



Expanding Florida's commitment to community mental health is vital for serving vulnerable populations. **Ranking 44th in mental health access**, many go without care. Investing in models reduces hospital and law enforcement strain. The Florida Hospital Association supports policies that enhance access to the **right care in the right setting and at the right time.**

Proven Solutions to Battle the Mental Health Crisis in Florida

Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs)

CCBHC's provide **24/7 crisis care** and transition from emergency to outpatient services. Florida has **23 federally funded expansion grantees** but no state-certified model. To establish a statewide system, the Legislature and AHCA must implement a state plan and prospective payment plan with appropriate Medicaid reimbursement. This investment will reduce emergency room strain, improve outcomes, and streamline care delivery.

Clubhouse Model

The model focuses on empowerment, employment, and recovery, shifting from crisis care to long-term stability. Clubhouses provide education, job training, and peer-driven support, reducing hospitalizations, improving health, and increasing employment. Despite proven effectiveness, **Medicaid reimbursement remains stagnant at ~\$5.00 per quarter hour.** Increasing rates and leveraging the federal match can offset costs and expand coverage.

Evidence-Based Treatment Teams

Florida's FACT, CAT, MRTs, and FIT teams provide critical support for individuals and families facing mental illness and substance use disorders. These programs rely on state General Revenue and are eligible for federal funding, but only FACT teams benefit. Expanding federal funding is crucial to improving access, reducing wait times, and closing service gaps. **Leveraging Medicaid dollars will strengthen the behavioral health continuum** and ensure sustainable, timely care.



**Support Community Mental Health Models
in the 2026-2027 State Budget.**