



## Court CBHL



### WHO WE ARE

The Community Behavioral Health Liaison (CBHL) program was established in 2013 as part of the Strengthening Mental Health Initiative by the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

The primary objective of this initiative is to build strong community partnerships between Community Mental Health Centers, law enforcement, courts, and jails. This collaboration aims to make the most of existing resources, improve access to behavioral health services and supports, and prevent unnecessary jail, prison, and hospital stays, ultimately enhancing the outcomes for individuals with behavioral health needs.

### COURT CBHL TASKS

The CBHLs dedicated to each Missouri Circuit Court will collaborate and coordinate services with local courts and court personnel for justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs. The Court CBHL will work with judicial partners to provide diversion alternatives within the community, connecting individuals to community-based services and resources. The goal of this connection is to reduce the need for higher levels of care, including inpatient and competency orders. The Court CBHLs may facilitate options for competency restoration, including connecting to community-based restoration services with the behavioral health providers.

### COURT CBHL REFERRALS

Stakeholders may vary in each circuit, but the following judicial partners may send referrals to the Court CBHL for connection to services and resources:

- Judges
- Circuit Clerks
- Court Administrators
- Pretrial Services Staff
- Prosecutors and Victim Advocates
- Defense Attorneys
- Public Defenders and Holistic Defense Services
- DMH Forensic Mobile Team
- Jail Administrators and Staff
- Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists
- OSCA Behavioral Health Staff

### Benefits of the Court CBHL include:

- Address gaps in the court system to improve access to behavioral health services for all individuals
- Provide support and training to court personnel regarding behavioral health
- No wrong door access to the behavioral health system!



**CRISIS RESOURCES**

Explore the Missouri Crisis Resources Contact Directory map to find local resources or liaisons by scanning this QR code or visiting [mbhc21.wixsite.com/website-3](http://mbhc21.wixsite.com/website-3).

