

December 28, 2018

The Honorable Nancy Barto
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The Honorable Heather Carter
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Senator Barto and Representative Carter:

In accordance with Laws 2018, Chapter 151, please find the enclosed report on current number of behavioral health residential facility beds and supportive housing beds that are available in this state for adults determined to have a serious mental illness.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Betlach
Director

cc: Christina Corieri, Governor's Office Senior Policy Advisor



**CHAPTER 151 REPORT - BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH RESIDENTIAL FACILITY AND
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING BEDS REPORT**

**PREPARED BY
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS**



CONTENTS

Overview	3
Available Behavioral Health Residential Facility and Supporting Housing Programs Beds.....	4
Summary	7

Overview

Laws 2018, Chapter 151 (SB 1396) requires the following:

On or before December 1, 2018, the Arizona health care cost containment system shall report to the chairpersons of the senate health and human services committee and the house of representatives health committee the current number of behavioral health residential facility beds and supportive housing beds that are available in this state for adults determined to have a serious mental illness.

There are a variety of programs that offer residential and supportive housing beds to Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) members determined to have a serious mental illness (SMI). This report provides information on the range and number of beds available to AHCCCS members.

AHCCCS contracts with three Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) for the provision of services to members determined to have a SMI. The RBHAs have assigned Geographic Service Areas (GSAs) as outlined in the table below.

Services for AHCCCS members, including Behavioral Health Residential Facilities and most supportive housing services for members determined to have a SMI, are provided through one of three RBHAs, each assigned to a Geographic Service Area (GSA). The table below reflects each RBHA, the GSAs that each RBHA currently serves as well as the number of enrolled members determined to have a SMI.

RBHA	GSA	Counties Served	Members as of 10/1/18
Steward Health Choice Arizona	North	Mohave, Coconino, Yavapai, Gila, Navajo and Apache	5,690
Mercy Care	Central	Maricopa	21,972
Arizona Complete Health- Complete Care Plan	South	La Paz, Yuma, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee and Cochise	13,366

Available Behavioral Health Residential Facility and Supporting Housing Programs

1. Behavioral Health Residential Facilities (BHRF)

A BHRF is defined under the Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) R9-10 as a health care institution that provides treatment to an individual experiencing a behavioral health issue that limits the person’s ability to be independent or causes the individual to require treatment to maintain or enhance independence. Covered under Medicaid, BHRFs provide a structured treatment setting with 24-hour supervision and counseling or other therapeutic activities for persons who do not require on-site medical services under the supervision of an on-site or on-call behavioral health professional.

AHCCCS required each RBHA to identify BHRFs in their contracted networks that serve members determined to have a SMI, along with the bed space available at each facility. While RBHAs serve members who reside in their assigned GSAs, they may contract with BHRFs located outside of their GSA. As more than one RBHA may be contracted with the same facility, AHCCCS has removed duplicate providers and beds in the following table.

BHRF beds available for members determined to have a SMI by GSA

GSA	BHRF Beds
North	157
Central	978
South	428
Statewide Total	1,563

2. Home Care Training to Home Care Client (HCTC)

HCTC homes are operated by foster families specifically trained to serve individuals with behavioral health needs that are of such a critical nature that, in the absence of these services, the individual would be at risk of a more restrictive setting such as a hospital, psychiatric center, or residential treatment home. Members can receive services through the home such as personal care services and skills training and development.

HCTC homes are licensed by the Arizona Department of Child Safety, Office of Licensing and Regulation. The homes are contracted with an agency, which in turn contracts with one or more RBHAs who use Medicaid funding to make the beds available to members. While HCTC homes are more commonly used to serve children and youth in foster care, some homes serve adults determined to have a SMI.

AHCCCS required each RBHA to identify HCTC providers in their contracted networks that serve members determined to have a SMI, along with the bed space available at each

provider. Similar to BHRFs, RBHAs can contract with a HCTC provider outside of their GSA. As more than one RBHA may be contracted with the same provider, AHCCCS removed duplicate providers and beds in the following table.

