CCBHC
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Resources

CCBHC Caucus Newsletter | October 2026

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Executive Snapshot

What Matters This Month

- **Prepare for the October 13 PPS Listening Session:** MDHHS SPA planning continues, with the next listening session focused on PPS methodology. CCBHC leaders and staff planning to participate are strongly encouraged to review Scott Banken's PPS-1 through PPS-4 TA recording in advance so they are prepared to discuss the tradeoffs and implications of the different methodologies.
- **October 23 Uninsured Strategy Session Will Focus on Solutions:** MDHHS will convene CCBHC leaders in person in Lansing to to collaboratively identify strategies for addressing the growing operational and financial impact of serving uninsured and other non-Medicaid populations.
- **Individualized 1:1 TA Is Available Now:** CCBHCs may request direct TA at any time for a specific, active need related to Vision & Practice Transformation, Finance, Access, Continuous Quality Improvement, or Workforce. Requests will be matched

with the appropriate TA contractor based on the clinic's needs, priorities, and timing.

- **H.R. 1 Changes Make Coverage Retention an Emerging Priority:** Beginning in 2027, Healthy Michigan members will face more frequent eligibility reviews and, for some adults, new work/community engagement requirements. Many individuals served by CCBHCs may qualify for exemptions, but clinics should begin considering how they can help eligible individuals maintain coverage and monitor potential increases in uninsured and uncompensated care.
- **CCBHC Needs Assessment Updates Are Due February 28, 2027:** Every CCBHC must review and submit its Needs Assessment Template, even if no revisions are needed. Clinics should begin incorporating planned service expansions and DCO arrangements and linking them to identified community needs or capacity gaps.
- **Data Warehouse:** The CCBHC Data Warehouse initiative is moving into implementation, with the Project Team convening in October to establish its charter, timeline, meeting cadence, and initial partner MOUs.
- **Community Partners Are Seeing CCBHC Impact:** New CHRT Community Partners Survey findings show that 56% of respondents reported improved access to behavioral health services and 52% reported stronger care coordination through their CCBHC partnerships, while also identifying opportunities to improve communication, referral pathways, and outreach to specific populations.

Training and Technical Assistance

Individualized Direct 1:1 Technical Assistance

CCBHCs can access individualized, 1:1 technical assistance at any time to help address specific challenges, apply learning, and advance implementation and practice transformation within their clinic. TA may focus on:

- Vision & Practice Transformation
- Finance
- Access
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Workforce

1:1 TA is intended for a specific, active need your clinic is ready to begin working on now or in the near future. Requests will be reviewed and matched with the appropriate TA contractor based on your clinic's needs, priorities, and timing.

Interested in TA? Submit the TA Interest Form and the CMHA TA team will follow up with you to discuss your needs and next steps. If your clinic has multiple TA needs, please submit a separate form for each.

CCBHC-T Technical Assistance: Where to Find Information and Resources

CMHA continues to build the **CCBHC TA Hub** as a central source of information, resources, and updates for Michigan CCBHCs. To make it easier to find current information and available technical assistance opportunities, clinics can use the following resources:

- **CCBHC Webpage:** The central hub for CCBHC resources, updates, upcoming dates and deadlines, and archived newsletters. Visit the CCBHC webpage.
- **CCBHC-T Program Technical Assistance Webpage:** Information about available CCBHC-T TA modules, including what is offered, who each module is designed for, upcoming opportunities, recordings, and how to participate. Visit the CCBHC-T TA webpage.
- **CMHA Weekly Update:** Timely updates and announcements relevant to a broad CCBHC audience, including a dedicated CCBHC section. Sign up for the Weekly Update.
- **Monthly CCBHC Newsletter:** A monthly summary of key initiatives, developments, TA opportunities, and upcoming priorities. Previous editions are available on the CCBHC webpage.
- **CEO Round Up**: To assist in streamlining numerous requests and action items CCBHCs are receiving, a brief, weekly *CEO Round Up* will be shared with CEOs and their designees to bring attention to the most critical requests and informational updates. Look for this coming from the CCBHCTA@cmham.org email.

Policy, System & Operations Updates

MDHHS CCBHC State Plan Amendment Planning – October 13 PPS Listening Session

MDHHS continues to engage CCBHCs in planning for a potential future **CCBHC State Plan Amendment (SPA)** through a series of listening sessions focused on key policy, operational, and financing considerations. The sessions are intended to gather practical input from clinics as the state considers the future structure of Michigan's CCBHC model following the demonstration.

Recent listening sessions have focused on:

- August 11: Waiver/iSPA Overlap
- August 18: Scope of Services – New Services
- September 8: Case Management and Care Coordination
- September 29: DCO Roles

The next listening session, scheduled for October 13, will focus on PPS methodology and will include discussion of the various PPS options available to states.

