



## Providing Foster Care Children and Families with Improved Access to Behavioral Healthcare

According to the CDC<sup>(1)</sup>, 1 in 6 children ages 2-8 have a mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder. At Bamboo Health, we are dedicated to working with state governments to deliver innovative solutions to address the behavioral health issues of children, especially those in foster care.

Through a comprehensive treatment and referral network, one which fosters collaboration between patients, providers, and referral centers, we can help bridge the gap between availability of treatment and access to treatment for children in need.

### FACING AN INCREASE OF FOSTER CHILDREN IN NEED

According to Children's Rights<sup>(2)</sup>, an estimated 80% of the over 400,000 children in foster care in the United States suffer from a mental health issue, compared to approximately 20% of the general population of children. These children are two times more likely to experience PTSD than war veterans. Furthermore, a shortage and lack of knowledge of inpatient behavioral healthcare services and community-based alternatives are barriers to treatment for those in need, particularly for adolescents.

### MAKING AN IMPACT ON OUR FUTURE

[OpenBeds](#) is a cloud-based solution that replaces inefficient and less effective manual search, communication and reporting capabilities and facilitates rapid transfers that foster collaboration among mental health providers and substance use programs. Through OpenBeds, states can create a network for collecting, analyzing and sharing patient data that connects providers, social workers, other stakeholders, and patients to mental health and substance use disorder treatment facilities, including shelters and residential facilities.

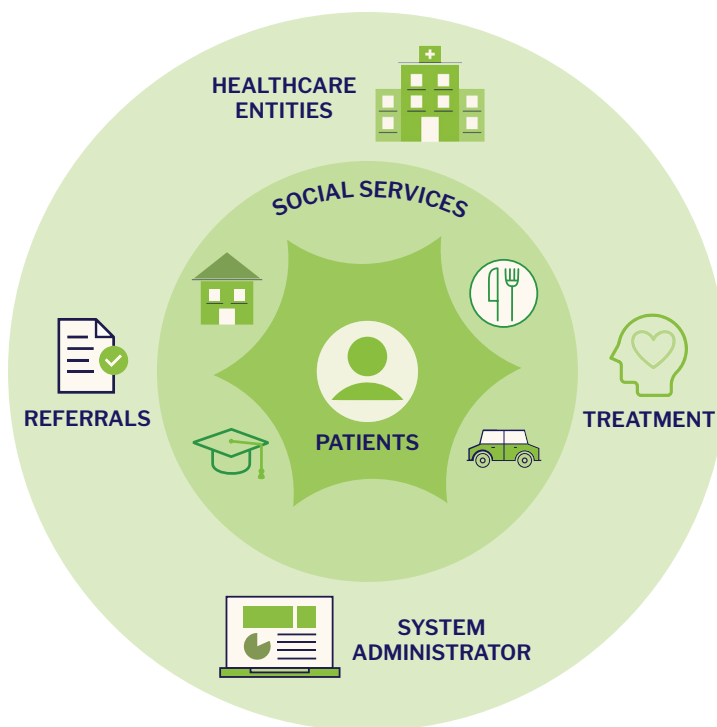
The solution offers the ability for healthcare professionals to quickly access patient records, identify the best course of treatment, and even make referrals to behavioral health treatment facilities, resulting in better patient outcomes.



## Benefits:

- Increases access to behavioral healthcare for patients, including adolescents
- Connects referring providers to social services for the appropriate type of treatment and follow up, helping to free up clinical personnel
- Increases productivity for referring and receiving organizations
- Frees up ER rooms for patients needing the most care
- Allows users to search for open beds at behavioral health treatment facilities, including shelters and residential facilities
- Replaces inefficient manual searches and reporting functions necessary for referrals
- Integrates directly in your EHR or NarxCare prescription drug monitoring analytics tool

Working closely with payers, hospitals, health systems, and treatment facilities, our OpenBeds team can help your state build a strong behavioral health network that helps to improve patient outcomes and reduce the overall cost of care.



### BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Did you know that according to Children's Rights<sup>(2)</sup> about 20,000 youth "age out" of foster care every year without the support of family and with significant mental health needs? And roughly 20% of those youth immediately become homeless, resulting in increased mental health issues<sup>(2)</sup>.

Whether at the city, county, or state level, the ability to better support adolescents in crisis is critical to improving overall public health. And the time is now.

What is your state doing to help foster children in need?  
Tell us how we can help: [bamboohealth.com/contact](https://bamboohealth.com/contact)

Sources:

(1) <https://www.cdc.gov/childrensmentalhealth/data.html>

(2) <https://www.childrensrights.org/newsroom-fact-sheets-childmentalhealth/>