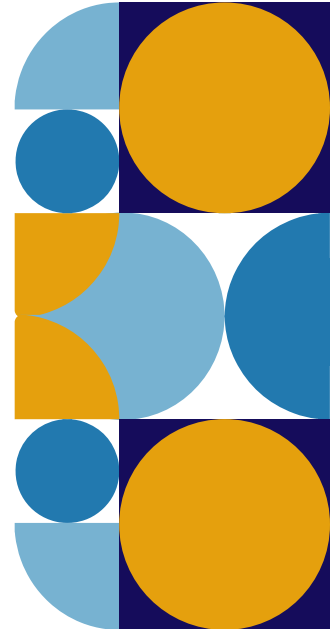


# Strengthening Ohio's Payment Approach for Sustainable Adult Mobile Response Services

## \* BACKGROUND

Clear Pathways, an initiative of Peg's Foundation, is working to ensure sustainable funding for adult mobile response (i.e., mobile crisis) services. We are partnering with behavioral health providers across **20 Ohio counties** to define standard service models and payment approaches for adult mobile crisis response services. The work is structured in three sequential phases.

- **Phase I: Best Practices Assessment** gathers critical insights about providers' mobile response programs and assesses alignment with national best practices.
- **Phase II: Cost Analysis** analyzes the cost of operating mobile response services and includes readiness activities to ensure providers can participate in value-based payment (VBP) arrangements, including the use of alternative payment models (APMs).
- **Phase III: APM Pilot Implementation** launches the Clear Pathways APM mobile crisis pilot with selected Ohio Medicaid managed care entities (MCEs).



## \* TIMELINE

**Phase I: Best Practices Assessment**  
March–July 2025

**Phase II: Cost Analysis**  
July–December 2025

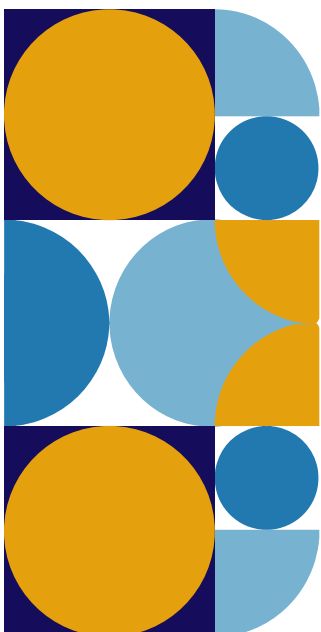
**Phase III: APM Pilot Implementation**  
January–December 2026



## \* PHASE I: BEST PRACTICES ASSESSMENT

Phase I involved interviews with providers who deliver, administer, fund, or oversee adult mobile crisis response services. To ensure a broad range of perspectives, providers from urban, suburban, and rural areas were included, as well as those employing different service delivery models. These sessions evaluated alignment with best practices identified in national research and guidelines for behavioral health crisis care, including those outlined by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and other leading experts in the field.

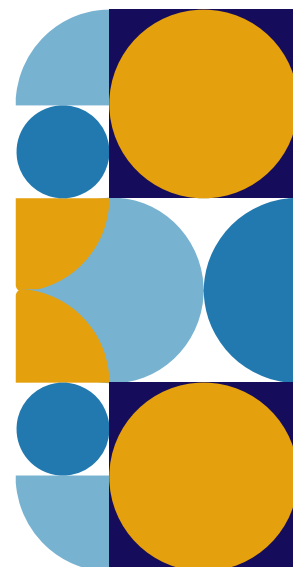
Eleven provider organizations participated in a virtual, two-hour structured interview session. The interviews provided insight into the providers' operations and services. Participants included mobile crisis staff and community behavioral health crisis system partners knowledgeable about the program's practices. Participating providers received a report summarizing their service operations and offering actionable recommendations to support further alignment and improvement. All Phase I participating organizations will be convened for a Close-Out Session where common themes will be discussed.



## \* PHASE II: COST ANALYSIS

Providers will receive instructions to complete tools to indicate staffing models and program/service costs and revenues for adult mobile crisis services. These tools will ensure standardized data collection and analysis across team members and the provider organization. Clear Pathways' contracted actuarial consulting firm will develop a model and visualization tools to project financial impacts of various APMs by adjusting core assumptions.

To prepare for VBP arrangements, providers will also receive an introduction to actuarial concepts related to value-based care and alternative payment models.

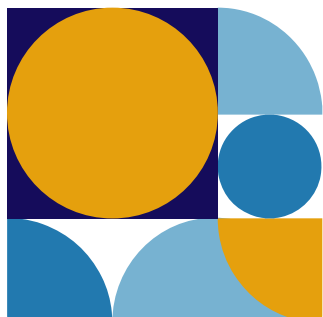
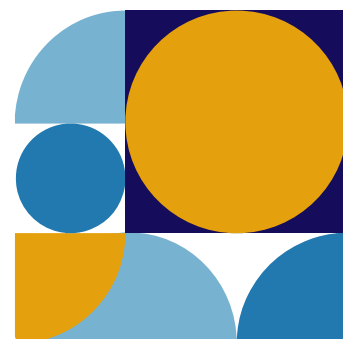


### PHASE II PROCESS

<b>PRE-ORIENTATION</b>	<b>ORIENTATION</b>	<b>EXPENSE AND REVENUE TOOL REVIEW</b>	<b>EXPENSE AND REVENUE TOOL FINALIZATION</b>	<b>CLOSE-OUT SESSION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Walk through Phase II documents and timeline</li><li>• Introduce Expense and Revenue Tool</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss Phase I report highlights</li><li>• Review Expense and Revenue Tool instructions and worksheets with financial team</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Address provider's questions on completing the Expense and Revenue Tool</li><li>• Provide ongoing technical assistance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review submitted Expense and Revenue Tool with provider</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Convene all providers to discuss service models and APM options</li><li>• Provide an overview of VBP primer</li></ul>

## \* PHASE III: APM PILOT IMPLEMENTATION

A subset of provider organizations and Medicaid MCEs will pilot test APM models. Provider organizations will test APM approach(es) with Medicaid MCEs. Adult mobile response providers and MCEs will be selected to participate in the one-year pilot based on mutually developed criteria (e.g., confirmation of service area, agreement on service model(s), acceptance of APM method, shadow claiming process, tracking and reporting metrics, participation in a formal evaluation, and other criteria).



## \* ABOUT CLEAR PATHWAYS

Clear Pathways is an initiative of Peg's Foundation. Clear Pathways assists local, state, and national partners to accelerate implementation of best practice crisis response to reduce reliance on jails and hospitals, ensuring adults in behavioral health crises have a clear path to getting person-centered help. Our vision is for people experiencing behavioral health crises to have a path to help, across Ohio and the nation.