Action Requested: Review the PPS Technical Assistance Recording Before October 13

To help CCBHCs prepare, Scott Banken of FTI Consulting has developed a recorded TA session reviewing PPS-1 through PPS-4, including key differences among the methodologies, advantages and disadvantages, and potential operational and financial implications for CCBHCs.

CCBHC leaders and staff planning to participate in the October 13 listening session are highly encouraged to review the recording in advance. The recording is intended to provide a common foundation so clinics can come prepared to consider the tradeoffs among the different PPS methodologies and provide informed, practical feedback to MDHHS.

View the PPS TA recording here.

The CCBHC Caucus will continue to review upcoming SPA topics and support clinics in identifying potential operational, financial, and policy implications as the planning process moves forward.

CCBHC leaders who have not received listening session invitations and would like to participate should contact MDHHS-CCBHC@Michigan.gov.

Save the Date: In-Person Discussion on Uninsured and Non-Medicaid CCBHC Sustainability (October 23)

MDHHS will convene an in-person meeting on October 23 in Lansing with CCBHC CEOs and their designees to focus on the growing impact of uninsured and other non-Medicaid populations on CCBHC operations and financial sustainability. The meeting will be facilitated by the CCBHC-Transformation project team, with MDHHS present to listen and learn.

The discussion will provide an opportunity for CCBHCs to learn from each other and from national experts and collectively solve challenges related to serving the non-Medicaid population. Participants will share existing approaches and work together to identify potential solutions to reduce the burden of providing non-Medicaid services, including exploring strategies to ensure Medicaid coverage, address sliding-fee nonpayment, and manage costs for uninsured individuals.

Additional details will be shared after the agenda is finalized. A video conference option will be offered for those with schedules that do not allow for in person attendance.

New CMS CCBHC State Plan Resource

CMS has launched a new CCBHC Services webpage outlining the optional Medicaid CCBHC state plan benefit established under Section 1905(a)(31) and 1905(jj) of the Social

Security Act. The page summarizes the nine required CCBHC service categories and includes links to CMS's 2026 State Medicaid Director guidance, the new CCBHC State Plan Coverage Preprint, and related federal resources. Visit the CMS CCBHC Services webpage.

Reminder: MDHHS CCBHC Needs Assessment Updates Due February 28, 2027

MDHHS is requiring each CCBHC to review its current **CCBHC Needs Assessment Template** in preparation for post-demonstration activities and submit an updated version, if warranted, by February 28, 2027. The assessment supports CCBHC certification requirements related to staffing, quality, comprehensive service delivery, and the use of DCOs.

CCBHCs should ensure that any planned service expansions or new DCO agreements are reflected in the assessment and tied to identified needs or capacity gaps. Any revisions should be highlighted. If no updates are needed, the template must still be submitted with a note indicating that no revisions were required.

Questions may be directed to the MDHHS CCBHC Certification and Oversight team at **mdhhs-ccbhc-compliance@michigan.gov**.

Active Initiatives

Data Warehouse Update

Work is moving forward on the CCBHC Data Warehouse initiative, which will support development of shared data infrastructure for Michigan CCBHCs. The Project Team will be appointed and hold its initial meeting the week of October 12.

The Project Team will review the proposed project timeline and begin laying the groundwork for implementation. Initial activities will include establishing a Project Team Charter and meeting cadence, adding detail to the project timeline, and beginning development of MOUs for project partners. Additional updates and opportunities for CCBHC engagement will be shared as the work progresses.

Field Intelligence & Emerging Issues

H.R. 1 Update: What CCBHCs Should Know

Federal changes included in H.R. 1 will begin affecting Medicaid eligibility and financing over the coming year. Key changes include six month Medicaid eligibility redeterminations for expansion adults, new work/community engagement requirements, shorter retroactive coverage periods, changes in eligibility for some lawfully present non-citizens, and changes affecting provider taxes and other Medicaid financing mechanisms. The National Council for Mental Wellbeing has highlighted the potential for these changes to increase

administrative burden for states, providers, and Medicaid members and to contribute to coverage disruptions when eligible individuals have difficulty completing new requirements.

In Michigan, the Healthy Michigan Plan will begin implementing several of these changes January 1, 2027. Most Healthy Michigan members will move from annual to six-month eligibility reviews, and certain adults ages 19–64 will need to meet work or other approved activity requirements unless they qualify for an exemption. For individuals already enrolled, MDHHS will begin assessing these requirements at renewals occurring on or after March 1, 2027. Importantly for CCBHC populations, exemptions include individuals with mental health disorders, substance use disorders, complex health needs and certain disabilities, among others. MDHHS has indicated it will use available information to verify requirements and exemptions automatically when possible[1].

