



# Facilitating Student Access to Pediatric Behavioral Health Urgent Care

Learning Community Kick-Off  
October 13, 2022



# Introductions



## Project Team:

- Danna Mauch, PhD, MAMH President and CEO
- Jenifer Urff, Director for Knowledge Dissemination and Technical Assistance, Project Director
- Joan Mikula, Senior Consultant and Learning Community Facilitator
- Lina Stolyar, Senior Policy and Program Research Associate, Project Coordinator
- Louise Povall, Senior Consultant
- Elizabeth Kayajian, Program Manager for Behavioral Health Workforce Development, Mass General Brigham

# Contact Information



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# Project Summary



With funding from Mass General Brigham, MAMH will provide grants to five Community Behavioral Health Centers to provide key components of the **Pediatric Behavioral Health Urgent Care (PBHUC)** model for school-age children and adolescents in their service areas. Grantees will **collaborate with a school, school district, school-based health center, or similar entity** (School Partner).

Project dates: Oct. 2022 – June 2025

# Why PBHUC is Needed



- **Avoid escalation of symptoms and deterioration of role functioning** while waiting for care access
- **Minimize Emergency Department (ED) visits and ED boarding**, given the exceedingly long waits experienced by children and adolescents, especially for those with co-occurring Autism Spectrum Disorder/Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ASD/IDD)
- **Provide an effective alternative to the use of school resource officers, police, or 911 crisis calls** in connection with behavioral dysregulation and emotional distress
- **Minimize school expulsions, suspensions, and absences** due to behavioral health concerns

# PBHUC Goals



This initiative is designed to **complement and support implementation** of the:

- EOHHS **Roadmap for Behavioral Health Reform** (the Roadmap), and
- Children's Mental Health Campaign (CMHC) **consensus model for Pediatric Behavioral Health Urgent Care.**

The **pilot program goals** are to:

- Improve and **expedite timely access** by students to high quality behavioral health care,
- **Improve outcomes** for school-age children, adolescents, and their families, and
- **Provide an effective alternative** to the use of school resource officers, police, 911, and emergency rooms.

