

# ANSWERING THE CALL:

Expanding Access, Strengthening Support

At CKMHC our mission is to make life better in our communities by providing excellent behavioral health services, education and coordination of care which exceeds the expectations of those we serve.

## From the CEO

Dear Friends, Partners, and Community Members,

As we reflect on the past year, CKMHC remains steadfast in our commitment to serving those in crisis across our communities. The landscape of behavioral healthcare in Kansas continues to evolve, and our role in crisis response has never been more vital. From mobile crisis response to stabilization efforts, we have made significant strides in meeting individuals at their moment of need and providing a clear pathway to recovery.

One of the most transformative shifts in behavioral health services has been the expansion of mobile crisis teams across Kansas. This development has allowed us to reach individuals where they are—whether at home, in schools, or in community settings—reducing reliance on emergency rooms and law enforcement intervention. This shift not only ensures more immediate and compassionate care but also alleviates strain on hospitals, first responders, and other critical community resources.

At CKMHC, our crisis teams have worked diligently to enhance coordination between law enforcement, emergency departments, and community organizations. Our co-responder program, in collaboration with the Salina Police Department, Saline County Sheriff's Office, and Salina Fire Department, has played a crucial role in ensuring that individuals in crisis receive prompt intervention and the appropriate level of care. By embedding behavioral health professionals within emergency response teams, we have been able to de-escalate crises on-site, reduce unnecessary incarcerations and emergency room visits, and connect individuals to immediate mental health support. Additionally, our small crisis program for youth has proven effective in preventing unnecessary hospitalizations by providing stabilization and overnight respite services when needed. We remain committed to refining and expanding our efforts so that all Individuals, youth and families have access to the support they need.

While this model has proven highly effective in Salina and Saline County, we recognize the continued need to expand these services into our smaller rural communities, where access to the co-responder service remains limited. Moving forward, CKMHC will work closely with community leaders and stakeholders to explore ways to bring co-responder support to rural areas, ensuring that all Kansans—regardless of where they live—have access to the critical mental health services they need.

### From the CEO

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Looking ahead, crisis care must continue to evolve to meet the growing needs of our communities. As daily life becomes increasingly complex, it is essential for mental health services to remain up-to-date and well-supported to address future challenges. While progress has been made in expanding resources, significant gaps persist—particularly in the availability of dedicated crisis stabilization beds, where demand far exceeds current capacity.

Ensuring access to high-quality crisis services is essential for the well-being of the communities we serve. Expanding support for crisis care, increasing availability of mobile crisis teams, and integrating crisis response with long-term behavioral health services are critical priorities. CKMHC remains committed to collaborating with community partners and leaders to strengthen and enhance these vital services.

As we move forward, our core focus is to provide immediate, compassionate, and effective crisis response that helps individuals stabilize and heal. We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our partners, the dedication of our staff, and the resilience of those we serve. Together, we will build a future where crisis services in Kansas are accessible, comprehensive, and truly life-saving.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to mental health in our communities.

Sincerely,

Chief Executive Officer

Central Kansas Mental Health Center

# Collaborative Crisis Care

2024 was a year of significant growth and impact for our crisis services, marked by program expansions, strengthened partnerships, and an enhanced ability to serve our community. From the full integration of the Co-Responder Program to the expansion of Mobile Crisis Response across multiple counties, our team has worked tirelessly to improve crisis intervention and support.

- The **Co-Responder Program**, a collaboration between Salina Police Department, Saline County Sheriff's Office, Salina Fire and EMS, and CKMHC, completed its first full calendar year, expanding with the addition of a second co-responder.
- The **Co-Responder team** contributed to two 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) classes for first responders and assisted with the Salina Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, which led to a more thorough count of the homeless population.
- Launched in Saline County, the Mobile Crisis Response Program expanded to Dickinson,
   Ellsworth, Lincoln, and Ottawa Counties, providing coverage Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 10 PM.
- The Re-Entry Program in Saline County reduced recidivism by assisting individuals transitioning from jail with housing, identification, and referrals for ongoing support.
- In 2024 the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) case manager
  joined the crisis team, and an additional four staff were trained to enter individuals into the
  Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)—a crucial step in improving access to
  housing support and ensuring better tracking of housing resources.
- The **Corrections/Parole Program** supported individuals released from prison or jail and participated in Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court.
- The **Agricultural Outreach Program** expanded its efforts to reach rural and frontier communities at higher risk for suicide and mental health crises. Staff engaged directly with residents by attending county fairs, farm shows,

and various community events.

Crisis teams also visited local gathering places—including co-ops, sale barns, feed stores, cafés, and banks—to share information about CKMHC services and the 988 crisis line. To further enhance support, Funding was secured for AgriSafe FarmResponse training, equipping crisis staff with specialized knowledge to better serve the agricultural community.

 The SMVF Program supported Service Members, Veterans, and their Families, with crisis staff available between intake and their first therapy appointment.

## Education & Outreach in 2024:

200

new Mental Health First Aiders trained

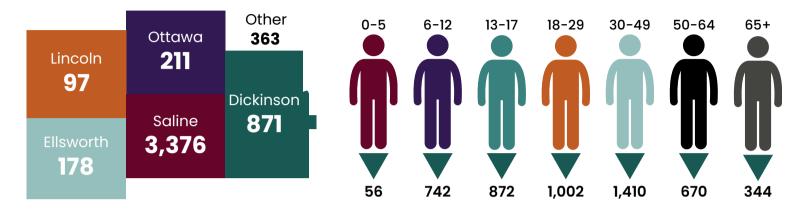
17,000+

individuals engaged in education and outreach initiatives across all five counties

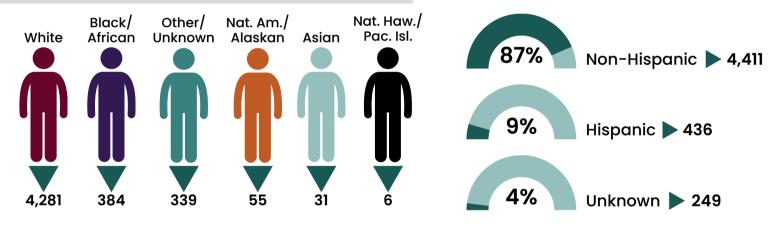
## Impact in Action

CKMHC served 5,096 individuals in 2024.

