



## Fact Sheet for Administrators, Providers, and Policy Makers

# Behavioral Health Homes (BHH)

The MaineCare BHH program began in April 2014, and serves individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) and children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED). As of August 2019, there were 37 BHH organizations, with 146 locations around the state, covering almost 12,900 members.



Source: Institute for Healthcare Improvement

### Improved Patient Experience

In a survey of BHH members, there were increases in social connectedness, quality and appropriateness of care, access to care, and participation in treatment planning, which led to an increase in general satisfaction.<sup>3</sup>

### Reduced Cost

BHH member non-emergent emergency Department use dropped from 176.6 to 122.8 per 1,000 member months since the start of the BHH program.<sup>4</sup>

### Improved Population Health

Annual HbA1c testing rates have improved 17.5% among BHH members who use antipsychotic medications; enabling earlier diagnosis of diabetes or prediabetes, and access to diabetes education and management.<sup>5</sup>

## Delivery Model

A BHH is an innovative, integrated, healthcare service delivery model that is recovery-oriented, person and family centered, and designed to improve patient experience and health outcomes over those achieved in traditional services. People with serious mental illness have high rates of earlier chronic disease onset and premature death, dying thirteen to thirty years younger than the general population.<sup>1</sup> Key contributors to poor health include substance use disorders, tobacco dependence, poor diet, sedentary lifestyle, negative metabolic effects of antipsychotic medications, and difficulty obtaining routine preventive and primary care.<sup>2</sup> The BHH provides a “home” to facilitate access to behavioral health care, medical care, and community-based social services.

## Components of a Behavioral Health Home

- Comprehensive care management
- Care coordination
- Health promotion
- Comprehensive transitional care
- Individual and family support
- Referral to community and support services

## Goals of the Behavioral Health Home Program

- Support and strengthen coordination between primary care and behavioral health
- Decrease preventable inpatient hospitalization and emergency room visits.
- Reduce barriers to timely access to services

1 Physical illness in patients with severe mental disorders. World Psychiatry. 2011;10(1):52–77  
2 A Payer-Guided Approach To Widespread Diffusion Of Behavioral Health Homes In Real-World Settings. Health Affairs, Vol. 37, No. 2 Feb. 2018  
3 State Innovation Model Evaluation Results . LewinGroup. 2016; 26  
4 Maine Core Metrics: Data for 4/1/2014-3/30/2018. LewinGroup. 2018; 7  
5 Data-Focused Learning Collaborative data for 10/1/2015-6/30/2018, MaineCare. 2018

For more information, visit:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/vbp/health-homes/stageb.html>