



Eagle Valley Behavioral Health (EVBH) Behavioral Health Transformation

The Current BH System is Broken

DP Investigation: Colorado's mental health safety...

NEWS · COLORADO NEWS · Investigative, News

Investigation: Colorado's mental health safety net marked by lack of competition, oversight and transparency

Reforms are planned but unclear they will fix the core problems



Matt Vinnola, right, and his mother Janet van der Laak are pictured in this undated photograph.

Courtesy of Janet van der Laak via COLO

By SUSAN GREENE | Colorado News Collaborative
December 5, 2021 at 6:00 a.m.

38

Matt Vinnola lay curled up on a downtown sidewalk one Sunday in September, his eyes as blank as those of the stuffed lamb he was using as a pillow. The former honors student and youth Taekwondo champion seemed too out of it to shoo a fly off his lip or realize he was urinating through his shorts onto the concrete. If he noticed the woman offering Wet Wipes or the man trying to hand him a \$5 bill, he showed no interest.

"Tell them, just tell them I don't need help so stop it," he grumbled to no one in plain sight.

Colorado's mental health safety-net system: A wide range in rates

The table shows the Medicaid reimbursement rates Colorado's regional community mental health centers charge the state for an hour of counseling and an hour of crisis intervention compared to **what independent providers are paid through Medicaid for the same services**. Click column headers to sort, scroll right to see full table, click triangle to see the community mental health center's service area.

Search:

Center	Liquid assets on hand last fiscal year	CEO compensation	Amt. Medicaid reimburses center for an hour of counseling	Amt. Medicaid reimburses center for an hour of crisis intervention
Mental Health Center of Denver	\$41,326,675	\$819,340	\$592.03 \$91.08*	\$818.20 \$47.52*
Mind Springs Health	\$21,612,135	\$312,331	\$388.54 \$91.08*	\$536.97 \$47.52*
Aurora Mental Health Center	\$20,894,924	\$312,612	\$383.63 \$91.08*	\$530.18 \$47.52*
Jefferson Center for Mental Health	\$19,985,204	\$289,810	\$307.44 \$91.08*	\$424.89 \$47.52*



Brief History of EVBH

EVBH Mission & Vision

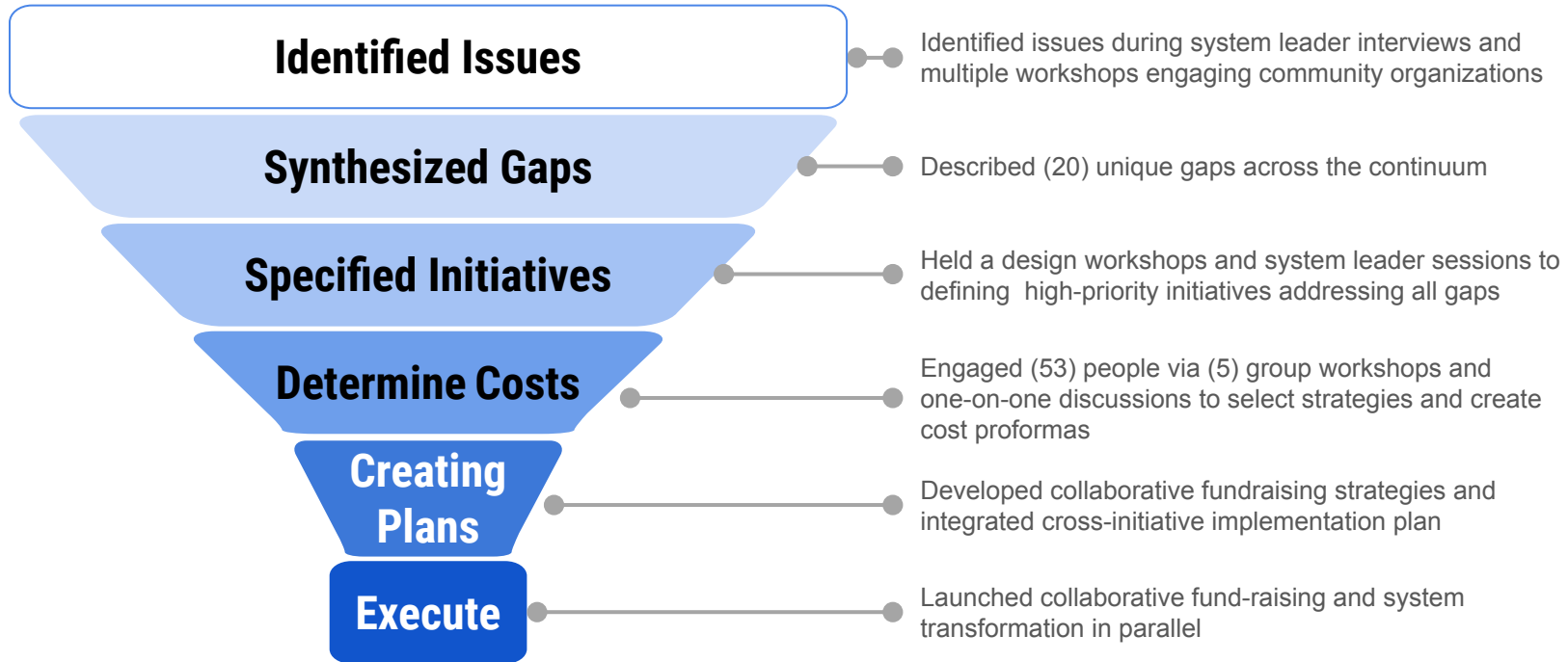
Mission

Lead community collaboration to transform the Eagle Valley's behavioral health system.

Vision

Imagine a day in this Valley when we spend as much time, effort and resources on our behavioral health as we do our physical health.