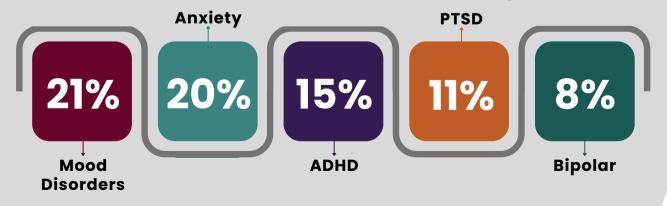
#### Residence by County & Age Range



### **Racial Background & Ethnicity**



## Top 5 Reasons for Seeking Services



# Celebrating 60 Years of Service

CKMHC marked an important milestone in our history by hosting a community block party to commemorate 60 years of dedicated service to the community. The event, held on October 19, 2024, brought together individuals, families, and local partners to celebrate our organization's impactful work in mental health and community outreach.

The event was held in our west parking lot at 809 Elmhurst Blvd, and served as an opportunity for CKMHC to reflect on its journey since its founding in 1964, while also looking toward the future. The block party was filled with activities for all ages and families and featured several community partners, a resource fair with information on mental health, addiction treatment, healthcare, and other services available in the region.

The block party was a resounding success, providing not only a fun and festive atmosphere but also an important opportunity to raise awareness about mental health and the ongoing need for support and resources in the community. CKMHC's commitment to fostering a supportive environment for mental health continues to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout Central Kansas.

Looking ahead, CKMHC is excited to build upon its rich history of service and continue its mission of providing compassionate, comprehensive mental health care for everyone who needs it. Here's to 60 years of service and many more years of making a difference in the community!

A special thank you to event sponsors; First Bank, Genoa Healthcare, Bank of Tescott, Blue Beacon, Inc., Conrade Insurance, Salina Military Affairs Council, Andrea Pedigo Edward Jones, Ashby House, Bank of the Plains and Salina Family Healthcare Center.

















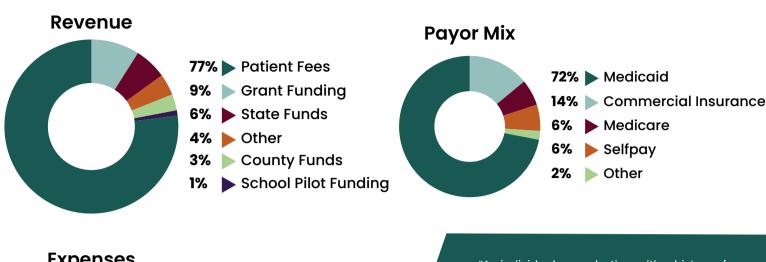


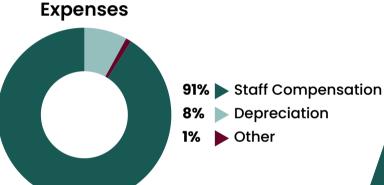






## **Financial Overview**





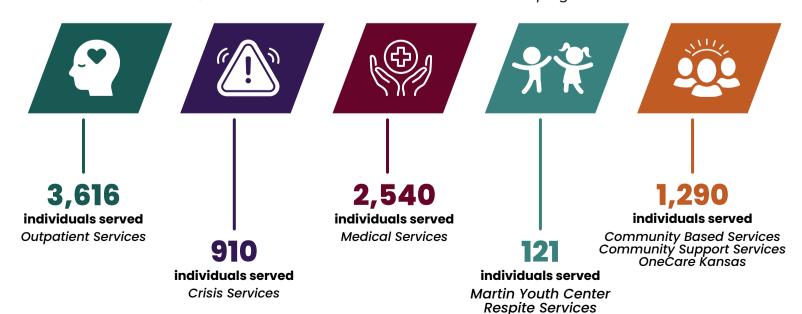
"An individual on probation, with a history of incarceration, transitioned from prison to inpatient drug treatment and then to sober living. While there, funds were accessed to pay for their medication as they had no insurance. Upon leaving sober living, the individual worked limited hours and did not have the funds for rent money. Support from CKMHC covered their deposit and three months' rent as they increased work hours and maintained sobriety. They expressed that this assistance made independent living possible."

-CKMHC employee

### Facts & Figures

People served by program

Some individuals were involved in more than one program.



# With Gratitude

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and grant funders, we've been able to expand our programs, enhance our facilities, grow our team, and reach even more people in need. Your belief in our mission and dedication to improving mental health outcomes have made a lasting impact on countless individuals and families. Tax-deductible contributions can be made via Facebook, by mail, or on our website.

Memorials: Janni Wilson

#### **Grants:**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas Foundation, Kansas
Department for Aging and Disability Services, Kansas
Department for Children and Families, Kansas
Department of Health and Environment, Kansas
Department of Transportation, Kansas Housing
Resources Corporation Emergency Solutions Grant,
Salina Area United Way Funded Partners, Salina
Charities League, Saline County ARPA, Substance
Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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### Our Locations



Main Office: 809 Elmhurst Blvd, Salina



420 NE 10th St., Abilene



1602 Alyward Ave., Ellsworth



114 W Court St., Lincoln



817 A Argyle Ave., Minneapolis