# Selected Grantees

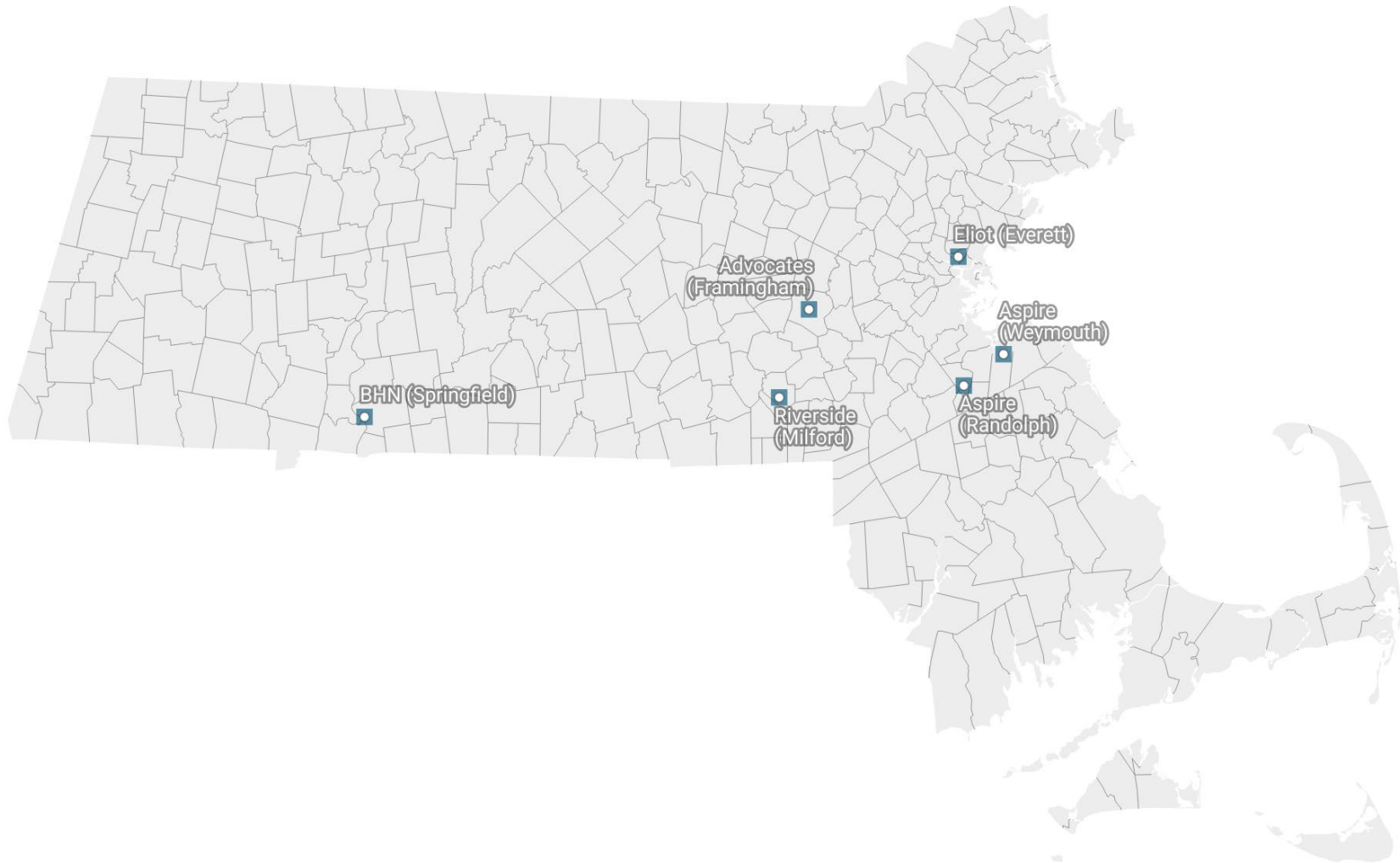


Grantee	School Partners	Service Area
Advocates	Framingham Public Schools	Framingham, MA
Aspire Health Alliance	JFK Elementary School & Chapman Middle School	Randolph, MA & Weymouth, MA
Behavioral Health Network	Washington Street School	Springfield, MA
Eliot Community Health Services	Everett Public Schools	Everett, MA
Riverside Community Care	Stacy Middle School and Milford High School	Milford, MA

# Selected Grantees



## PBHUC Grantee Service Areas





# Grant Award Funding



- The five pilot programs are being funded through a generous grant from Massachusetts General Brigham (MGB) with whom MAMH is partnering on this initiative.
- Each grant will be in the amount of up to **\$170,000 each year** for the grant period of 2 years, 9 months.
- Total grant awards will not exceed \$467,500 per grantee.
- Payments will be made quarterly by MAMH.

# Technical Assistance to Grantees



MAMH will provide **technical assistance to grantees** before and after the go-live date for services. MAMH will:

- Convene and administer a **Learning Community**, addressing such issues such as orientation to the PBHUC Model and the Roadmap, providing effective school-based clinical support for mental health conditions, tools/resources to facilitate successful referral, and financing strategies for sustainability.
- Provide **individualized technical assistance to wrap around Learning Community support**, including limited access to expert consultation, template MOUs and agreements to support integration and alignment with School Partners, and connection to state and national partners and resources.

# Grantee Expectations



- Participate in meetings of the **Learning Community**, anticipated to be every two weeks through start-up and quarterly thereafter.
- Provide brief **quarterly progress reports** to precede quarterly payments which include updates on key activities and milestones.
- Participate in the **multi-site performance assessment**, providing data on specific process and outcome measures up to two times per year and participating in periodic meetings with the assessment team.
- Participate in **one in-person site visit** annually.

# Multi-Site Performance Assessments



MAMH will conduct a multi-site performance assessment to determine the impact of this initiative. With support from an independent evaluator, we seek to measure the impact on the following outcomes:

1. **Formalized partnerships** between CBHCs/MBHUCP and School Partners
2. **Reduced ED utilization** for behavioral health reasons
3. **Fewer hospitalizations** for behavioral health reasons
4. **Reduced police involvement** at the schools, especially fewer calls to 911
5. **Fewer school suspensions**
6. **Student and family reports of helpfulness of services**



# Questions and Answers