

**A Profile of the State of Colorado's
Rapid Mental Health Response for
Colorado Youth
Fiscal Year 2021-22
*Title 27, Article 60 (C.R.S. 27-60-109)***

January 1, 2022



COLORADO
Office of Behavioral Health
Department of Human Services

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This report was submitted on behalf of the work of several individuals at the Office of Behavioral Health, who are recognized below:

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Executive Summary

The following report provides an overview of the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health’s progress in implementing House Bill 21-1258, Rapid Mental Health Response for Colorado Youth, pursuant to CRS 27-60-109 (2)(5) for state Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Key Takeaways:

- The program outlined in statute and its services launched on October 27, 2021. Through a web platform, youth and their families can access information about the program, complete brief mental health screenings, select a therapist, schedule 45-minute therapy sessions, access other mental health resources, and reach out to care navigators for further assistance, if needed.
- According to an analysis from the National Conference of State Legislatures, the program is the first of its kind in the nation in that it is the only statewide program to offer free services to any youth.
- The program is called I Matter following a focus group made up of youth from across the state, including youth of color and LGBTQ+ youth
- As of December 20, 2021, 450 youth had received at least one therapy session through I Matter.
- As of December 20, 2021, 121 youth had received three or more therapy sessions. The program can pay for more than three sessions as needed.

- Since October 27, 2021, the program has had more than 1,550 scheduled sessions. Not all of the appointments have occurred as of December 20, and some were no-shows.
- Youth or parents of youth ages 4 to 21 have scheduled therapy sessions through the program.
- Youth from 31 Colorado counties have scheduled sessions through the I Matter program.
- As of December 20, 77 individual providers participate in the program. Most are providing services via telehealth.
- A team of care navigators, including two bilingual care navigators, are available through the I Matter program to assist youth, families, and providers to coordinate continued behavioral health care beyond the three covered sessions, refer to other types of behavioral health services when indicated, and/or identify community resources beyond behavioral health needs.
- The program has both 200-plus youth on the waitlist and nearly 250 appointments still available over the next two-week period as of December 20. The program's care navigators outreach every youth on the waitlist to understand why they did not schedule an appointment, and the program continues to work to add in-person therapist availability as that is very limited at this time.
- A public awareness and outreach campaign promoting the I Matter program was launched in November, to reach youth and their parents and to reach other programs and organizations that interact with youth and can extend the message of the campaign.
- Between October 27 and November 30, 573 individuals and organizations ordered free campaign materials. These orders total 222,826 I Matter campaign materials.
- A statewide advisory committee was convened for the I Matter program. Members of this committee represent multiple stakeholder groups throughout Colorado, including youth, and the group meets monthly to provide support for the implementation and oversight of the I Matter program.
- The U.S. Surgeon General highlighted the I Matter program in a youth mental health advisory as a way to expand telehealth.

Introduction

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) respectfully submits this report on the implementation of House Bill 21-1258, Rapid Mental Health Response for Colorado Youth, for state Fiscal Year 2021-22 to the General Assembly in compliance with the following request to provide, by January 1, 2022, a report regarding the following as outlined in Colorado Revised Statute 27-60-109 (2)(5):

- a. The number of youth who received services under the program, excluding any personally identifiable information in accordance with state and federal law;
- b. Information in aggregate about the services provided to the youth under the program;
- c. Other relevant information regarding the program.

History

Colorado House Bill 21-1258 established a temporary behavioral health services program to provide access to mental health and substance use disorder services for youth, including addressing needs that may have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is open to youth 18 years of age or younger or 21 years of age or younger if receiving special education services.

The program, called I Matter, is funded by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health. The program provides three free behavioral health sessions for youth in Colorado and reimburses participating providers, who are licensed clinicians from agencies and independent contractors.

The I Matter program also has a statewide public awareness and outreach campaign that includes digital ads on platforms such as TikTok and Snapchat, and on-the-ground outreach to schools and youth organizations. Both the awareness campaign and the IMatterColorado.org website were informed by youth feedback. Governor Jared Polis signed the bipartisan legislation, which dedicated \$9 million to the program as part of the Polis-Primavera administration's Colorado Comeback roadmap. The program is funded until June 30, 2022.

Section 1: Program Implementation

In July of 2021, OBH executed a contract with Signal Behavioral Health Network (SBHN) to perform the following functions on behalf of the Department in establishing the Youth Rapid Mental Health Response Program, also known as I Matter:

- a. Provide a website or web-based application as a portal which is available to youth and providers to facilitate the program;
- b. Use their existing network of providers and be willing to accept additional providers who are interested in providing treatment;

- c. Through their providers, provide up to three in-person or telehealth mental health services for youth statewide;
- d. Ensure continuity of care as needed for clients beyond the three covered sessions and/or to other types of behavioral health services as needed.

Creation of Web Portal

In September of 2021, Signal Behavioral Health Network executed a contract with TeleTeachers, Inc. to develop a web portal for the I Matter program. The portal was officially launched on October 27, 2021. Through this platform, youth and their families can access information about the program, complete brief mental health screenings, select a therapist, schedule 45-minute therapy sessions, access other mental health resources, and reach out to care navigators for further assistance, if needed.

