



**COLORADO**  
Behavioral Health  
Administration

# Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

August 14, 2024

Jared Polis, Governor

Commissioner Dannette R. Smith  
Erin Wester, Deputy Commissioner



# Introductions

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Dannette R. Smith  
Commissioner, BHA



Erin Wester  
Deputy Commissioner, BHA



# Agenda

- Vision and Mission
- Corporate Goals
- Observations
- BHA's Five Priorities

# BHA Vision

*Behavioral health services in Colorado are accessible, meaningful, and trusted*

# BHA Mission

*Co-create a people-first behavioral health system that meets the needs of all people in Colorado*







# BHA Corporate Goals

1. Establish a "Solid Foundation" for the Behavioral health continuum through thoughtful legislation, internal policies and procedures;
2. Solidify a strong and robust workforce within BHA that is innovative, groundbreaking and trailblazing as we work with communities around the state;
3. Seek opportunities to be creative, a pioneer of sorts, and co-create behavioral health strategies that enhance and embellish the services delivery system across Colorado.
4. Ensure that BHA has developed a behavioral health care system that is sustainable and can be implemented across the state, and yet has the flexibility to address specific needs of the state's unique and diverse communities.

# Commissioner's Observations



BHA's Purpose

## Why

BHA staff know WHY this work is so important and they are eager to do it.



BHA in the Community

## Support

The community is rooting for us. There is a desire to support and collaborate.



Community Perspective

## Need

BHA has made important progress in the last 2 years but there is still significant need for easy access to high-quality, affordable services around the state.



# BHA 5 Priorities

Launched July 1, 2024

- **Behavioral Health Safety Net System:** Reforming and Strengthening with Public Input
- **Behavioral Health Care Coordination System:** Coordinating Support
- **BHA Performance Hub:** Launching Colorado's Behavioral Health Data Bank
- **Behavioral Health Care Grievance and Complaint Process:** Increasing Transparency & Improving Timelines
- **Children and Youth Behavioral Health Implementation Plan:** Delivering Improved Access



# Behavioral Health Safety Net System: Reforming and Strengthening with Public Input

New requirements and accountability for providers to make sure individuals aren't turned away from care

Leveraging BHASOs to create an upstream entry point and ensure better coordination across services so individuals aren't falling through the cracks

Ensuring access to services in communities across Colorado, including through the Crisis System

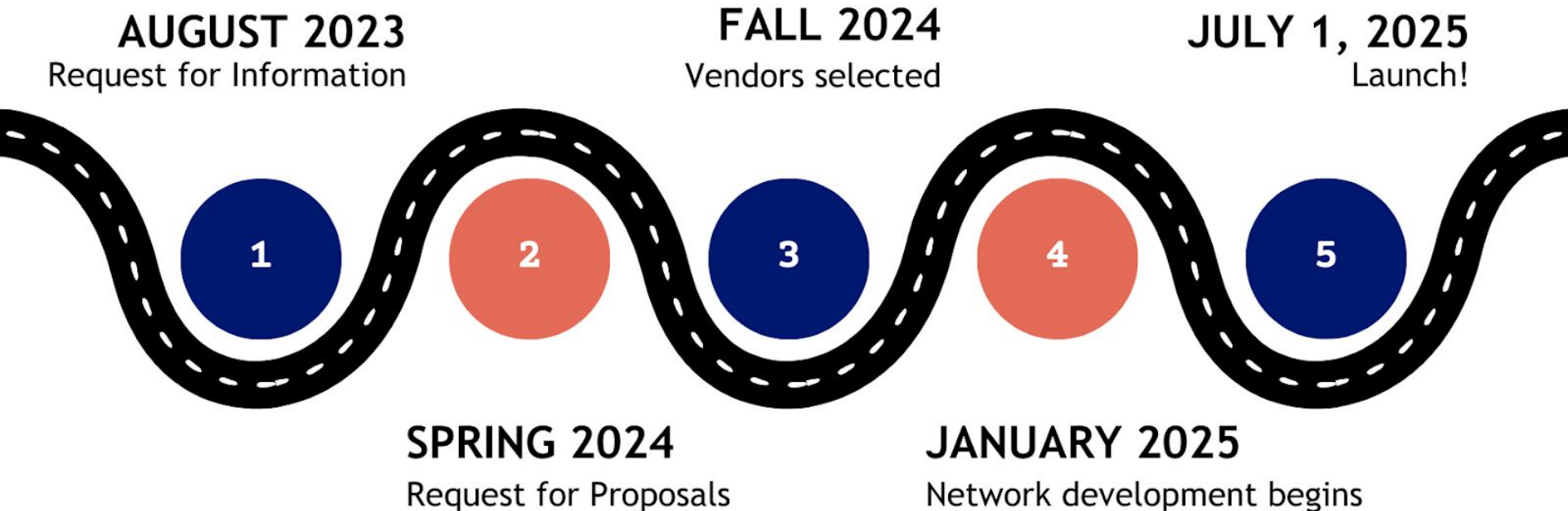




# BHASO Implementation Road Map

Implementation road map for the Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organizations (BHASOs) in Colorado.

