



Right Help Right Now Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Redesign



The Commonwealth's Behavioral Health Plan is founded on six pillars



An aligned approach to BH that provides access to **timely, effective, and community-based care** to reduce the burden of mental health needs, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders on Virginians and their families

1: We must strive to ensure same-day care for individuals experiencing behavioral health crises

2: We must relieve the law enforcement communities' burden while providing care and reduce the criminalization of behavioral health

3: We must develop more capacity throughout the system, going beyond hospitals, especially to enhance community-based services

4: We must provide targeted support for substance use disorder (SUD) and efforts to prevent overdose

5: We must make the behavioral health workforce a priority, particularly in underserved communities

6: We must identify service innovations and best practices in pre-crisis prevention services, crisis care, post-crisis recovery and support and develop tangible and achievable means to close capacity gaps

Initiatives to redesign adult (Pillar 3) and youth (Pillar 6) Medicaid services arose in two Pillars

RHRN Service Redesign - Project Overview

DMAS, in coordination with DBHDS, DHP and DMAS health plans, is employing an integrated and comprehensive approach to address rate, service, and workforce/provider roles for Medicaid over the next two years.

The project seeks to redesign DMAS' youth and adult legacy services: Intensive In-home, Therapeutic Day Treatment, Mental Health Skill Building, Psychosocial Rehabilitation, and Mental Health Targeted Case Management.

The budget language authorizes DMAS to move forward with budget neutral changes to replace the legacy services with evidence-based, trauma-informed services.



Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Redesign Timeline

July 2024-June 2026

Year 1

July 2024-June 2025

Service research, stakeholder input, contractor support to develop service requirements

Develop service definitions and requirements

Develop FFS rates for each proposed new service

Estimate utilization, cost and budget impact for redesigned services

Year 2

July 2025-June 2026

Operationalize new services through licensure, regulatory, and policy manual changes

Prepare providers to transition to new services

Ensure MCO readiness to implement new services

New Services Go Live
Potential phased in approach of service implementation

Project Updates and Accomplishments: Year 1

Completed (July 2024-June 2025)

- Project Kick off Public Webinar
- Member, Advocate and Provider Listening Sessions
- Provider, Member and School Personnel surveys launch and close
- State agency stakeholders convened for youth and adult core teams
- Website launch
- Advisory Council Launch
- Community Services Board Case Management Workgroup Launch
- Development of new Service Definitions
- Public Webinar regarding draft of new service definitions
- Completion of rate study for new services
- Completion of stakeholder feedback summary

Project Updates and Accomplishments: Year 2

Completed (July 2025-October 2025)

- Public Webinar: Rates and new service descriptions
- Completion of Provider Readiness Survey
- Completion of Rate and Fiscal Impact Analysis report
- Completion of Youth and Adult Services Provider Analysis
- Launch of Provider “letter of intent” survey
- Outreach and education on project, multiple public presentations on project updates
- Completion of informal public comment for CPST-Adult/Youth Community; CPST-School and Mental Health Case Management policies.
- CPST-Youth Community Recorded Webinar posted
- Launch and continued Managed Care Organization readiness workgroup and Fee-for-Service Implementation workgroup
- Launch of Application for the first cohort of Managing and Adapting Practice (MAP) training (DBHDS and CEP-VA)
- Completion of 1 of 4 initial MAP trainings (DBHDS/CEP-VA)
- DBHDS Board approved new CPST regulations (Sept 2025)

Project Updates and Accomplishments: Year 2 continued

In Progress

- Continued development of Foundational Youth and Adult CPST Services training (DBHDS/CEP-VA)
- Continued development in coordination with Praed Foundation, DBHDS, OCS and CEP-VA the CANS Lifetime Assessment
- Development of Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) policies
- Development of Mental Health Clubhouse Services
- Development of DBHDS Clubhouse and CSC regulations.

Future

- Informal public posting of Coordinated Specialty Care and Mental Health Clubhouse Services policies (November 2025)
- Posting of CPST-Adult Community and CPST-School Setting recorded webinars
- Geographical analysis of provider “letter of intent” survey results
- Informal public posting of Level of Need Model and CANS Lifetime assessment