

**Nebraska DHHS Division of Behavioral Health
Network Participation Goals, Standards and Guidelines Summary**

The DHHS Division of Behavioral Health is committed to working towards the improvement of access to behavioral health services throughout our area and that work begins with our partners who refer to and provide inpatient psychiatric services in our area. While this project initially focuses on enhancing access to inpatient psychiatric care, we expect enhanced access to outpatient services, support services, and care for substance use disorders as we move forward. Through your active participation and careful attention and adherence to the proceeding Standards and Guidelines, including frequently updating bed and appointment availability and the use of digital referral and communication tools, we will quickly be able to generate data to support the expansion of the network. We look forward to working with you, and together, building a network that is in support of our providers and the citizens of Nebraska!

Goal 1: Establish and expand a crisis psychiatric bed registry program in the DHHS Division of Behavior Health of Nebraska. Such efforts will primarily track and monitor the availability of inpatient psychiatric services while also inviting participation of other crisis service supports such as crisis assessment centers, crisis residential programs, respites, mobile crisis teams, and centralized crisis call centers.

Goal 2: Consistent performance of inpatient psychiatric bed status updates by network treatment providers in accordance with specified network standards.

Goal 3: Consistent use of digital referral mechanisms by network members in communications with one another.

Goal 4: Network providers experience a high degree of satisfaction with participation in the network as evidenced by a low number of complaints and continued network participation.

Updating Bed and Next Appointment Availability. All receiving providers are required to update their service availability per the specified times provided in Table A:

Service Type	Frequency	Notes
Acute Inpatient Care – Updating Bed Availability	Twice Daily	Recommend updating between 7AM and 9AM and 4PM and 6PM with comments as needed.
Acute Inpatient Care – Acknowledgement of Referrals	45 minutes	Facilities will acknowledge receiving a referral within 45 minutes.

Digital Referrals and Communications. Requirements:

1. Use the digital referral forms between network members.
2. Replace faxes with file attachments to digital referrals or subsequent communications.
3. Assign and ensure users are monitoring OpenBeds for responses.
4. Acknowledge referrals and subsequent communications within 45 minutes.
5. Use the “Accept” or “Decline” radio buttons.
6. Provide feedback regarding referral outcome, e.g., client showed up for intake assessment.
7. Use the “Open” and “Close” radio buttons.
8. Use “Show” and “No Show” radio buttons.