



Jail 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.

JAIL CBHL TASKS

The CBHLs dedicated to each Missouri county jail will collaborate and coordinate services with jail personnel to meet the behavioral health needs of jail residents. The Jail CBHL will conduct initial screenings to determine the level of need for behavioral health services and coordination of care, initiate discharge planning with the jail residents to ensure continuity of care upon release, identify and provide linkages to appropriate resources or services, and advocate for eligible services, medication, and benefits to ensure warm handoffs and engagement in services and/or resources upon re-entry into the community.

JAIL CBHL REFERRALS

Stakeholders may vary in each county, but the following jail partners may send referrals to the Jail CBHL for connection to services and resources:

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

Benefits of the Jail CBHL include:

- Direct connections to DMH Forensic Mobile Teams to assist with the competency process (linkage to community-based restoration services)
- Provide support and training to jail 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.

