

Nurse Care Manager project

Overview

The Health Care Authority (HCA) Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) received funds in the state operating budget to develop the Nurse Care Manager (NCM) project. The objective of the project is to increase access to medication for opioid use disorder services. Funding for this project is part of [Governor Jay Inslee's Executive Order 16-09](#), addressing the Opioid Use Public Health Crisis.

Eligibility requirements

For an individual to receive care through this project they must meet the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5) diagnostic criteria for opioid use disorder (OUD) and meet state and federal eligibility requirements for admission. Individuals who are pregnant and/or use drugs intravenously are priority populations for admission.

Health equity Lens

Each NCM project is required to adhere to the National "Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services" or CLAS. These standards focus on health and health care intended to advance health equity, improve quality, and help eliminate health disparities by establishing a blueprint for health and health care organizations.

Budget

2023-2025 Nurse Care Manager budget	
SFY 2024	\$ 881,064
SFY 2025	\$ 881,064
Total	\$ 1,762,128

Contracts

\$195,792 per contract period (two years) was provided to each organization through performance-based contracts to hire a Nurse Care Manager and provide services and care coordination to individuals. Every site is contracted to serve a minimum of 120 unique individuals per year by administering FDA-approved medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD).

People served

Year	Unique individuals
SFY 2019-2020	1702
SFY 2020-2021	1033
SFY 2021-2022	1273
SFY 2022-2023	1616
SFY 2023-2024	1806

The decrease in the numbers of individuals served year over year (2020-2022) is due to state and federal restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The numbers are now increasing as the restrictions are being lifted.

Key partners

A DBHR Opioid workgroup and ADAI met and developed priorities for partnership based on organizations interest and/or currently offering medication for opioid use disorder services. The resulting locations are in Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHC), Community Mental Health centers (CMHC), medical clinics, and a tribal health center.

Oversight

DBHR contracted with ten organizations to hire a Nurse Care Manager to provide care coordination, community outreach, and MOUD for individuals with OUD. There are three NCM in Eastern Washington and seven in Western Washington.

- Cascade Medical Advantage, Bellingham
- Columbia River Mental Health, Vancouver
- Columbia Valley Community Health, Wenatchee
- Community Health of Central Washington, Ellensburg
- Cowlitz Tribal Health, Tukwila
- MultiCare Health Systems, Puyallup
- Peninsula Community Health Service, Port Orchard
- Mid-Valley Hospital/Clinic, Omak
- Tacoma, Pierce County Health Department
- Peninsula Community Health Service, Bremerton

For more information

Contact: HCADBHRInformation@hca.wa.gov

Linda Barker- MAT Project Director