

FY 2026 Budget Note on Medicaid Behavioral Health Services

Commissioner Meghan Moyer and Chair Jessica Vega Pederson

Multnomah County is the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) and a Federally Qualified Health Center. Together with the State of Oregon and Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), it is tasked with providing health services to all eligible people. Decisions made by Multnomah County affect CCOs and other organizations, and Multnomah County is affected by decisions made by other organizations. Thus, it is important that information relevant to our shared client population is shared with ample opportunity for collaboration and coordination.

This budget note requests that the Health Department invite Multnomah County CCO partners CareOregon, Trillium Community Health Plan, and Health Share of Oregon, for a board briefing in FY 2026. A primary goal for this briefing will be to discuss and consider the ways Multnomah County and CCOs collaborate to maintain and expand service delivery, with a focus on strengthening collaboration and addressing challenges and barriers to partnership. Briefing topics should include:

- Outline the scope of behavioral health services funded and provided by each CCO;
- Identify issues related to network adequacy, reimbursement rates, workforce, and other challenges, and CCO strategies for addressing these issues;
- Update on CCO plans to expand behavioral health services to meet demand;
- Outline care coordination efforts and case management services and how they coordinate with county services such as housing, long term care, etc.
- Outline the roles of the Oregon Health Authority, CCOs, and LMHA/Community Mental Health Program (CMHP) in the provision of behavioral health services, including how they work individually and collaboratively to meet the needs of our Medicaid population; and;
- Highlight funding decisions made at the federal, state, and local level that impact service delivery and network adequacy, particularly in behavioral health
- Discuss the ways Multnomah County and CCOs collaborate to maintain and expand service delivery, including opportunities and challenges to broadening and deepening collaboration.