



# CCBHC Caucus Newsletter | March 2026

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## Executive Snapshot

### What Matters This Month

- Michigan formally launched the Ballmer-funded CCBHC Transformation (CCBHC-T) Technical Assistance (TA) initiative with strong statewide participation and alignment across CMHA, MDHHS, and CCBHCs.
- The new [CMHA CCBHC webpage](#) is now live, strengthening unified communications and access to technical assistance resources.
- CCBHCs will have visibility with state lawmakers this month through the House Medicaid and Behavioral Health Appropriations Subcommittee hearing on March 10, featuring an MDHHS overview of the program and presentations from two CCBHC sites on local implementation and community impact.
- MDHHS is seeking stakeholder input through the CCBHC Direct Pay Transition Survey (responses due March 27).
- The CCBHC Caucus will discuss formation of a member-driven TA Advisory Committee on March 25 to guide priorities and long-term sustainability of the TA Hub.

## Technical Assistance Spotlight

### Michigan CCBHC Transformation Program (CCBHC-T) Launch

On March 3, Michigan formally launched the Ballmer-funded CCBHC Transformation (CCBHC-T) initiative in partnership with the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

Michigan is one of only three states selected to participate (alongside Illinois and Kansas), with direct funding to support coordinated, high-impact technical assistance designed to:

- Realize Michigan's long-term CCBHC vision
- Expand access, especially in rural communities
- Strengthen and stabilize the behavioral health workforce
- Improve cost reporting and PPS optimization
- Build stronger data infrastructure and CQI capacity

The CCBHC-T model leverages a partnership structure:

- **MDHHS:** Strategic alignment with state initiatives and policy direction
- **CMHA:** Central TA Hub coordination, communications, and caucus alignment
- **National Council:** Delivery of structured TA modules, coaching, consultation, and workforce supports

Michigan's articulated aspirations include strengthening financing under Direct Pay, clarifying network adequacy expectations, reducing administrative burden, and building a sustainable program integrated into the broader behavioral health system.

A recording of the presentation and slides from the Kick-Off will be available on the CMHA Events and Trainings site next week.

Upcoming CCBHC-T Program TA Sessions include the following (click the links for more information):

- **Session 1:** [Building a Shared Foundation for CCBHC Vision & Practice Transformation](#) (March 11)
- **Session 2:** [Aligning Clinic Vision and Practice Transformation with State Priorities](#) (April 2)
- **Session 3:** Peer-to-Peer Learning for CCBHC Practice Transformation Planning (Date TBD)

### Formation of the CCBHC Technical Assistance (TA) Advisory Committee

The CMHA CCBHC TA Hub is designed to be Michigan's long-term, member-driven infrastructure for coordinating CCBHC technical assistance statewide. Ballmer funded activities and National Council-led efforts operate within this broader TA Hub strategy to ensure alignment, reduce duplication, and strengthen sustainability beyond any single funding source.

## Community Mental Health Association (CMHA) of Michigan

To support this work, the CCBHC Caucus is forming a TA Advisory Committee to serve as the primary member-driven advisory and priority-setting body for the CMHA-led TA Hub.

The Advisory Committee will:

- Provide strategic guidance and oversight for the TA Hub
- Identify and prioritize member-driven TA needs
- Review and inform major TA priorities, sequencing, and workplans
- Support coordination of externally funded TA initiatives
- Ensure CCBHC voices remain central across all TA efforts

MDHHS will participate as a partner and advisor.

The 5-6 member committee is intended to be operationally grounded and implementation focused. Membership criteria include:

- Direct CCBHC implementation experience (including at least one full reporting cycle)
- Functional expertise across finance, clinical implementation, and systems integration
- Geographic diversity, including rural representation
- Representation includes CMH and non-CMH CCBHCs
- Majority from established CCBHCs, with the option for one emerging clinic seat

This proposed structure will be discussed at the March 25 CCBHC Caucus meeting. If you are interested in serving on the TA Advisory Committee, please reach out to Holly Salazar at [holly@aliciadsmithllc.com](mailto:holly@aliciadsmithllc.com).

## **Policy, System & Operations Updates**

### **MDHHS Direct Pay Transition Survey**

MDHHS is conducting a CCBHC Direct Pay Transition Survey to gather stakeholder feedback on the transition of the CCBHC Demonstration Program to a Direct Pay Model effective October 1, 2025. The information collected will help understand stakeholders' experiences with the transition, identify what is working well, and highlight opportunities for improvement. Participation is anonymous and voluntary, and responses will be used to inform quality improvement efforts. A survey link was sent to CCBHCs on February 24. The deadline for responses is March 27.

### **House Medicaid and Behavioral Health Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing**

The House Medicaid and Behavioral Health Appropriations Subcommittee will hold a committee hearing on the CCBHC program on March 10 at 10:30 a.m. The committee will first receive a presentation from MDHHS providing an overview of the CCBHC program.

Two CCBHC sites will present on the value of the CCBHC model and how it is transforming our public behavioral health system.

If you would like to watch the hearing live, visit the House TV page and select the Medicaid and Behavioral Health Committee meeting from the calendar: [Michigan House - Calendar](#).

