



## **MCA 53-21-508: TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT VITAL FACTORS MARCH 2024 OVERVIEW**

Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee

**Reporting period:** March 2024

### **OVERVIEW**

#### **Targeted Case Management (TCM) vital factors background and description**

Children generally fare better when they live at home in a stable family environment, graduate from high school, and avoid involvement with the juvenile justice system. These factors strongly indicate a smoother transition into adulthood, characterized by healthy relationships, better work and educational opportunities, and reduced risk of substance use, suicide, or other harmful behaviors.

House Bill (HB) 589, passed in 2019 and later amended by HB 583, put in place the TCM Vital Factors survey. The data collection and reporting processes for this survey are the combined efforts of TCM providers and the Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB). The purpose of these vital factors outcomes is to monitor the status of youth receiving TCM services for mental health reasons to help determine whether the children can remain at home, in school, and out of trouble while receiving services.

#### **Project Process**

CMHB collaborated with case management providers to: define survey questions, create the template, and establish a timeline for completion of the data collection. For the March TCM administration, CMHB received data on 1,484 youth who were served in TCM in March 2024. The report requires monitoring, not analysis, and assumptions regarding the effectiveness of TCM or other mental health services gained from this process are not conclusive. However, the process and report do represent continuing steps in monitoring whether youth with mental health challenges remain in the home, in school, and out of trouble while receiving mental health services.

#### **High-level findings**

##### **Out-of-Home Mental Health Treatment**

- 85% of TCM youth did not receive out-of-home mental health treatment.
- 6% of TCM youth received in-state therapeutic group home (TGH) treatment.
- 4% of TCM youth received in-state acute hospitalization treatment.

- 4% of TCM youth received in-state Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) treatment.
- 2% of TCM youth received out-of-state acute hospitalization, TGH or PRTF treatment.

#### **Out-of-Home Foster Care, Kinship Care, or Correctional Setting**

- 12% of TCM youth were reported to be in foster care.
- 14% of TCM youth were reported to be in kinship care.
- 1% of TCM youth were reported to be in a correctional setting.

#### **School Enrollment, Attendance and Advancement (K-12 grade)**

- 93% of TCM youth were reported to be enrolled and attending K-12 school, 2% were not enrolled, 2% were enrolled but not attending, and 3% were not of K-12 school age.
- 88% of TCM youth were reported to have advanced to the next grade level, 5% did not advance because they were not of school age, and 8% did not advance due to other reasons.

#### **Substance Abuse Treatment/Youth Court Involvement/Suicide Risk**

- 91% of TCM youth were reported to have had a substance abuse screening.
- 5% of TCM youth were reported to be receiving substance abuse treatment.
- 9% of TCM youth were reported to have youth court involvement.
- 7% of TCM youth were reported to be in care or treatment due to a suicide risk to themselves.