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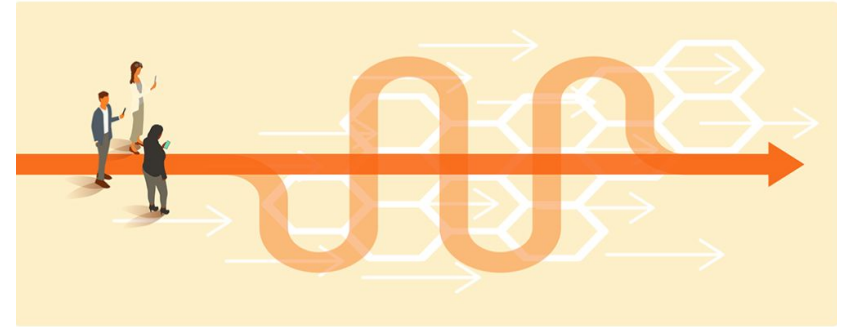
# Crisis Professional Training

- **Why?** To expand the crisis workforce and provide free, consistent training to Crisis Professionals
- **What?** Self-paced online training through BHA's OwnPath Learning Hub
- **Who?** Walk In Center staff, MCR teams, CSU/ATU staff

Number of learners enrolled	1,150
Number of learners who have passed at least one course	728
Number of learners who have passed the entire Crisis Professional Curriculum	87
Average number of new learners per week	54.8

# Behavioral Health Care Coordination System: Coordinating Support

- Emergency Department Assistance
- Civil Certification Programs
- Behavioral Health Care Navigator Credential Training launched in OwnPath Learning Hub



# BHA Performance Hub: Launching Colorado's Behavioral Health Data Bank

A bank of information about the current state of access to high quality behavioral health care in Colorado.

## Key Insights



### 112,217 People Getting Care

Approximately 112K people received care at community mental health centers (CMHCs) or specialty clinics in Colorado in 2023.



### 397 SUD Beds

An average of 397 beds were available at SUD residential treatment facilities from July 2023 through April 2024.



### 51,004 in SUD Treatment

Approximately 51K unique clients received BHA-funded SUD services in 2023.

Please visit our [website!](#)

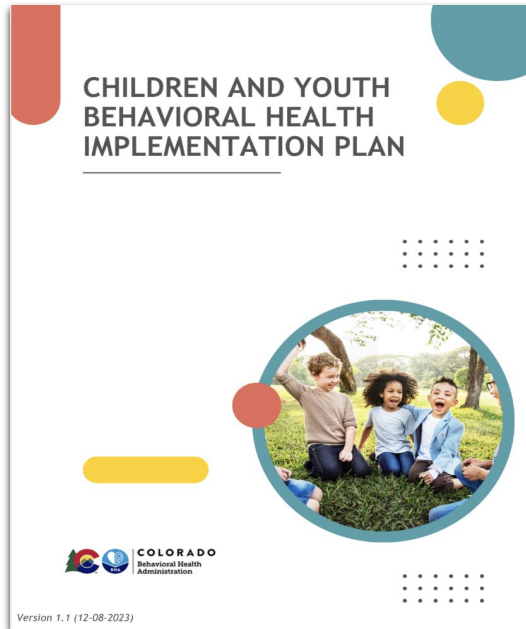
# Behavioral Health Care Grievance and Complaint Process: Increasing Transparency & Improving Timelines

Supporting BHA's role as Colorado's Behavioral Health Authority, and monitoring quality and access across the behavioral health system.





# Children and Youth Implementation Plan: Delivering Improved Access



- Five year plan that outlines activities and coordination across state agencies to achieve a behavioral health system that all Colorado kids can get the support they need, when and where they need it
- Next Steps
  - Better meet the behavioral health needs of children and youth in their communities
  - Ensure the plan to better reflects the focus on prevention and recovery/transition
  - Using data to assess whether interventions are meeting the needs of the community

# Questions?



# Thank You

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