Community Engagement Process



EVBH Team & Key Initiatives

1. Build and Operate Behavioral Health Facilities in the Valley
2. Increase Provider Access and Capacity by 100%
3. System Coordination and Transformation
4. Prevention & Education
5. Crisis Response & Transition Services
6. School-Based Behavioral Health Services



Eagle County

Landscape 2018/2019

AFFORDABILITY	ACCESS AVAILABILITY	STIGMA	COHESIVE HEALTH SYSTEM	A COMMUNITY IN CRISIS
<p>9% of Local BH Providers Accept Insurance</p> <p>0% of Local Psychiatrists Accept Insurance</p> <p>\$200-\$450 Average Cost Per Session</p> <p>BH Options for Medicaid or Private Pay</p>	<p>HRSA Defined Provider Shortage Area</p> <p>HRSA Defined Behavioral Health Service Shortage Area</p> <p>50 Total Local BH Providers</p> <p>7 Clinical Psychologists</p> <p>1 Local Psychiatrist</p> <p>Consistent Waitlists for Care</p>	<p>Paradise Paradox</p> <p>Optics of Care</p> <p>Lack of Choice/Options</p> <p>No Behavioral Health Screening</p>	<p>Lack of Integrated Behavioral Health across Primary Care.</p> <p>Vail Health, Lacked Behavioral Health Service Line</p> <p>Lack of Coordination across BH Service Organizations and Providers.</p>	<p>16 Suicides in 2017</p> <p>17 Suicides in 2018</p> <p>11 Suicides 2019</p> <p>1 in 4 7th and 8th Graders Seriously Considered Suicide (2017)</p> <p>16% Made a Plan to Complete Suicide</p>

Eagle County

2021 Current State

AFFORDABILITY

93% of BH Providers
Accept Insurance or
services are completely
subsidized.

90% of Local BH Providers
Accept Olivia's Fund

100% of local
Psychiatrists accept
insurance.

Olivia's Fund ensures
anyone in community
who identifies financial
barrier has no-cost access
to BH services.

ACCESS AVAILABILITY

56 new provider
positions.

110% increase
since 2018.

105 Total Local BH
Providers

16 Clinical Psychologists

3 Psychiatrists at CMM
1 Psychiatric Nurse
Practitioner at CMM
1 Pain and Addiction
Specialist at CMM

STIGMA

Integrated Behavioral Health

Mountain Strong EAP

Community-Wide Stigma
Reduction Campaign

Vail Health Magazine-Past 2
years dedicated to BH
awareness. Mailed to every
resident and 25,000 visitors

Vail Daily-Consistent
coverage of BH stories,
resources, and awareness.

18 months daily advertising
of Olivia's Fund in Vail
Daily.

COHESIVE HEALTH SYSTEM

Vail Health committed \$60
Million to BH Services.

Vail Health Foundation has
raised \$41 Million of \$100
Million Goal.

Vail Health Acquires Colorado
Mountain Medical.

BH becomes CMM's largest
Service Line
FY22 20 providers

Weiger's Family Mental Health
Clinic (2022)

Inpatient BH Facility (2023)
Daily Census > Vail Health
Daily Census

COMMUNITY FIRST

EVBH has distributed
\$7,314,794 for BH Services

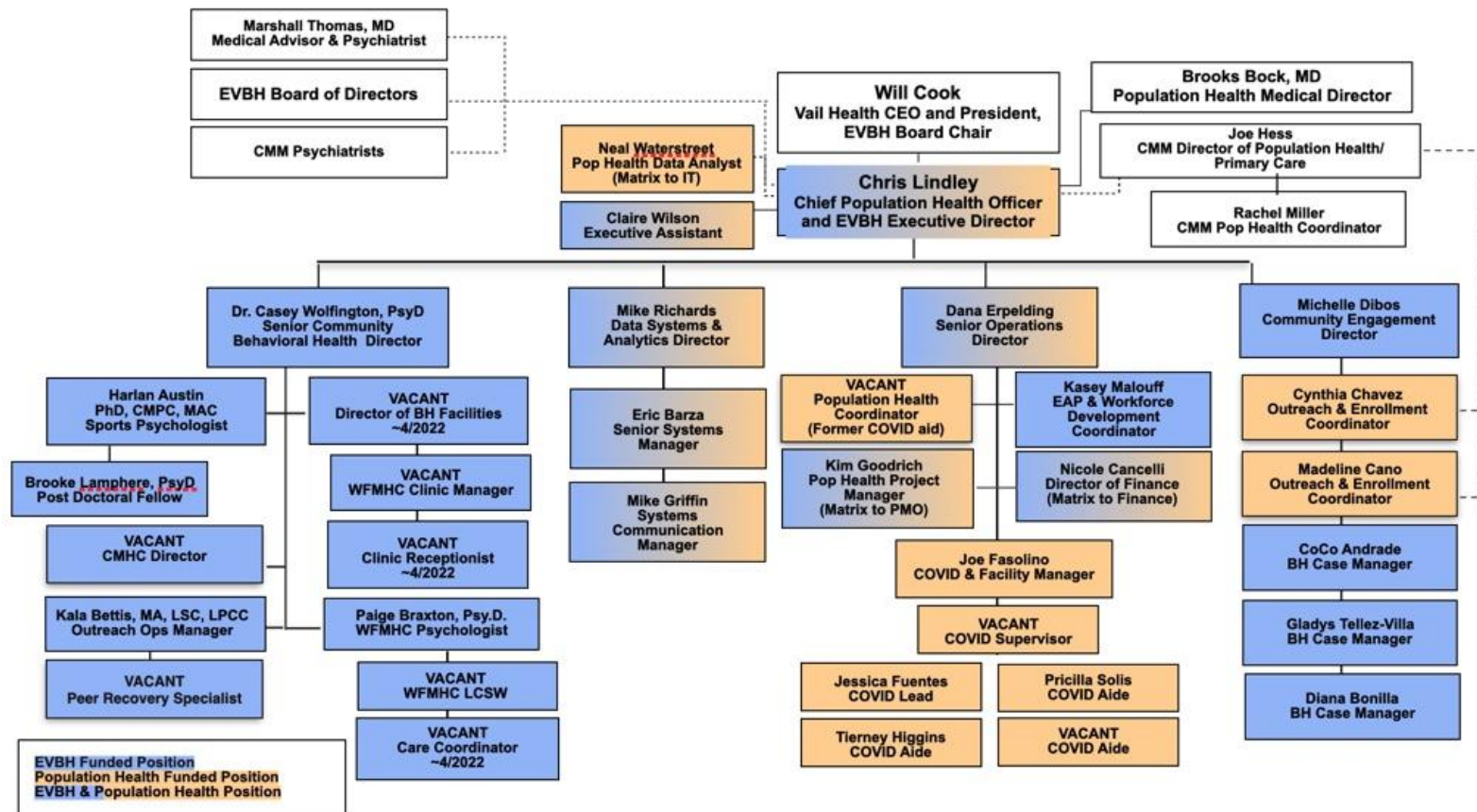
Unprecedented BH
Coordination for Critical
Incident and Community
Response

