



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Central Behavioral Health Awarded \$4 Million Federal SAMHSA Grant to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has awarded West Central Behavioral Health a 4-year, \$4 million Planning, Development and Implementation Project grant in support of its proposal to become designated as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). With this grant award, more than 430 CCBHC's are operating in 42 states, Washington, DC, and Guam, bringing expanded access to integrated and evidence-based behavioral health care to those in need. West Central Behavioral Health is one of ten designated community behavioral health centers in New Hampshire, providing services since 1977 to lower Grafton County (Upper Valley) and Sullivan County with offices and clinics in Claremont, Lebanon, and Newport, NH.

The goal of a CCBHC is to increase access to, and improve the quality of, community mental health and substance use disorder treatment including in-person and family-centered integrated services. The CCBHC grant will provide federal funding to enhance the broad array of community-based services offered by West Central including 24/7 mobile crisis intervention services, opioid use disorder treatment, therapy for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance, and its focus on individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. CCBHC grants offer an innovative approach and sustainable funding model to address the cost of mental health service delivery. This grant will be instrumental in enhancing West Central's focus on those facing health disparities identified by community needs health assessments, and developing greater access to care and treatment options for residents of lower Grafton County and Sullivan County.

"The Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model alleviates decades-old challenges that have led to a crisis in providing access to mental health and substance use care across the nation. CCBHCs have dramatically increased access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment, expanded states' capacity to address the overdose crisis and established innovative partnerships with law enforcement, schools and hospitals to improve care, reduce recidivism and prevent hospital readmissions."

— National Council for Mental Wellbeing – [nationalcouncil.org](https://www.nationalcouncil.org)

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The NH Rapid Response Access Point hotline toll-free crisis number is: 833-710-6477 (call or text). Or [NH988.com](https://www.nh988.com) (online chat). Learn more online at: www.wcbh.org.