HCTC beds available for members determined to have a SMI by GSA

GSA	HCTC Beds
North*	0
Central	37
South	60
Statewide Total	97

**Steward Health Choice Arizona did not report any HCTC providers available for members determined to have SMI.*

3. Scattered Sites Voucher Program

The Scattered Sites Voucher Program offers rental support to provide a member the flexibility to choose where he or she wishes to live in the community. A member receives a housing referral from the RBHA and is issued a document from the contracted housing provider certifying that their rental costs minus the tenant contribution will be covered by Non-Title XIX funds. The member, with support from their clinical team and/or permanent supportive housing service providers, begins searching for a housing unit on the open market. Once the landlord agrees to rent to the member, the member signs a lease. If the member has income, the member must pay 30% of his or her adjusted income towards the rent, while Non-Title XIX funds pay the remaining amount. Rent must be determined to be reasonable and payments are capped at the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) fair market rent unless there are extenuating circumstances that prolong the search time.

RBHAs submit regular reports to AHCCCS on the number of voucher beds available to members determined to have a SMI.

Voucher Beds Available for Members Determined to Have a SMI by GSA

GSA	Voucher Beds
North	99
Central	1,477
South	307
Statewide Total	1,883

4. *Community Living Beds*

Community living units are properties purchased using Non-Title XIX and the SMI Housing Trust Funds. These properties are a mix of single and shared apartments and homes. Members have rights of tenancy through a lease agreement. The apartments and homes are owned by providers, but the deed is restricted in that tenants must be individuals determined to have a SMI.

RBHAs submit regular reports to AHCCCS on the number of Community living beds available to members determined to have a SMI.

Community Living Beds by GSA

GSA	Beds
North	206
Central	662 ¹
South	406
Statewide Total	1,274

1. Within the Maricopa County Community Living Program operated by Mercy Care, there are 48 beds serving members with polydipsia, members who are deaf or hard of hearing, are former sex offenders or are on probation that offer up to 24 hour services within the housing unit.

5. *Continuum of Care Beds*

Using vouchers similar to the Scattered Site Voucher program, the Continuum of Care program uses HUD dollars to offer rental support for individuals determined to have a SMI. There are three Arizona Continuum of Care programs, which are groups of local non-profit, homeless organizations and government agencies that receive the HUD funding. In turn, these Continuum of Care programs award the money to agencies that they believe will further housing goals in their areas. Throughout the state, some Continuum of Care programs have chosen to dedicate their funding specifically to members determined to have a SMI, while other funding is open to members determined to have a SMI and who are homeless and meet specific criteria, such as chronicity of homelessness.

RBHAs submit regular reports to AHCCCS on the number of Continuum of Care beds available to members determined to have a SMI.

Continuum of Care Beds by GSA

GSA	Beds
North	225
Central	1,671
South	678
Statewide Total	2,574

6. Flex Care

Flex Care is a short-term program specific to Mercy Care RBHA members determined to have a SMI. Flex Care combines housing and treatment within an apartment setting. Members assessed as candidates for the program are referred to a provider who leases apartments located in Maricopa County. Members may have the responsibility to pay a portion of the rent depending upon their income, with the balance being paid using Non-Title XIX funds. Services such as case management, crisis intervention, peer mentoring, social skills, budgeting and group settings are available in this program. Typically, members are in the program for a short time while they transition into other, more permanent housing.

AHCCCS required Mercy Care to identify the Flex Care providers it uses to serve members determined to have a SMI, along with the bed space available at each provider.

Flex Care Beds

RBHA	Beds
Mercy Care	396

Summary

Across the state there are 7,787 residential and supportive housing beds available for AHCCCS members determined to have a SMI as delineated by GSA in the chart below.

GSA	All Beds
North	687
Central	5,221
South	1,879
Statewide Total	7,787