Established BH Provider
Student Loan Recruitment
Incentive Program
Benefiting 14 Local
Providers.

Vail Health launched Victim
First Care, Eagle County's
only SANE/FNE Program.



EVBH Organizational Chart



Behavioral Health Community Partners

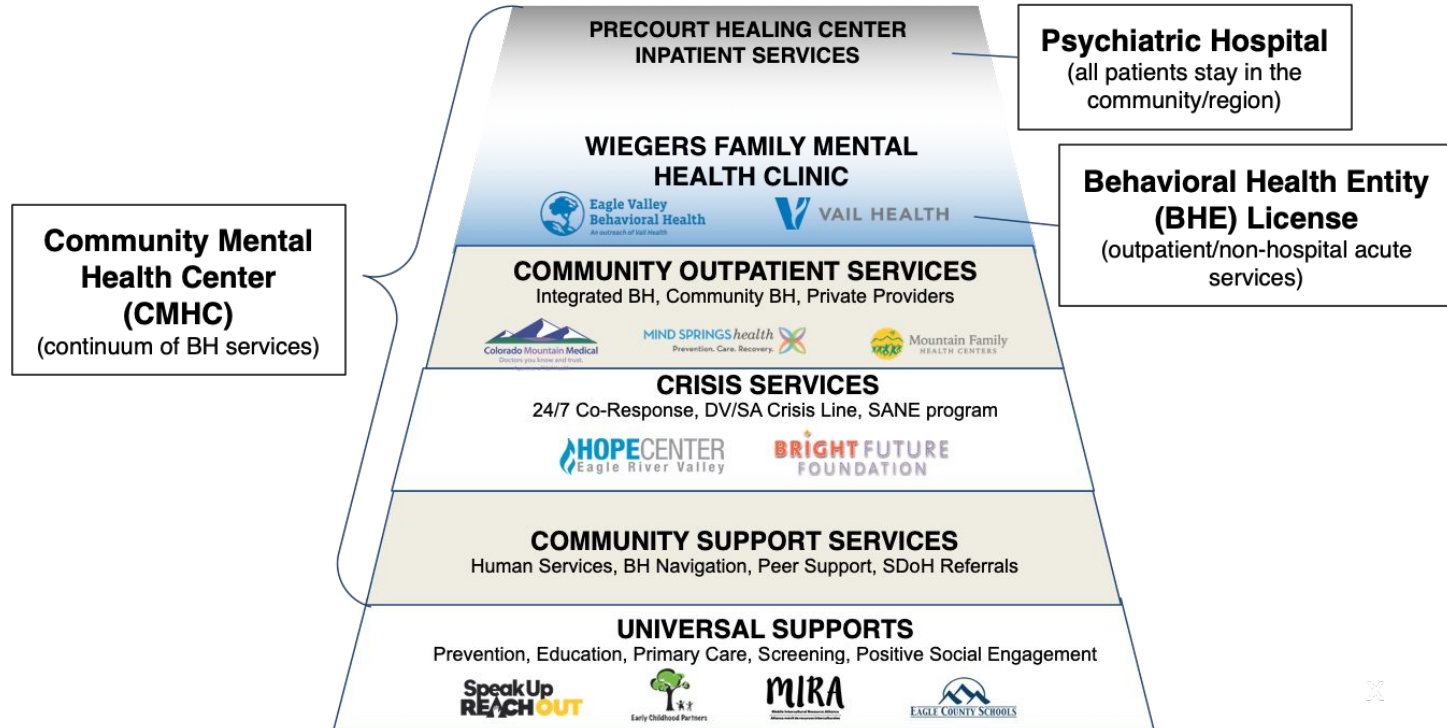


Not an exhaustive list



Continuum of Care

Community Mental Health Center Designation



EVBH Affiliates and Funded Partners



Eagle Valley Behavioral Health System

Consultation & Education Prevention & Early Intervention

Speak Up Reach Out



Mobile Intercultural
Resource Alliance
(MIRA)



Early Childhood
Partners



My Future
Pathways



Eagle County School
District



Bright Future
Foundation



Hope Center Eagle
River Valley

Mobile Intercultural
Resource Alliance
(MIRA)