For providers, all I Matter services are delivered through the I Matter platform. This includes initial paperwork (mandatory disclosures, consent to treat, etc.), mental health screenings, virtual sessions, and session notes, which are to be completed in a DAP (Data; Assessment; Plan) format.

Table 1. Status of each operability requirement of the portal as required by HB21-1258

Web Portal Operability Requirements	Status of Operability Requirement Implementation
a. Offer initial age-appropriate mental health screenings to determine if a youth may benefit from mental health treatment.	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021.
b. Allow providers to register and share telehealth or in-person appointment availability.	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021.
c. Allow a youth or their guardian (if the youth is younger than 12), regardless of whether the youth has insurance or any other payment source, to schedule telehealth or in-person appointments with a provider and sign up based on provider availability.	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021.
d. When possible, connect youth with providers who accept the youth’s insurance or payment source that may cover the costs of ongoing mental health treatment (if the youth has insurance or a payment source is known).	Implemented and continues to be expanded in scope as of Oct. 27, 2021. This requirement is met by a team of care navigators employed by SBHN.

e. Include search criteria that youth/family can enter to select mental health professionals by language, ethnicity, gender, location, capacity for virtual and in-person services, and areas of focus.	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021.
f. Provide for Statewide coverage for virtual access to services and in-person access where available.	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021. SBHN will continue to expand both the virtual and in-person network through SFY22-Q3.
g. Be operable for clients 24/7 (but services do not need to be provided 24/7).	Implemented and fully functional as of Oct. 27, 2021.
h. Be provided in English immediately and in Spanish as soon as practical.	Implemented and fully functional as of Dec. 20, 2021.

Provider Network Development

SBHN launched a provider recruitment effort in August of 2021 and reached out to all their currently contracted providers serving youth, as well as any newly identified providers who serve youth in Colorado. SBHN also contracted with several Community Mental Health Centers across the state. In addition, OBH, through the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), reached out to eligible professionals to garner interest in participation.

Per statute, the following eligible professionals may offer therapy services under the I Matter program:

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (or candidate under supervision)
- Licensed Social Worker (or candidate under supervision)
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (or candidate under supervision)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (or candidate under supervision)
- Licensed Addictions Counselor (or candidate under supervision)
- Certificated Addictions Specialist
- Licensed Psychiatrist
- Licensed Psychologist

To become fully credentialed as a provider through the I Matter program, each clinician must provide the following information as part of the credentialing process:

- Proof of an active DORA license, including license number and expiration date;
- Signed provider attestation form;
- Current certificate of insurance for the following: general liability, protected information, professional liability, and worker’s compensation;
- Provider contact information form;
- Supervisor name and credentials (if clinician is working under supervisor’s license, certification, or registration).

Prior to beginning services with clients, all I Matter program providers are asked to complete a virtual training session with SBHN’s care navigation team. Additional training slides and a training video are then sent out to providers following the completion of the credentialing process.

Table 2: I Matter Provider Network

Metric	As of 12/20/21
The total number of contracts that have been executed with individual providers or agencies to deliver services. This includes providers who may not yet be offering services in the I Matter program, or who may not currently be doing so (but previously did).	58 contracts with agencies or individual providers
The total number of providers currently offering open or scheduled sessions.	77 individual therapists
The total number of available sessions, whether booked or unbooked.	249 slots/week

Through SFY22-Q3, the team at Signal Behavioral Health Network will continue to recruit additional providers in efforts to expand availability of in-person and virtual options to the youth and families seeking services throughout the state. Priority recruitment in December included clinicians who can provide services in Spanish, outside of school hours, and in person.

In accordance with HB 21-1258, SBHN and OBH were charged with determining “a reasonable rate of reimbursement for each mental health session with a youth client pursuant to the program, which rate must be the same regardless of whether the appointment is a telehealth or in-person appointment.” The providers are reimbursed at a rate stipulated in their contracts with SBHN. The rate is competitive with commercial rates.

Ensuring Continuity of Care

To ensure the behavioral health needs of youth are met beyond the provisions of this program, a Continuity of Care Plan was developed for the I Matter program. Also, a small team of care navigators, including two bilingual care navigators, were hired by SBHN to assist youth, families, and providers to coordinate continued behavioral health care beyond the three covered sessions,

refer to other types of behavioral health services when indicated, and/or identify community resources beyond behavioral health needs.

