

Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) Program

IBH's vision is to provide whole-person care through the integration of behavioral health by engaging and educating the community in coordinated care. Integrating behavioral health is a key strategy of success towards the progression of population health and value based care.



Granite Falls Health

Granite Falls Health is a 15-bed critical access hospital located in Granite Falls, Minnesota. They stand by their mission to deliver compassionate care, promote healthy living and support people throughout their lives.

In 2017, the hospital began participating in Rural Health Innovation's IBH Program funded by the Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Primary Care.

// Project Goals

- Decrease emergency room (ER) and clinic visits related to behavioral health (BH)
- Improve patient access and utilization of community resources

// Target Population

Patients with primary or secondary BH diagnosis who present to ER or clinic greater than or equal to two times in 60 days. Targeting those 18-64 years old, excluding long-term care residents.

// Strategic Objectives

- Increase screenings and referrals
- Strengthen collaborations
- Increase community engagement
- Expand services

// Top Accomplishments

- Improved community engagement and collaboration
 - ⇒ Held community meetings
 - ⇒ Created community resource guide
 - ⇒ Held Lunch and Learn with staff & Western Mental Health
 - ⇒ Contracted with County Jail for BH services
 - ⇒ Improved relationship with tribal group and clinic
- More follow up and coordinated outpatient visits
- Improvement in clinic and hospital teamwork among providers and frontline staff

// Positive Outcomes Within 12 Months

- Decreased mental health holds in the ER
- Increased number of referrals to care coordinator and increased utilization of community based resources
- Increased utilization of screening tools
 - ⇒ Implemented PHQ2 screening in the ER
 - ⇒ Increased utilization of PHQ9 in the clinic
- Increased BH services and staff

This project is supported by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number H54RH00023. The information, conclusions and opinions expressed in this document are those of the authors and no endorsement by FORHP, HRSA or HHS is intended or should be inferred.