Hearts Reign



Youth Power
365



Eagle County Sheriff &
Local Law Enforcement



Eagle County Public
Health and Health &
Human Services

Outpatient Care

Colorado Mountain
Medical Integrated
BH



Mountain Family Health
Centers Integrated BH



Hope Center Eagle
River Valley



Bright Future Foundation



Howard Head Sports
Medicine



Intensive Outpatient Care

Colorado Mountain
Medical Integrated
BH



Bright Future
Foundation



Hope Center Eagle
River Valley



Wiegiers Depression
Clinic
[Fall 2021]

SUD Clinic
[Spring 2022]

Emergency Services

Bright Future
Foundation



Hope Center Eagle
River Valley



Eagle County
Paramedics



Recovery Resources
Frisco Detox Facility

Recovery Resources

Colorado Mountain
Medical Integrated
SANE/FNE



Inpatient Services

Partnership with
HealthOne in Denver

Partnership with
Colorado Children's
Hospital in Denver

Inpatient BH Facility in
Edwards, CO
[Fall 2023]

Future State -
Programs Currently
Under Development

Community Mental Health Centers - Regulatory & Statutory Origins

- The same 17 CMHCs have been funded by the state since the 1980s when Aurora Mental Health was added to the 16 centers funded in the 1960s.
- Colorado State statute defines Community Mental Health Centers as “either a physical plant or a group of services under unified administration or affiliated with one another, and including at least the following services provided for the prevention and treatment of behavioral or mental health disorders in persons residing in a particular community in or near the facility so situated:
 - (a) Inpatient services;
 - (b) Outpatient services;
 - (c) Partial hospitalization;
 - (d) Emergency services;
 - (e) Consultative and educational services.

**EVBH and funded
community partners are
performing all of this work
already**

Community Mental Health Center Application

- Community Mental Health Center (CMHC)
Office of Behavioral Health
Full Designation Approved
Effective 10/11/21 through 10/10/23
- **First CMHC designated in over 40 years!!**
- Behavioral Health Entity (BHE)
Colorado Department of Public Health &
Environment (CDPHE) - **Approved 1/26/2022**

State of Colorado



Department of Human Services
Office of Behavioral Health

Approves

Eagle Valley Behavioral Health
429 Edwards Access Road
Edwards CO 81632

Designation Number: 2365-01

for the delivery of Mental Health Services (Pursuant to
C.R.S. 27-65-101 et seq.) Care and Treatment of Persons
with Mental Illness

Facility Type: Community Mental Health Center

Effective Date: 10/11/2021
Expiration Date: 10/10/2023
Designation Status: Full

Laura Ferguson, 27-65 Program Manager
Office of Behavioral Health
Colorado Department of Human Services

Why Apply as a CMHC?

Provider Access & Capacity

- Ensure community has access to ***in-person, licensed*** clinical specialties across the continuum of care
(early childhood, adolescent, couples/family, addiction, trauma, etc.)
 - psychiatric specialists who live in the community with board certifications to support all populations
 - patient supports across the community funded by state/Federal sources (Health and Human Services)
- Since EVBH was formed (July 2019) 56 direct clinical positions and 11 indirect (admin and navigation positions) have been added to the community
- Funding support for peer support programs for at-risk populations (veterans, youth, SUD, Latinx, etc.)

Affordability

- CMHC license ensures local providers/programs eligible for increased reimbursement rates
- Programs structured to meet the community need rather than around a billing code

Why Apply as a CMHC?

Local Program Development and Financial Sustainability

- Programs developed by local providers who understand BH needs of our residents
- Quality and diversity of services - EVBH currently funding over 50 partners to enhance local BH programs
 - 24/7 crisis and intensive stabilization team
 - integrated behavioral health
 - sexual assault nurse examiner program
 - intensive outpatient programs and specialty clinic
 - school-based services
 - peer support
 - case management and local systems of referral within the county
 - local inpatient facility with comprehensive discharge plans and referral to community-based support

Community Collaboration

- Local leadership on EVBH Board
- Building local systems of referrals within the community
- Routine evaluation of programs - remain nimble to modify programs if they are not making intended impacts
- Local community collaboration to ensure needs, voices, and concerns are heard
- When a community partner or community member expresses concern, listen.

Collective Investment

- Total Community Contribution for Behavioral Health Services*
 - FY20 = **\$5.5M**
 - FY21 = **\$6.2M**

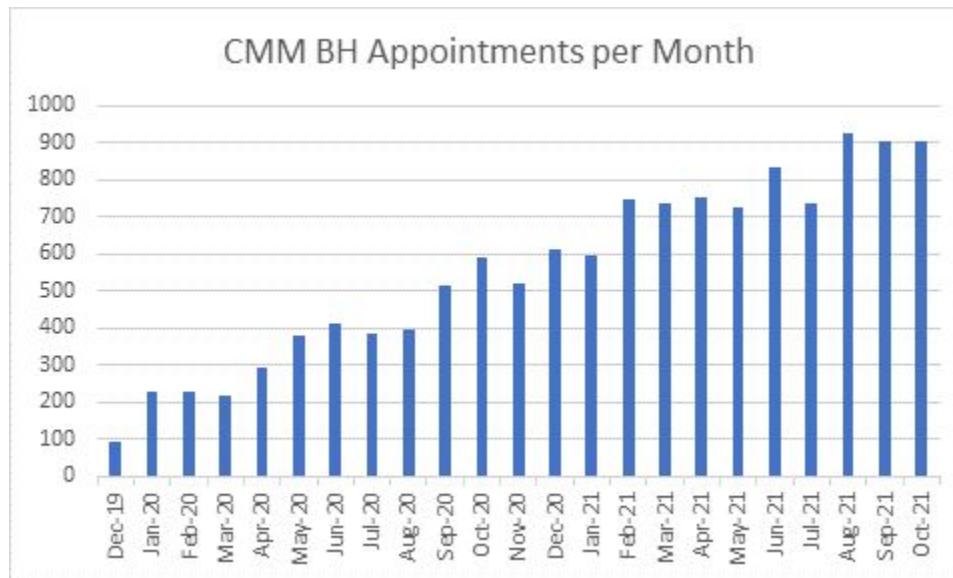
**includes funding from Vail Health, Eagle County, Grants and Benefactors*

