

**Update on the Kansas Community Mental Health System  
for House Health and Human Services**

**February 6, 2025**

Chair Carpenter and members of the committee, my name is Tim DeWeese, and I serve as the director of Johnson County Mental Health Center. Johnson County Mental Health Center began operating in 1962 by providing outpatient services with four employees in one location. Today, we have over 450 employees in six locations throughout Johnson County providing community-based mental health and substance use treatment services to 18,000 residents annually. We are a department of Johnson County Government, licensed by the State of Kansas as Community Mental Health Center, accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) International and certified as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) by the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

The legislation passed by the Kansas Legislature in 2021 to implement the CCBHC model in Kansas was visionary and created the vision for the future of the community mental health safety net. The resulting increase in Medicaid funding has helped us expand our staff, make our mental health and substance use services more accessible, and provide a link between behavioral and physical health care for our community. Additionally, CCBHCs play a crucial role in the crisis system, assessing community needs, and actively partnering in local crisis system collaboration and coordination.

**Johnson County Community Crisis Continuum of Care**