For CCBHCs, the near-term priority is preparation and helping eligible individuals maintain coverage. Clinics should be aware of upcoming eligibility changes, consider how they may support individuals in responding to Medicaid notices and documenting exemptions when needed, and continue monitoring changes in Medicaid enrollment and non-Medicaid service demand. CCBHCs can also consider how support staff may be used to assist individuals with maintaining or securing Medicaid coverage; these activities are an eligible CCBHC cost. Even when individuals remain eligible, more frequent eligibility reviews create additional opportunities for administrative coverage disruptions. MDHHS has emphasized that its goal is to keep as many eligible Michiganders covered as possible[2].

These changes also have broader implications for Michigan's behavioral health system. In recent discussions, Michigan leaders highlighted the potential for increased uninsured and uncompensated care alongside broader Medicaid financing pressures; issues that are particularly important as Michigan considers long-term CCBHC financing and transition beyond the demonstration. CMHA and statewide partners have reconvened Protect My Care MI to support Medicaid education and preserve access to coverage.

The CCBHC TA Hub will continue to monitor federal and Michigan implementation developments and identify opportunities for TA as additional guidance becomes available.

Additional resources are available through MDHHS' Community Partner Toolkit and Upcoming Federal Medicaid Changes webpage, as well as the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's H.R. 1 Resource Hub.

[1] https://www.michigan.gov/healthymiplan/new-medicaid-work-requirements

[2] https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/newsroom/2026/07/23/medicaid-work

CCBHC Impact Spotlight

Community Partners Report Strong Partnerships and Improved Access

As part of Michigan's ongoing CCBHC evaluation, the Center for Health and Research Transformation (CHRT) gathered feedback from community organizations that work directly with CCBHCs. Findings from the Community Partners Survey point to strong partnerships and positive impacts on access and care coordination.

Three-quarters of responding partners reported working with their CCBHC for five years or longer, and partners demonstrated strong awareness of core CCBHC features, including crisis services, whole person integrated care, care coordination, and the expectation that CCBHCs serve individuals regardless of age, diagnosis, or ability to pay.
Partners are also seeing a difference in their communities: 56% reported improved access to behavioral health services and 52% reported stronger care coordination through their collaboration with CCBHCs.

At the same time, the survey highlighted opportunities to build on this progress. Partners expressed interest in more information about available CCBHC services, clearer communication and referral pathways, and continued attention to the needs of populations including youth, LGBTQ+ individuals, justice-involved individuals, rural residents, and people who are homebound.

Overall, the findings reflect both the strength of existing CCBHC community partnerships and opportunities to further expand their reach and impact.

CEI Opens New Crisis Care Center in Lansing

The Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) has opened a new 24/7 Crisis Care Center in Lansing, bringing mental health crisis, mobile crisis, and substance use disorder services together in one location. The center accepts walk-ins and is designed to provide a more coordinated alternative to hospital emergency departments for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. An adult crisis stabilization unit, offering stays of up to 72 hours, is also planned. Read more about the new Crisis Care Center.

Future CCBHC Spotlights

The CCBHC Impact Spotlight section is an ongoing space to highlight innovative practices, milestones, implementation lessons, and practical strategies from across Michigan. The goal is to support peer learning and shared visibility, whether it's a workforce approach 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, we encourage you to submit for a future spotlight. Please email Holly Salazar (holly@aliciadsmithllc.com) with a brief description and any relevant details.

What's Coming Next

Over the next several weeks, CCBHCs can expect continued focus on SPA planning, financing, and sustainability, including the October 13 PPS methodology discussion and the October 23 in-person session on uninsured and non-Medicaid populations. Additional work will continue around the Data Warehouse, CCBHC Needs Assessment updates, and implementation of upcoming Medicaid eligibility changes. The TA Hub and CCBHC Caucus will continue to share updates, preparation materials, and opportunities for clinic input as these efforts move forward.

Upcoming Deadlines and Dates

Please see the "Upcoming Deadlines and Dates" section at https://cmham.org/ccbhc.

Training and Technical Assistance Sessions

- **Additional Sessions Pending Scheduling**

Meetings

- **October 15, 2026** – Special CCBHC Caucus Meeting *(2:30pm – 4:00pm)*
- **October 23, 2026 –** Uninsured Strategy Session (*In Lansing – details to follow*)
- **October 26-27, 2026** – CMHA Fall Conference
- **October 26, 2026** – CCBHC Caucus Meeting *(in-person, 4:00pm – 5:00pm)*
- **October 26, 2026** – CMHA Conference CCBHC Workshop: *CCBHCs and the Future of Michigan's Behavioral Health Safety Net (10:00 – 11:30am)*

Deadlines / Due Dates

- **October 15, 2026 –** Veterans Navigator Report due to MDHHS
- **October 31, 2026** – CY26 Q3 Quarterly Metric Reporting due to MDHHS
- **October 31, 2026** – Sentinel Events Reporting due to MDHHS
- **November 15, 2026** – Q4 Grievance, Appeals, Service Auth Denials due to MDHHS
- **December 31, 2026** – Q4 Claims Reconciliation Template due to MDHHS
- **February 28, 2027** – Updated CCBHC Needs Assessment Template due to MDHHS