- 110 Funding Agreements to over 30 local organizations
- Vail Health Foundation has raised **\$46.7M** to date (as of 1/19/22)

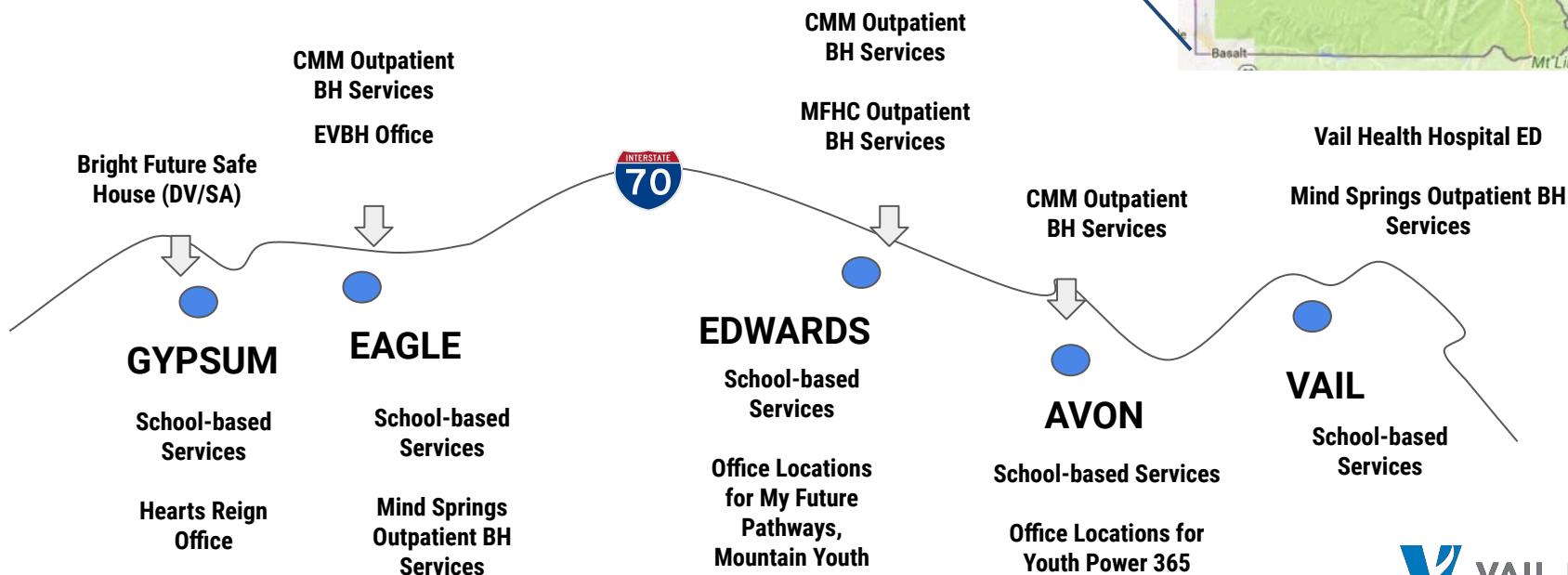
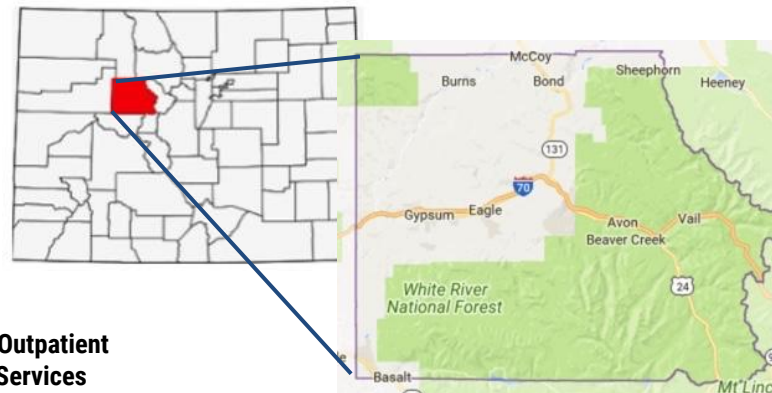
Colorado Mountain Medical Integrated BH

- Offering Outpatient and Integrated BH Services
 - Avon, Eagle, and Edwards offices, 7 days a week
- Accepting all major insurance including Medicaid and Medicare
- Bilingual services (English and Spanish speaking providers)
- Optimizing patient reimbursement

Demand for behavioral health outpatient services continues to grow in the community:



BH Service Locations



Victim First Care

- Program began in May 2021
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)/Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE): Comprehensive Medical Care and evidence collection for victims of sexual assault and interpersonal violence (including domestic violence and elder abuse)
- Currently, we are the largest community staffed program in the state: 14 trained Registered Nurses and 1 Forensic Nurse Coordinator
- Reporting and response collaborative with local Law Enforcement
- Data YTD:
 - 38 Calls to SANE/FNE
 - 13 Exams Completed