## Active Initiatives

### CMHA CCBHC Communications Infrastructure Expansion

CMHA continues to advance the CCBHC TA Hub as Michigan's centralized structure for coordinating CCBHC technical assistance and communications. The intent is to improve clarity, alignment, and accessibility by organizing TA resources under one coordinated framework.

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new CMHA CCBHC webpage, designed to serve as a central landing page for CCBHC-related information, updates, and technical assistance resources. The CCBHC webpage can be accessed here:

<https://cmham.org/CCBHC>

This page will house technical assistance resources, Evidence Based Practice (EBP) toolkits and links, archived newsletters, and information about shared learning opportunities.

Additional enhancements to strengthen a unified communications approach include

- A dedicated CCBHC section within the CMHA Weekly Update
- Centralized TA registration and shared resource repository
- Consistent statewide monthly newsletter distribution

These efforts are designed to provide clearer visibility into available technical assistance and upcoming opportunities while reducing fragmented or duplicative communications.

To ensure you receive CCBHC updates and announcements, subscribe here:

<https://cmham.org/stay-connected/>.

## Field Intelligence & Emerging Issues

### Building a Statewide CCBHC Data Warehouse - Update

CMHA continues to explore opportunities to strengthen shared data infrastructure to support CCBHC advocacy, quality improvement, and system alignment across Michigan.

Community Mental Health Association (CMHA) of Michigan

Over the coming months, CMHA will begin engaging additional CCBHC leaders and subject matter experts to help inform early planning around what a potential statewide CCBHC data approach could look like and what priorities would be most valuable for clinics.

More information will be shared as these discussions develop.

## What's Coming Next

### CMHA Advocacy & Data Timeline – Update

CMHA is continuing to collect data for the FY25 “*Outcomes from Michigan Demonstration Sites*” infographic, which will be used to support CCBHC advocacy during the current state budget cycle. This report plays a critical role in demonstrating the value and impact of Michigan’s CCBHCs with policymakers.

To date, approximately half of Michigan CCBHCs have submitted their data. Follow-up requests have been sent to clinics that have not yet responded.

We recognize that several data requests were issued around the same time earlier this year, which created some confusion. However, completing this effort remains essential to strengthening our collective advocacy story and ensuring the full impact of Michigan’s CCBHCs is reflected in discussions with state leaders.

**If your organization has not yet submitted its information, please do so within the next two weeks.** Full participation from all demonstration sites helps ensure we present a comprehensive and compelling picture of CCBHC outcomes across the state. Thank you to the clinics that have already contributed data to support this important effort.

### Coming Soon: CCBHC Spotlight

We are planning to add a new *CCBHC Spotlight* section to the newsletter to highlight innovative practices, exciting milestones, implementation lessons, and practical tips from individual Michigan CCBHCs.

The goal is to create space for peer learning and shared visibility across the state, whether it’s a workforce strategy that’s working, a quality improvement success, a new partnership, or a creative operational solution.

If your CCBHC has something you would like to share with other Michigan CCBHCs, please reach out to Holly Salazar at [holly@aliciadsmithllc.com](mailto:holly@aliciadsmithllc.com) with a brief description and any relevant details for consideration in a future newsletter.

### Upcoming Deadlines and Dates

### Technical Assistance Sessions

- **March 11, 2026** – CCBHC-T TA Session1 : Building a Shared Foundation for CCBHC Vision & Practice Transformation (12:30pm – 2:00pm) – [Register here](#)
- **March 19, 2026** – MDHHS CCBHC Bi-Monthly Meeting Series (10:00am – 11:00am)
- **April 2, 2026** – MDHHS CCBHC Quarterly Lunch and Learn Meeting Series (12:00pm – 1:00pm)
- **April 2, 2026** – CCBHC-T TA Session 2: Aligning Clinic Vision and Practice Transformation with State Priorities (1:00pm – 2:00pm) - [Register here](#)

### Meetings

- **March 10, 2026** - House Medicaid and Behavioral Health Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing (10:30am) - [Michigan House - Calendar](#)
- **March 25, 2026** – CCBHC Caucus Meeting (9:00am – 10:00am)

### Deadlines / Due Dates

- **March 9, 2026** - CCBHC-T initiative Baseline Assessment Survey (Unique link for each CCBHC) due to National Council (email sent to CEOs by Julia Rupp)
- **March 13, 2026** – Joint Care Planning Measures feedback due to MDHHS
- **March 13, 2026** – Patient Experience Survey (MDHHS CCBHC Evaluation) data due to CHRT (Emails sent to each CCBHC 3/2)
- **March 15, 2026** – Behavioral Health Provider Staffing and Expense Survey due to MDHHS
- **March 20, 2026** – CCBHC Handbook Version 3.1 feedback due to Michele Condit for compilation and submission as CCBHC Caucus feedback
- **March 27, 2026** – CCBHC Handbook Version 3.1 feedback due to MDHHS (if sending individually from your CCBHC)
- **March 27, 2026** – Direct Pay Transition Survey due to MDHHS
- **April 30, 2026** – Sentinel Events Semiannual Reporting due to MDHHS
- **April 30, 2026** – CY26 Q1 Quality Measure Reporting (for 1/1/2026 - 3/31/2026) due to MDHHS

### Other

- **March 31, 2026** – Likely release of SAMHSA Planning and Development (PD) and Implementation and Assessment (IA) grants under the CCBHC program