

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Susan Donovan, Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services  
Via email to: [HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov)

**Re: House Bill 6118, Relating to Insurance (mobile response and stabilization services)**

Dear Chairwoman Donovan and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (Blue Cross), I would like to express support for the coverage described in this proposal. Blue Cross shares the interest of the sponsor and many others in this method of providing behavioral health services for young people.

By way of background, Blue Cross is particularly dedicated to supporting the mental well-being of Rhode Island's youth. This includes through engaging youth directly as well as through caretakers, schools, the community, and our healthcare provider network.

For children and youth experiencing a behavioral health crisis, the Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) model provides immediate access to care. Through this model, members receive immediate in-person care at the time of crisis, as well as 30-40 days of follow-up care to ensure stabilization following the crisis. Currently, Blue Cross members throughout the state can receive these services.<sup>1</sup>

Blue Cross looks forward to working with the sponsor, the Committee, and stakeholders on language clarifying the services, coverage terms, and entities qualified to provide this level of care. The Committee might also consider whether this constitutes a new benefit mandate triggering financial liability to the State by virtue of the Affordable Care Act. Under those rules, the State could have liability to defray the costs of any new state-mandated benefits for plans in the individual and small group market, pursuant to the Affordable Care Act, section 1311(d)(3)(B).

Blue Cross appreciates your consideration of this testimony and welcomes conversations on this proposal.

Sincerely,

  
Richard Glucksman  
Assistant General Counsel

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bcbsri.com/providers/update/mobile-crisis-services>

## Behavioral Health

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Feb 1, 2025

### Mobile crisis services

This is a reminder that mobile crisis services are available statewide. Mobile crisis offers immediate access to care for children and youth across the state of Rhode Island experiencing a behavioral health crisis, utilizing the Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) model. In this model, members receive immediate in-person care at the time of crisis, as well as 30-40 days of follow up care to ensure stabilization following the crisis.

Tides Family Services and Family Services of Rhode Island are the two mobile crisis providers covering the State of Rhode Island at this time.

Practice Name	Location and Contact Information
<b>Tides Family Services</b>	<b>Main Line: (401) 822-1360</b> <b>Mobile Crisis Line: (401) 615-9374</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:contactus@tidesfs.org">contactus@tidesfs.org</a></b>  <b>Multiple Locations</b>
<b>Family Services of Rhode Island</b>	<b>Main Line: (401) 331-1350</b> <b>Mobile Crisis Line: (401) 854-6678</b>  <b>55 Hope St., Providence, Rhode Island 02906</b>

For additional information, please contact Isabella Faggiano at [Isabella.faggiano@bcbsri.org](mailto:Isabella.faggiano@bcbsri.org) (<mailto:Isabella.faggiano@bcbsri.org>).

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