970-422-3202

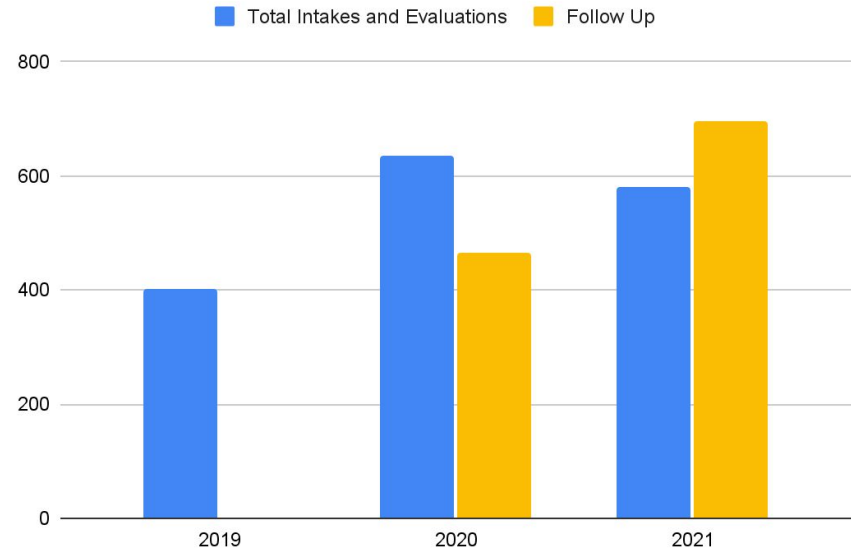


Hope Center

- New 501c3 for the Eagle River Valley as of 1/2021
- Only 24/7 crisis organization in CO
- ROI - financial and total lives saved
 - ~ 70% reduction in transport to the Vail Health ED for mental health related issues
 - On average, each MH related ED visit costs ~ \$26K
- New in 2022: Community Intensive Stabilization Team (CIST)

The need for crisis support continues to grow:

Eagle Hope Center Crisis Intake Calls and Evaluations



2021 crisis numbers are similar to 2020, however clinical follow ups from director and local clinicians continue to increase (need for care coordination)

Alcoholic Support Hotline

- 24/7 hotline staffed for alcohol calls - **970-306-4673**
- Marketing phone number through:
 - Social Media
 - Print/Radio
 - Events
- Alcoholics and family members connected to case manager and peer support to get them into AA-type care
- Full-time Alcohol Recovery Peer Specialist. Hiring in process



Binge drinking?

Have loved ones asked you to stop?

Drinking to deal with pain?

Wanting to quit, but can't?

**SIGNS OF
ALCOHOLISM**

 **Eagle Valley
Behavioral Health**
An outreach of Fall Health

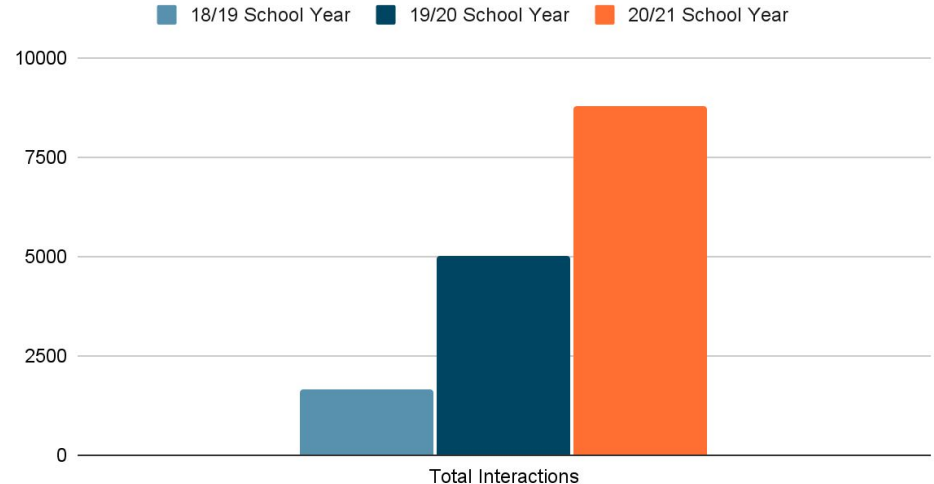
 **HOPE CENTER**
Eagle River Valley

GET HELP NOW:
(970) 306-4673 | EagleValleyBH.org/Alcohol

Hope Center School-Based Services

- In October of 2018, the Hope Center started with 2 school-based therapists in two middle schools.
- Thanks to significant support from community partners, the 20/21 school-based team includes 11 therapists, 1 intern, and 2 supervisors serving the following schools:
 - Battle Mountain High School
 - Berry Creek Middle School
 - Eagle County Charter Academy
 - Eagle Valley Middle School
 - Eagle Valley High School
 - Gypsum Creek Middle School
 - Gypsum Elementary
 - Homestake Peak School
 - Red Canyon High School
 - Red Hill Elementary
 - Stone Creek Charter
 - Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy
 - Zealous Schools

Total School-based Clinician Interactions



Interactions include initial and crisis assessments, group, individual and family sessions and social-emotional check-in and correspondence

Olivia's Fund

- Six free behavioral health sessions per year for anyone who lives or works in the Eagle River Valley and cannot afford treatment
- Will cover anyone in need
- All patient materials in English and Spanish
- Entire process is electronic for patients and providers



Olivia's **FUND**

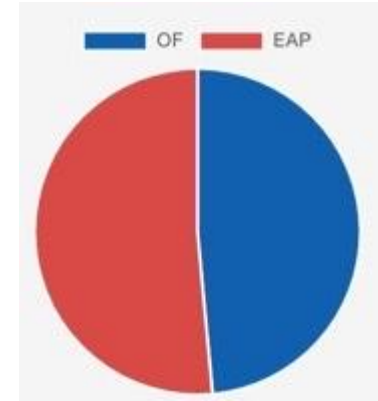
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Olivia Ortega was adventurous, athletic, and loved animals and sports, including volleyball and gymnastics. Unfortunately, her life was cut short by suicide at 13-years-old. Olivia's Fund has been established to honor her life and ensure all residents of the Eagle River Valley have access to behavioral health resources.

