



Key Policy Initiatives 2021 - 2022

- **Rapid Engagement Pilot Cohort:** The success of the pilot will hinge on 309 rules revisions, inclusion in the 1115 waiver and/or allowance in the state plan amendment, and a manageable set of metrics to measure success.
- **CCBHC Demo Extension and Proving Success:** CCBHCs have now been in existence since 2017 and they have learned a lot from their experiences. It will now be critical to prove the model's worth through key metrics, with the objective of rolling out CCBHCs statewide.
- **Evolve our Health Equity focus:** Although we have made strides as an association, we'll need to keep moving forward through more purposeful collaboration with organizations representing marginalized groups disproportionately affected by COVID or justice-involved and to implement practice and regulatory changes to serve our community members better.
- **Training Expansion:** The last six months marked the greatest expansion of trainings coordinated by AOCMHP to date. We hope to continue this momentum, as funding allows, and nimbly respond to our members' and other public behavioral health system providers' training needs.
- **Alliance to Prevent Suicide:** The Alliance will continue to broaden its network of coalitions, strengthening the web across the state, and will be committed to advising OHA on the next Youth Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan and support its implementation as well as advising on the Adult Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan and supporting its implementation.
- **Stronger Oregon mental health parity laws and enforcement:** We will work with OHA and DCBS to implement and enforce stronger parity laws through rules revisions and reporting requirements.
- **I/DD System Funding Structure and Workforce:** We will continue to advocate for a more appropriate funding structure and workforce recruitment and retention, which has also suffered during the pandemic.
- **Support and Retain Our Community Behavioral Health Workforce:** We will advocate for prioritizing the public behavioral health workforce for retention bonuses, higher rates, and other incentives from the investment package, along with decreasing administrative burden and enacting regulatory changes. We also look forward to working closer with peers, peer run organizations, and consumer advocates.
- **Provide Recommendations for and Actively Participate in Legislatively-Led System Alignment and Accountability Group:** It will be important for AOCMHP to actively participate in this special purpose appropriation group to improve the behavioral health system, and to ensure the CMHP role is included and core functions are adequately funded.
- **Housing/Residential Planning and Development:** Adequate housing and residential treatment options in the community are essential to successful recovery and quality of life for the people we serve. CMHPs must be strong partners and leaders in developing more housing options in their communities.
- **National legislative/policy advocacy:** 1) Retain Medicaid coverage for people who are pre-trial or for up to 30 days in jail; 2) 988 implementation that makes sense for county-based behavioral health systems; 3) Key priorities in 1115 waiver renewal; and 4) Medicare modernization to increase covered service array and provider type.