



## American Rescue Plan Behavioral Health

The American Rescue Plan allocates **\$4 billion** for block grants to state and local government entities to address mental health and substance use disorders, as well as additional funding for behavioral health workforce education and community-based behavioral health services.

### Programs and Their Purposes

#### Community Mental Health Block Grant - \$1.5 billion

- Addresses adults with serious mental illnesses who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional condition—as defined by the Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders. Their condition substantially interferes with, or limits, one or more major life activities
- Children with serious emotional disturbances who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional issue (as defined by the DSM). This condition results in a functional impairment that substantially interferes with, or limits, a child’s role or functioning in family, school, or community activities.
- Guidance on how to use the funds are provided by [SAMHSA](#)
- Any amount awarded to a State out of amounts appropriated by this section shall be expended by the State by September 30, 2025

#### Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant - \$1.5 billion

- The program’s objective is to help plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance abuse specifically towards:
  - Pregnant women and women with dependent children
  - Intravenous drug users
  - Tuberculosis services
  - Early intervention services for HIV/AIDS
  - Primary prevention services
- Any amount awarded to a State out of amounts appropriated by this section shall be expended by the State by September 30, 2025

#### **Funding for mental health and substance use disorder training for healthcare professionals, paraprofessionals, and public safety officers**

- The Secretary uses amount appropriated to award grants or contracts to health professions schools, academic health centers, State or local governments, Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, or other appropriate public or private nonprofit entities
- Provides **\$80 million** for grants or contracts with qualifying entities in rural and underserved communities to train health professionals in evidence-informed strategies for reducing and addressing suicide, burnout, mental health conditions

and substance use disorders among healthcare professionals

#### **Funding for education and awareness campaign encouraging healthy work conditions and use of mental health and substance use disorder services by healthcare professionals**

- Provides **\$20 million** to HHS/CDC to carry out a national evidence-based education and awareness campaign directed at healthcare professionals and first responders by encouraging them to identify risk factors and seek support and treatment for their own mental health and substance use concerns

#### **Funding for grants for healthcare providers to promote mental health among their health professional workforce**

- Provides **\$40 million** to HHS/HRSA for [grants or contracts](#) with healthcare entities, including provider trade associations and [Federally Qualified Health Centers](#) (FQHCs), to establish or expand protocols to promote mental health among healthcare providers, particularly in rural and underserved communities
- FQHCs receive base value of \$500,000 plus \$125 per patient and \$250 per uninsured patient (from 2019 UDS)

#### **Funding for community-based funding for local substance use disorder services**

- Provides **\$30 million** to HHS in grants to support community-based overdose prevention programs, syringe services programs and other harm reduction services while also preventing and controlling the spread of infectious diseases for these individuals

#### **Funding for community-based local behavioral health needs**

- Provides **\$50 million** to HHS in grants to support care coordination among local entities; training the mental and behavioral health workforce, relevant stakeholders, and community members; expanding evidence-based integrated models of care; addressing surge capacity for mental and behavioral health needs; and overall providing mental and behavioral health services to individuals with mental health need.

#### **Funding for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network**

- Provides **\$10 million** to HHS in funding for the national child traumatic stress network with respect to addressing the problem of high-risk or medically underserved persons who experience violence-related stress. Priority is given to universities, hospitals, mental health agencies, and other programs that have established clinical expertise and research experience in the field of trauma-related mental disorders.
- As part of the application process a plan is required for rigorous evaluation of the activities funded under the grant, contract or agreement, including both process and outcomes evaluation, and the submission of an evaluation at the end of the project period.

### **Funding for Project AWARE**

- Provides **\$30 million** to HHS for Project AWARE for knowledge development and application projects for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation, including evaluation processes as well as technical assistance with special consideration given to promoting the integration of mental health services into primary health care systems.

### **Funding for youth suicide prevention**

- Provides **\$20 million** to HHS for grants for collaboration with relevant Federal agencies and suicide working groups responsible for early intervention and prevention services relating to youth suicide.
- Not later than 18 months after receiving a grant the entity shall submit to the Secretary the results of an evaluation conducted concerning the effectiveness of the activities carried out.

### **Funding for behavioral health workforce education and training**

- Provides **\$100 million** to HHS for grants to support the recruitment of students for mental and behavioral health education and training programs with priority given to programs that have demonstrated the ability to train psychology, psychiatry, and social work professionals to work in integrated care settings.

### **Funding for pediatric mental health care access**

- Provides **\$80 million** to HHS for grants to promote behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care by supporting the development of new or improvement of existing statewide or regional pediatric mental health care telehealth access programs.
- Grantees shall prepare and submit an evaluation of activities that are carried out with funds received under such grant to the Secretary as they may reasonably require, including a process and outcome evaluation.

### **Funding for expansion grants for certified community behavioral health clinics**

- Provides **\$420 million** to HHS for grants to communities and community organizations that meet the criteria for [Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics](#).
- CCBHCs are responsible for directly providing and contracting services, with an emphasis on the provision of 24-hour crisis care, utilization of evidence-based practices, care coordination and integration with physical health care.

## Available Funding

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	\$1.5 billion	<a href="#"><u>Community Mental Health Block Grant</u></a>
	\$1.5 billion	<a href="#"><u>Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant</u></a>
	\$420 million	Expansion grants for certified community behavioral health clinics
	\$100 million	Behavioral health workforce education and training
	\$80 million	Pediatric mental health care access
	\$80 million	Mental health and substance use disorder training for healthcare professionals, paraprofessionals, and public safety officers
	\$50 million	Community-based local behavioral health needs
	\$40 million	Healthcare providers to promote mental health among their health professional workforce
	\$30 million	Project AWARE (SAMHSA)
	\$30 million	Community-based funding for local substance use disorder services
	\$20 million	Youth suicide prevention
	\$20 million	Education and awareness campaign encouraging healthy work conditions and use of mental health and substance use disorder services by healthcare professionals
	\$10 million	National Child Traumatic Stress Network

## **Funding Flows**

### **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant**

- Award amounts are allocated by [state](#)

### **Community Mental Health Block Grant**

- Award amounts are allocated by [state](#)

## **Timing of Funding**

### **Community Mental Health Block Grant**

- Funds are appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to remain available until expended
- Any amount awarded to a State out of amounts appropriated by this section shall be expended by the State by September 30, 2025.

### **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant**

- Appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to remain available until expended
- Any amount awarded to a State out of amounts appropriated by this section shall be expended by the State by September 30, 2025.

***The rest of the programs are awarded and remain available until expended.***

***Learn more about the American Rescue Plan on the Results for America [website](#).***