Mountain Strong Employee Assistance Program

- Launched December 6, 2019 for Vail Health
 - 2% historical EAP utilization to now >15% among Vail Health employees/dependants
- Employees and family members eligible for **6 free sessions per incident**
- Appointments in-person, by telephone, or telemedicine
- Started offering the EAP to other employers in the Valley in 2021
 - 11 Employers on-boarded
 - Serving over 8,000 lives

Employee Assistance Program = 575
& Olivia's Fund = 542



Hispanic/Spanish Speaker Efforts

- Supporting Latinx organizations meeting behavioral health needs in the community:
 - Hearts Reign
 - Peer Support & BH Training
 - My Future Pathways
 - Youth mentoring and peer support
 - Financial support for local Bilingual students to get BH degrees to build a pipeline of bilingual providers in our community
 - MIRA
 - Building trust, sharing resources and reducing BH stigma
 - Strengthen the BH referral system



Spanish Speakers Capacity Building

- Over 15 additional Spanish speaking BH staff have been hired
 - Additional Spanish speaking therapists
 - CMM – 1
 - MFHC - 2
 - Additional Spanish Speaking BH Navigators
 - EVBH Community Navigators - 3
 - Insurance Navigator at CMM - 1
 - Nonprofits who have added Spanish speaking team members
 - EVBH - 2
 - Hearts Reign – 1
 - My Future Pathways - 2 + 5 interns
 - Early Childhood Partners - 3

Peer Support

- EVBH launched a new peer support program in May 2021
 - Peers are community members with lived experience, trained to identify signs/symptoms of BH disorders, proper referral protocols and offer social-emotional skills and supports
 - Peers are paid for group sessions, volunteer for individual meetings and receive reflective supervision
- Peers housed under specific “branches” or local organizations to support unique populations:
 - Speak Up Reach Out - Veterans and First Responders
 - Eagle County School District - Parent Advocacy and Staff Wellness
 - Hearts Reign - Latinx Community
 - Vail Valley Partnership - Substance Abuse, Industry and Hospitality
 - Eagle Hope Center - Generalized Peer Support, Aging and Jail-based
 - My Future Pathways - Youth Mentorship
- Each branch to submit data to demonstrate effectiveness
- Collaboration with Building Hope in Summit County



PEER SUPPORT Program **NEW**

GET
support.

GIVE
support.

Eagle Valley Behavioral Health's new Peer Support program connects people who have similar life experiences to offer support, hope and new beginnings.

GET SUPPORT Meet someone who understands what you're going through and can share insights, empathy and a helping hand. Visit EagleValleyBH.org/PeerSupport.

GIVE SUPPORT Help someone in your community by listening and sharing your experiences. Contact Kala Bettis at kala.bettis@vailhealth.org or (970) 379-1185.



Key Activities Update

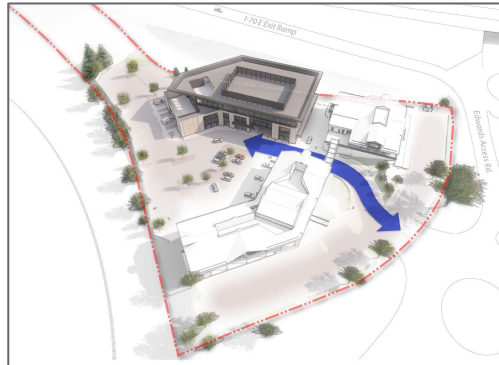
Comprehensive Community Health Campus

Campus Features:

- Current tenants already on campus:
 - United Way
 - Colorado Mountain Medical
 - Outpatient Behavioral Health
 - Eagle Valley Behavioral Health
 - Community Market
 - My Future Pathways
- Inpatient Behavioral Health Facility:
 - 28-beds
- Potential future tenants:
 - MIRA
 - Mountain Family Health Center
 - Hope Center
 - Other community non-profits who focus on community health issues

Who will this campus serve?

- Those needing pediatric, adolescent and adult physical and oral healthcare.
- Those needing Behavioral Health care focused on the most common disorders in this community:
 - Anxiety / Depression Disorders
 - Mood Disorders
 - Family Therapy
 - Substance Use Disorders
- Those needing additional community support:
 - Hunger/Food Security
 - Financial Stability



Cross Functional Behavioral Health Facility

Services Offered at the Facility

- 24-hour Behavioral Health Care Serving Adults and Adolescents (12+)
- Services Available in English and Spanish
- Structured Behavioral Health services that prioritize Crisis Resolution, Safety, and Stabilization
- Family Support, Intervention, and Engagement
- Comprehensive Case Management across the Community Continuum of Care
- Collaborative Community-Based Discharge Planning
- Specialized Care focused on the most common BH disorders in this community:
 - Anxiety
 - Depression
 - Mood Disorders



