

Community Behavioral Health: Provider Notification
**Einstein Crisis Response Center (CRC) Will No Longer Be
Philadelphia's Designated CRC for Children and Adolescents**

August 9, 2017

After September 4, 2017, the Einstein Germantown CRC will no longer be designated as the child and adolescent CRC in Philadelphia. Community Behavioral Health (CBH) is in partnership with Fairmont Behavioral Health and a joint venture between Belmont/CHOP to develop state-of-the-art site-based child and adolescent crisis services that will provide permanent replacements for the Einstein Germantown Children's CRC. However, the soonest that the new CRCs will be available is November, 2017, requiring Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS) and CBH to activate an interim procedure to ensure that child and adolescent emergency behavioral health needs can be adequately addressed.

The intent of this Provider Notification is to describe the full range of supportive crisis intervention services that will be in place during this transition to meet the emergency behavioral health needs, including site-based needs, of our children and adolescent members, as follow:

- **CBH is calling upon current child and adolescent community-based providers to activate internal crisis management protocols** for the children and adolescents currently being served to include but not be limited to the following:
 - Reinforce crisis and safety plans with all members enrolled in treatment.
 - Assist youth and their families to cope with immediate stressors.
 - Identify the situations and challenges that can lead to a crisis.
 - Develop practical behavioral strategies to address short-term needs.
 - Review techniques to prevent future crises.
 - Assist youth and families in identifying available resources and supports.
 - Provide phone consultation and support 24/7 when needed.
 - Respond to non-urgent situations to help prevent a crisis from escalating.
 - Conduct a psychiatric assessment to determine if a more intensive level of care is needed.
 - Directly conduct a precertification with CBH at 215-413-7171 for higher pre-authorized levels of cares (agencies are encouraged to partner with the treating psychiatrists to call CBH directly with cases in need of acute hospitalization).

- From September 2017 through November 2017, **children and adolescents on an approved involuntary petition (302) will be directed to the nearest emergency room for emergency evaluation.**
- CBH is coordinating with in-network providers to develop alternatives for children and adolescents who do not have existing relationships with behavioral health providers and for children and adolescents whose existing provider cannot not meet their emergency/immediate behavioral health needs. The following interim alternatives will be put into place by September 5, 2017:
 - **Two Philadelphia county-based hospitals will be available 24/ 7 as assessment access centers for CBH children and adolescents who are in behavioral health crisis.** One hospital will be designated for children 13 years of age and under, and the other will be designed for youth 14 year of age and older.
 - **Two existing providers will open voluntary urgent behavioral health care centers** (for children and adolescents on an involuntary 302 commitment), which will be open during traditional business hours. These sites will be available to assist with resolving crisis situations by offering individual crisis support, family support, access to behavioral health services, and linkages to community resources, with the goal to ameliorate the crisis situation so the child/adolescent can return home safely. These centers will have the ability to provide psychiatric evaluation to determine if a more intensive level of care is necessary to ameliorate current crisis situation.

The specific details regarding these alternative assessment centers will be released at a later date. We want to reiterate that this plan is a temporary solution until the permanent CRC with Belmont/CHOP is fully operational in the late fall of 2017. Please inform your staff about the changes effective September 5, 2017. Questions regarding this change can be directed to Kimberly.Doyle@phila.gov or 215-413-7648.