

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

BILL D

LLS NO. 24-0277.02 Alana Rosen x2606

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bradfield and Amabile, English

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fields and Pelton R., Rodriguez

House Committees

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING EXPANDING A PROGRAM TO CONTINUE RESPONDING TO**
102 **YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems. Under current law, the department of human services (department) offers statewide access to crisis system services (services) for children and youth. The bill expands the services provided through the creation of the crisis resolution team program (program) in

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

the department. The behavioral health administration (BHA) shall administer the program to provide community-based services to de-escalate and stabilize children or youth experiencing high-acuity behavioral health crises. The BHA shall contract with crisis resolution team providers (providers) to provide community-based de-escalation and stabilization services to children or youth.

A child or youth is eligible for services provided by the program if the child or youth:

- Is 21 years of age or younger;
- Has experienced high-acuity behavioral health crises as identified by the behavioral health crisis response system or emergency departments; and
- Is safe to remain in the home or the community while receiving intensive, short-term stabilization interventions.

Providers shall offer the following services to children or youth and their caregivers:

- Counseling or therapy;
- Case management to help meet treatment plans;
- Peer support or family skills coaching to foster connectedness, goal setting, and new routines to achieve positive, lasting change;
- Medication management; and
- Care coordination to provide tailored support and connection.

Providers shall offer services to a child or youth a minimum of 3 days per week with a variety of services offered daily depending on the child's or youth's clinical needs. Services must be offered to the child or youth for a minimum of 4 weeks up to a maximum of 6 weeks depending on the child's or youth's clinical needs.

The BHA shall:

- Maintain existing relationships with community partners;
- Conduct outreach and educate community partners regarding providers' services;
- Provide technical assistance to providers regarding specialized training and the use of screening and assessment tools; and
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the program.

On or before September 1, 2025, the BHA shall submit to the general assembly a feasibility study to determine whether the program can be further expanded statewide.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-60-103, **amend**

1 (1.5)(c)(I) and (6)(a); and **add** (5.5) as follows:

2 **27-60-103. Behavioral health crisis response system - services**
3 **- request for proposals - crisis resolution team program - criteria -**
4 **reporting - rules - definitions - repeal.** (1.5) (c) (I) Beginning in state
5 fiscal year 2023-24, money appropriated to the state department for the
6 purpose of this subsection (1.5) must continue the statewide access to
7 crisis system services for children and youth. ~~until June 30, 2026.~~

8 (5.5) (a) (I) THERE IS CREATED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THE
9 CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO
10 PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED DE-ESCALATION AND STABILIZATION
11 SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HIGH-ACUITY
12 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS. THE BHA SHALL
13 ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND CONTRACT WITH CRISIS RESOLUTION
14 TEAM PROVIDERS TO OFFER THE SERVICES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS
15 (5.5)(a)(III) AND (5.5)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION.

16 (II) A CHILD OR YOUTH IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM IF THE
17 CHILD OR YOUTH:

18 (A) IS TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER;

19 (B) HAS EXPERIENCED HIGH-ACUITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES
20 AS IDENTIFIED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM OR
21 AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT; AND

22 (C) IS SAFE TO REMAIN IN THE HOME OR COMMUNITY WHILE
23 RECEIVING INTENSIVE, SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION INTERVENTIONS.

24 (III) THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER SHALL OFFER THE
25 FOLLOWING SERVICES TO CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND THEIR CAREGIVERS:

26 (A) COUNSELING OR THERAPY;

27 (B) CASE MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND

1 THEIR CAREGIVERS IN MEETING TREATMENT PLANS;

2 (C) PEER SUPPORT OR FAMILY SKILLS COACHING TO FOSTER
3 CONNECTEDNESS, GOAL SETTING, AND NEW ROUTINES TO ACHIEVE
4 POSITIVE, LASTING CHANGE;

5 (D) MEDICATION MANAGEMENT; AND

6 (E) CARE COORDINATION TO PROVIDE TAILORED SUPPORT AND
7 CONNECTION THROUGH THE USE OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

8 (IV) THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER SHALL OFFER
9 SERVICES TO A CHILD OR YOUTH A MINIMUM OF THREE DAYS PER WEEK
10 WITH A VARIETY OF SERVICES OFFERED DAILY DEPENDING ON THE CHILD'S
11 OR YOUTH'S CLINICAL NEEDS. SERVICES MUST BE OFFERED TO THE CHILD
12 OR YOUTH FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR WEEKS UP TO A MAXIMUM OF SIX
13 WEEKS DEPENDING ON THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S CLINICAL NEEDS.

