

Media Alert

The Center for Mental Health Crisis Walk-In Center Open House

What: On March 29, the Center for Mental Health (CMH) will host an open house for the new state-of-the-art Crisis Walk-In Center in Montrose. This facility will provide essential crisis behavioral health services to Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties that are currently not available or available on a limited scale. The Center will work closely with the community to ensure people the urgent behavioral healthcare they may need in the most appropriate and effective of settings. All services will be offered 24 hours/day, 7 days/week with open community walk-in availability.

Why: Currently, there is limited access to urgent behavioral health services within the six-county, western-slope region (approximately 10,000 square miles). Patients in need of urgent behavioral healthcare, including mental health and substance abuse emergency services, currently travel as much as three hours (good weather permitting) on the western slope or five hours to the front range to access care. In addition to putting lives at risk, this distance makes it nearly impossible for families to visit and support their loved ones during recovery. A local facility will impact the lives of people seeking behavioral health services in our community and ensure people can get the critical support they need. The facility will be able to accommodate approximately one dozen patients at any given time and will open later in April, 2019.

When: Open House Friday, March 29, 2019

- Law Enforcement and First responders -- 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- General Public, Partners and Staff -- 3:00pm – 6:00 pm
- Ribbon Cutting and Media -- 4:00 pm

Media Angles:

- The Crisis Walk-In Center will allow for crucial urgent behavioral health care in our community by providing previously unavailable 24/7 mental health care. The care does not require a referral and urgent care services are available to individuals of all ages with assistance with rapid referral for on-going treatment.
- Substance abuse and safe withdrawal affect millions of Americans. The western slope finally has a safe, local, non-jail facility where people can safely detox and get the care they need.
- Currently on the western-slope, patients in need of emergency behavioral health services travel as much as five hours to seek qualified treatment. Now, Montrose will have those services available 24/7.
- Teen mental health is a growing concern and urgent mental health services on the western slope are limited. The new Crisis Walk-In Center provides teens a safe, confidential place to take friends in urgent need of help.

Who Will be Available:

- Kjersten Davis, Chairman of the Board
- Shelly J. Spalding, Chief Executive Officer
- Amanda Jones, MA, LPC, CACIII, Chief Clinical Officer
- Juliette Carr, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce
- Blaine Hall, Montrose Police Chief
- Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire and other first responders have all been invited to the event
- Families who have benefited from this resource

What services will be available:

- **A Walk-In Mental Health Clinic** offering easy access to mental healthcare for people of all ages in crisis. No appointment or insurance needed. This decreases the unnecessary use of hospital emergency departments, jails, prisons, or other settings not clinically appropriate for mental health or behavioral health emergencies. The clinic offers a variety of effective support methods throughout a crisis episode, including transitional services that ensure a safe return to the community and continued support.
- **A Crisis Stabilization Unit** providing short-term (3-5 days) bed-based stabilization to individuals aged 12 and older who are experiencing a severe behavioral health crisis. Crisis assessments, group and individual therapy, psycho-education, psychiatric and medication management, peer support, case management, and discharge planning are provided. Clients are connected with ongoing treatment to help prevent relapse. Clients may be either voluntary or cooperatively involuntary remain safe in a secured unit.
- **Withdrawal Management** providing 24-hour non-hospital detox in a safe environment staffed by substance use disorder professionals. The program serves individuals who are intoxicated, in withdrawal, or at risk for withdrawal, and are appropriate for a non-hospital model of detox.
- **A regional 24/7 Mobile Crisis Team** is available to respond to crisis situations by traveling to the individual's location to provide assessment, short-term crisis intervention, referrals and coordination of care.
- **Crisis Respite Services** provide short-term (up to 14 days) home-based support services to assist clients so they may remain in their community.
- **Emergency Peer Transport** provide local, secure transportation for individuals placed on a 72-hour mental health hold. The primary purpose is to partner with law enforcement to reduce their involvement in providing mental health transports and assessments.

Address:

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Contact:

If you want to schedule on-air interviews or interviews for print prior to the opening:
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