



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Local Innovative Community Mental Health Program Receives Federal Grant

Jefferson Center for Mental Health innovates in integrated health care

WHEAT RIDGE—Jefferson Center was recently awarded a grant of \$1,587,995 over 4 years from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to develop Union Square Health Home, a program that will increase access to fully integrated and coordinated primary care, behavioral health, wellness, and chronic disease management services.

This new program brings together Jefferson Center for Mental Health, Metro Community Provider Network, and Arapahoe House at Jefferson Center's new building, Union Square Health Plaza in Lakewood. Jefferson Center's CEO, Dr. Harriet Hall states, "Jefferson Center is grateful to have outstanding integration partners in Metro Community Provider Network and Arapahoe House who share our vision and passion for comprehensive integrated healthcare."

"Jefferson Center has long recognized that the future of both physical and behavioral healthcare is in integrated healthcare. We're grateful to SAMHSA for selecting us and thrilled at the opportunity that this grant provides us to expand co-located physical and mental healthcare and further the transformation of the larger American healthcare system," said Donald Bechtold, MD, the Vice President of Healthcare and Integration, and Medical Director at Jefferson Center for Mental Health.

The goal of the grant is to improve the health of adults (18+) with mental illness who have co-occurring cardiovascular, metabolic, and/or substance abuse disorders by establishing a patient-centered healthcare delivery system. The program offers clients a one stop shop for mental health care, physical health care, substance use counseling, wellness services, assistance with housing, employment and benefits, and a host of other support services and resources. This groundbreaking program goes beyond co-locating service providers, to support specialized service providers in working together to develop an inclusive treatment plan and service delivery model to improve the health of those clients most at risk for poor health outcomes, while also decreasing health care costs.

In a press release, Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet reinforced the importance of this opportunity stating, "Jefferson Center has been a leader in the integration of behavioral and

physical health care as a partner with the Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) in developing new care models to increase access to services and improve health outcomes for Coloradans.”

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About Jefferson Center for Mental Health

Celebrating its 55th year, Jefferson Center for Mental Health helps to bring hope for a brighter future to thousands of community members who struggle with mental health challenges. As the community’s nonprofit mental health center, Jefferson Center serves people throughout Jefferson, Gilpin and Clear Creek counties at over 20 locations, as well as schools, nursing homes, senior centers and other community settings. Last year Jefferson Center served more than 19,000 people in need. Center staff has expertise in numerous areas including children and family issues, adults with serious mental illness, suicide prevention, early intervention, juvenile justice, and trauma treatment. For more information about Jefferson Center, visit www.jcmh.org.