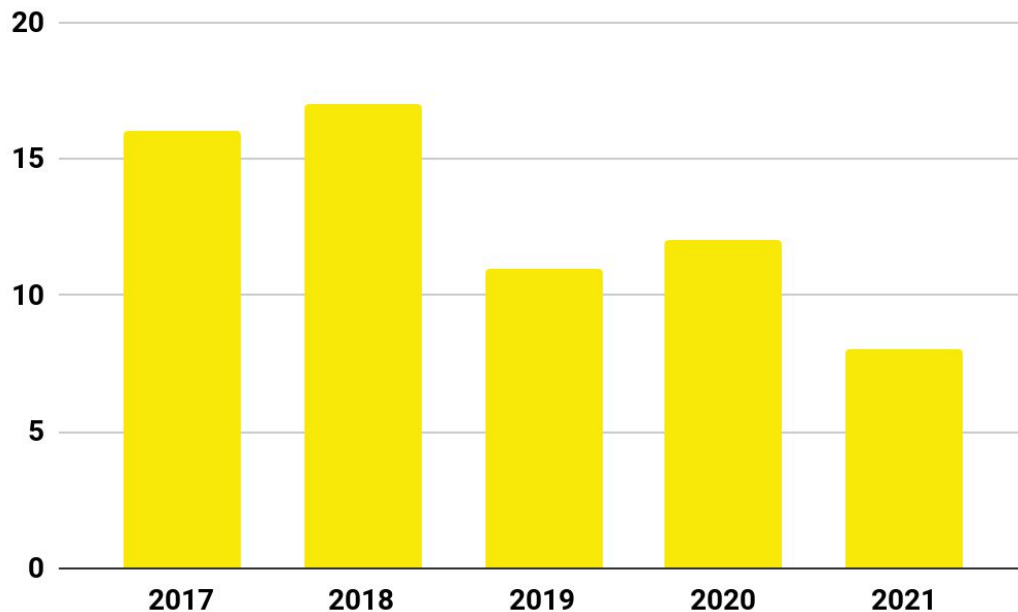
The facility will be staffed by a comprehensive interdisciplinary team that includes psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, nurses, and alternative therapists who specialize in addressing the unique needs of the individual while engaging the family or community as support, when applicable. Individual treatment plans will prioritize safety and stabilization, but will also include sustainable treatment options that prioritize total health.

Wiegers Family Mental Health Clinic Update

- EVBH team is currently working to implement the clinic including:
 - Construction of clinic space in Edwards
 - FY22 Staffing
 - Director of Behavioral Health Facilities (1.0 FTE)
 - Clinic Manager (1.0 FTE)
 - Psychologist (1.0 FTE)- Hired
 - Licensed Clinical Social Worker (1.0 FTE)
 - Care Coordinator (1.0 FTE)
 - Scheduler (1.0 FTE)
 - Electronic Medical Record

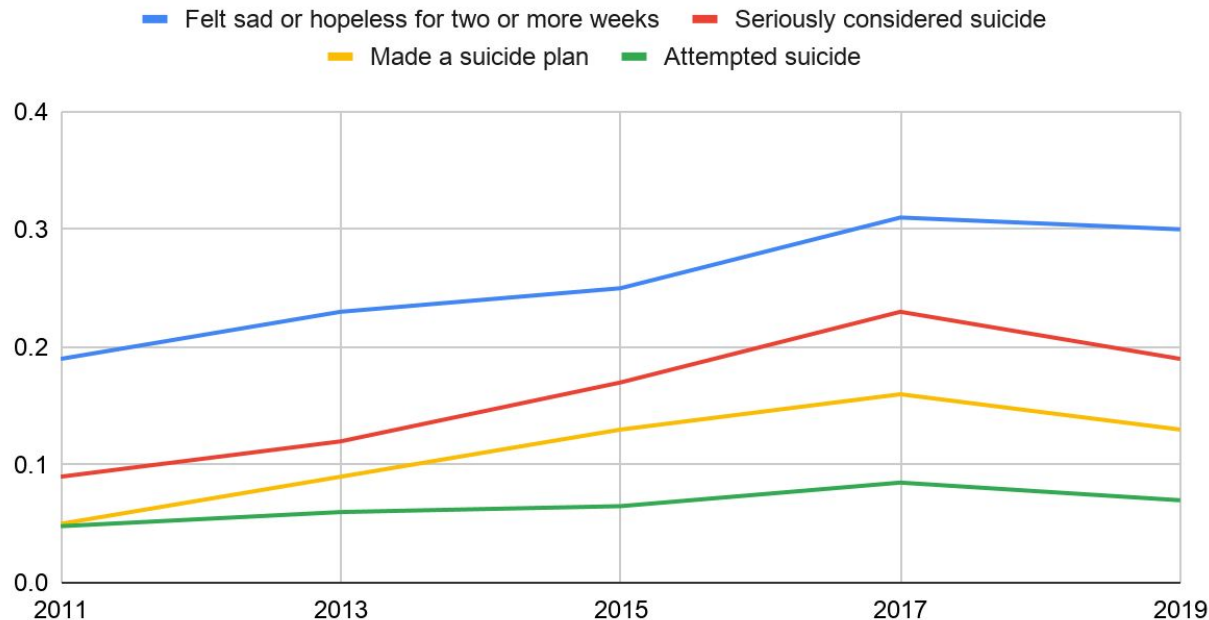
Suicides in Eagle County are Trending Down

Suicides in Eagle County



7th & 8th Grade Mental Health is Improving

Healthy Kids Colorado Survey



Next Steps in 2022

- Continue to expand Community Mental Health Center programs
- Continue to support expansion of CMM Integrated Behavioral Health and improved billing processes, Eagle and Summit Counties
- Build out the space for the Wiegers Family Mental Health Clinic
- Complete the construction drawings, and get bids for the Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital
- Build out a new outpatient Electronic Medical Record for EVBH and Vail Health
- Continue to expand Mountain Strong EAP to additional businesses
- Continue work with CO Insurance Commissioner and Rocky Mountain Health Plans on BH insurance parity and reform
- Increasing Number of Private Providers Accepting Insurance
- Implement evaluation framework for data collection/analysis to inform decisions
- Continue tracking national and international trends in BH and sharing EVBH successes with state and national organizations



<https://youtu.be/0zjojjiKOMg>