



Financing Mental Health Crisis Services

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July 22, 2020



All States Are Different

and some are vary within the state

But they all provide crisis services

What is a Mental Health Crisis?

There is no one definition.

The Crisis Now concept is that you are in crisis if you feel that you are in crisis.

NAMI defines a mental health crisis as “any situation in which a person's behavior puts them at risk of hurting themselves or others and/or prevents them from being able to care for themselves or function.”



It is possible to bill Private Insurance

More on this later



State Funding

- SMHAs are the primary funders of crisis services no matter how crisis services are organized.
- SMHAs usually fund the infrastructure that ensures that the service exists and is available 24/7
 - Establishing the service
 - Training the staff
 - Even paying for the transportation costs of mobile crisis teams



Medicaid

- Medicaid funds at least part of crisis services in most states.
- A few states use a 1115 waiver to organize and fund crisis services, but it is not essential to getting Medicaid to fund crisis services.
- Medicaid Expansion helps provide funding for crisis services.
- In at least three states, Medicaid operates a parallel crisis service system.

Local Funding

- States organize services regionally.
- Some delegate control over services to at the local level.
- Local funds supported crisis services in more than half of the state interviewed.

Other Funding

- Mental Health Block Grant
- Indian Health Services
- Tricare
- NAMI
- The United Way
- Self-Pay
- Private Grants

The Rules of The Billing Game Are A State's to Change

Of course that is not a simple thing. It can require working with the Legislature, the Medicaid Agency, the State Insurance Agency, Providers and other Stakeholders.

States

- Choose how they organize services
- Choose who funds the services

If they want Medicaid or Private Insurance to Share the Burden, they only have to choose to do so.

(with the agreement of their legislature, insurance companies, Medicaid Agency, Providers, etc.)



There is no need go forward alone.

NRI and NASMHPD can help connect you with other states so that you can learn from their experience.