14 (b) (I) TO CONTRACT WITH THE BHA PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
15 (5.5)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION, A CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER MUST:

16 (A) PROVIDE SUPPORT AND STABILIZATION SERVICES ACCORDING
17 TO THE TIME FRAMES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5.5)(a)(IV) OF THIS
18 SECTION; AND

19 (B) ENTER INTO COMMUNITY COORDINATION PARTNERSHIPS
20 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-60-104 (6).

21 (II) CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS MAY CO-LOCATE WITHIN
22 THE FACILITY OF A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION OR PARTNER.

23 (III) CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS THAT ENTER INTO A
24 CONTRACT WITH THE BHA PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5.5)(a)(I) OF THIS
25 SECTION SHALL COLLECT DATA AND OUTCOMES ON THE FOLLOWING:

26 (A) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH SERVED BY THE
27 PROGRAM, DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER, RACE, GRADE LEVEL, DISABILITY,

1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND UNHOUSED STATUS TO THE
2 MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "COLORADO
3 PRIVACY ACT", ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 13 OF ARTICLE 1 OF
4 TITLE 6;

5 (B) THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT REFER CHILDREN OR YOUTH TO THE
6 PROGRAM;

7 (C) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH HOSPITALIZED WHILE
8 RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER;

9 (D) THE NUMBER OF REFERRALS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO
10 OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS WHILE RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE CRISIS
11 RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER; AND

12 (E) THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS THAT
13 CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND THEIR CAREGIVERS RECEIVE.

14 (c) TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM, THE BHA SHALL:

15 (I) USE EXISTING COMMUNITY COORDINATION PARTNERSHIPS
16 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-60-104 (6) TO MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS WITH
17 THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

18 (A) LOCAL COMMUNITY MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
19 PROVIDERS;

20 (B) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES;

21 (C) ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE JUSTICE-INVOLVED CHILDREN OR
22 YOUTH;

23 (D) SCHOOL DISTRICTS;

24 (E) ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WITH
25 INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES;

26 (F) LOCAL HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS;

27 (G) LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; AND

- 1 (H) PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS;
- 2 (II) CONDUCT OUTREACH AND EDUCATE COMMUNITY PARTNERS
3 REGARDING CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE
4 PROGRAM;
- 5 (III) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CRISIS RESOLUTION
6 TEAM PROVIDERS REGARDING SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND THE USE OF
7 SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR CHILDREN OR YOUTH;
- 8 (IV) COLLECT DATA AND OUTCOMES FROM CRISIS RESOLUTION
9 TEAM PROVIDERS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (5.5)(b)(III) OF THIS
10 SECTION;
- 11 (V) CONDUCT, OR CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATOR TO
12 CONDUCT, AN ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM USING THE DATA
13 AND OUTCOMES COLLECTED FROM CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS
14 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (5.5)(c)(IV) OF THIS SECTION; AND
- 15 (VI) CONDUCT, OR CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATOR
16 TO CONDUCT, A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO:
- 17 (A) DETERMINE HOW TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM
18 STATEWIDE;
- 19 (B) IDENTIFY THE NECESSARY TOOLS TO CONTINUE THE EXPANSION
20 OF THE PROGRAM STATEWIDE; AND
- 21 (C) CREATE A PHASED APPROACH TO CONTINUE THE EXPANSION OF
22 THE PROGRAM.
- 23 (d) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025, THE BHA SHALL SUBMIT
24 THE FEASIBILITY STUDY SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (5.5)(c)(VI) OF THIS
25 SECTION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL
26 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND
27 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND

1 THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

2 (e) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5.5), UNLESS THE CONTEXT
3 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

4 (I) "CAREGIVER" MEANS A PARENT, FOSTER PARENT, KIN,
5 GUARDIAN, OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN.

6 (II) "CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS
7 THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION
8 (5.5)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION.

9 (III) "CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER" MEANS A SERVICE
10 PROVIDER THAT SUPPORTS CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING
11 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES AND MAY BENEFIT FROM INTENSIVE,
12 SHORT-TERM, IN-HOME SERVICES AND ONGOING SUPPORT.

13 (6) (a) (I) Beginning in January 2014, and every January
14 thereafter, the BHA shall report progress on the implementation of the
15 crisis response system, as well as information about and updates to the
16 system, as part of its "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive,
17 and Transparent (SMART) Government Act" hearing required by section
18 2-7-203.

19 (II) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2025, AND EVERY JANUARY
20 THEREAFTER, THE BHA SHALL REPORT PROGRESS ON THE CRISIS
21 RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (5.5) OF THIS
22 SECTION AS PART OF ITS "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE,
23 RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING
24 REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203.

25 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for

- 1 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
- 2 institutions.