, *Maryland Department of Disabilities*

Amanda Bowen, *Arundel Lodge*

Dimitri Cavathas, *HealthPort*

Joy Chang, *Cornerstone Montgomery*

Laura Chen, *Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas (VOACC)*

Ann Geddes, *Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD)*

Katie Gilligan, *Sheppard Pratt*

Nicole Graner, *Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland (CBH)*

Michael Gray, *NAMI Maryland*

David Greever, *VOACC*

Joe Gutberlet, *Maryland Department of Legislative Services (DLS)*

Cari Guthrie, *Cornerstone Montgomery*

Andrew Guy, *Maryland Department of Health*

Sara Hairgrove, *CBH*

Kevin Hansen, *Cornerstone Montgomery*

Naomi Komuro, *DLS*

Kayin Love, *Behavioral Health Administration (BHA)*

Dan Martin, *MHAMD*

Lucy Bill Moore, *BHA*

Edouard Niyonshuti, *Maryland Medicaid*

Linda Raines, *MHAMD*

Michael Ramos, *Gaudenzia*

Katie Rouse, *On Our Own of Maryland*

Syncia Sabain, *BHA*

Emma Schreier, *Maryland Medicaid*

Joyce Schuldt, *HealthPort*

Rachel Talley, *BHA*

Suzanne Tobin, *VOACC*

Zoom AI Meeting Summary

The meeting focused on updates and discussions regarding Maryland's Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) program implementation. BHA provided updates on the demonstration application submission in March, noting that results are expected in June, and outlined the timeline for the certification application process launching May 4 with a 60-day submission period. Participants discussed key concerns around the PPS (Prospective Payment System) rate structure, particularly the billing approach for PRP services, which differs from other states' billing practices. The group explored potential future meeting topics, with participants expressing interest in learning from other states' experiences, discussing whole health integration including food as medicine programs, and addressing transportation and social determinants of health challenges. The conversation ended with plans for a follow-up meeting on May 29.

CCBHC Demonstration Application

- The CCBHC demonstration application was submitted on March 31 with three applicants (HealthPort, Sheppard Pratt, Volunteers of America).
- SAMHSA will announce the demonstration results in June 2026 and the demo will begin in July 2027
- There are ongoing internal discussions at MDH about salary caps and bridge funding for expiring grants.
- If Maryland is awarded access to the demo the state will be allowed to add CCBHCs quarterly.
- BHA is creating a CCBHC website, which will include information about the demonstration, resources, quick buttons for certification materials, timelines, announcements, FAQs, and stakeholder engagement materials.

Certification Application and Timelines

- The CCBHC cost reporting deadline has been extended to May 22.
- The cost reports will be reviewed by Myers & Stauffer (M&S) over the summer and a finalized PPS rate is expected to be determined by November.
- The certification application is scheduled to be released on May 4 with a 60-day application period – this will allow time for collection of documentation, questions, etc.
- BHA will then have a 45-day internal review and determination period.
- The goal is to notify applicants of approval/denial by October.
- It has not been determined whether the 60/45 day windows will be on a calendar or business day basis – the two potential timelines are outlined below

Timeline Option 1 – Calendar Days (Counts everyday including weekends)

PHASE	TIMEFRAME	DATES
Application Open	60 days	May 4, 2026 – July 3, 2026
Application Deadline		July 3, 2026
CCBHC Review Period	45 days	July 3, 2026 – August 17, 2026
Final Review Complete		August 17, 2026

Total Timeline – May 4, 2026 – August 17, 2026

Length - 106 calendar days

Timeline Option 2 – Business Days (Weekdays only, weekends excluded)

PHASE	TIMEFRAME	DATES
Application Open	60 days	May 4, 2026 – July 27, 2026
Application Deadline		July 27, 2026
CCBHC Review Period	45 days	July 27, 2026 – September 29, 2026
Final Review Complete		September 29, 2026

Total Timeline – May 4, 2026 – September 29, 2026

Length - 106 business days

- BHA will work in partnership with MHAMD to conduct readiness assessments at the existing CCBHCs through the summer and stakeholder engagement meetings through the fall

Open Discussion – Future Stakeholder Meeting Topics, Ideas, and Questions

- Explore how a particular CCBHC service line will be implemented (e.g. crisis services)
- Explore how CCBHCs identify consumers for CCBHC level of care versus a standard OMHC level of care
- Explore the PPS workflow, back-end processes, shadow billing, cost reporting
- Carelon should participate in these stakeholder meetings
- Planned billing approach for PRP services is still a concern – this will be discussed at an upcoming “office hours” meeting with M&S
- Organize presentations from other states that have implemented CCBHCs to learn about their challenges and how they’ve been addressed
- Send out a survey to inquire about potential meeting topics, particular states that folks want to hear from, key contacts from national organizations or other states, etc.
- Are there trends around who engages/disengages from CCBHC services? How do we ensure space for new standards of care as new EBPs are developed? How are new ideas being encouraged and implemented?
- Explore how CCBHCs could address social determinants of health and integrate whole health approaches their services – produce medicine/healthy eating, transportation challenges, etc. (it could be helpful to organize a presentation from the Johns Hopkins [ALACRITY Center for Health and Longevity in Mental Illness](#))
- Explore whether Rural Health Transformation Grant funding could be used to support some of these efforts