Care navigators can be reached via email through the I Matter platform, and can assist youth, families, and I Matter program providers as follows:

- Assist clients and families with any needs related to navigating the website, accessing the internet, or website translation services.
- Assist clients and families in understanding the initial screener and screener results.
- Match clients to a therapist if there are any questions surrounding a potential best fit for the client.
- Remain aware of appointment availability based on client needs and help the client find an appointment time suitable for them if no available appointments currently match their schedule needs.
- Arrange for client placement on a waiting list if their provider of preference is unavailable.
- Monitor the support email inbox for any incoming emails or questions from prospective clients or providers.
- Assist the client, family, and clinician in locating referral/placement to a higher level of care if this need is identified.
- Seek to initiate a referral to another provider if it is discovered during the three initial sessions that the client will be unable to continue with their current therapist due to therapist capacity, client insurance network restrictions, client's inability to pay for ongoing therapy, and ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for all involved.
- Locate community resources for the client and/or their family members (i.e. housing referrals, bill assistance, food security, Medicaid applications, etc.) if the need for outside referrals is identified.
- Assess eligibility for Children and Youth Mental Health Treatment Act (CYMHTA) funds, Managed Service Organization (MSO) funds, Medicaid, or commercial insurance enrollment.
- Assess and provide for any special accommodations as needed.
- Navigate the behavioral health system for any ongoing needs or concerns that were not addressed within the three initial sessions if needed.
- Follow up with clients and families who have had questions or concerns throughout their I Matter participation and work to ensure that their needs have been met.

Section 2: Statewide Public Awareness and Outreach Campaign

In August 2021, OBH executed a contract with Amelie Company to create a public awareness and outreach campaign promoting the I Matter program. The intent of this campaign is to reach youth and their parents and reach other programs and organizations that interact with youth and can extend the message of the campaign. The tasks assigned to Amelie included the following:

- Consultation with OBH, youth advisors and the website or application vendor to draft creative briefs that include effective messaging and campaign requirements for creative development.
- Development of key messaging to support creative materials.
- Engagement with youth advisors and rely on youth-focused research to inform the development of the campaign, including an understanding of how to make youth comfortable accessing mental or behavioral health services.
- Development and production of creative materials (print, OOH, video, digital, web, social, toolkits, etc.) for the campaign, upon OBH approval.
- Development and production of creative materials to support the campaign's work to reach diverse youth from priority populations, including materials in Spanish.

In addition, Amelie was tasked with paid media planning and buying, including:

- Provision of plans and recommendations for media purchases including traditional, digital and social media channels targeted to reach youth and other priority audiences.
- Purchase of media space on behalf of OBH.
- Provision of campaign monitoring during live campaign periods and performance reporting upon completion of campaign, and share general performance metric updates following the completion of each paid media flight.

Youth Focus Group

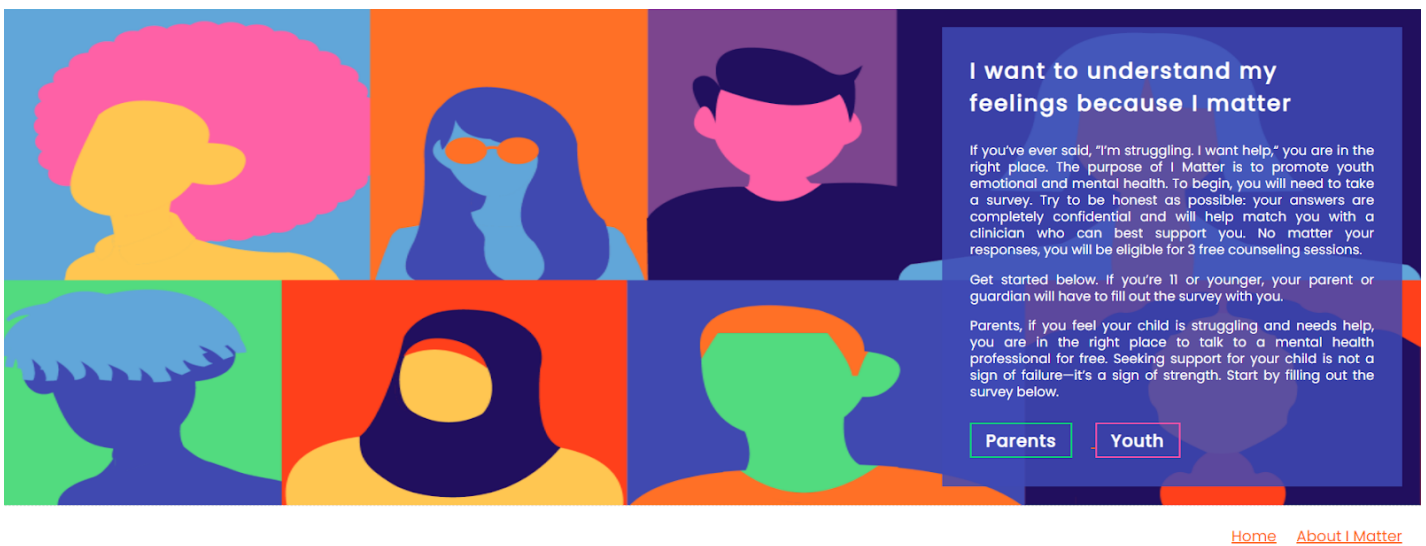
Youth advisors were consulted in the I Matter campaign development and web platform development process. A two-hour focus group was held with a diverse group of 13 youth from ages 12 to 21. Youth were each compensated \$50 for their time.

Youth received an overview of the program and then split into two groups (by age brackets (12-15 and 16-21)). Group 1 was shown two potential creative campaign directions, and asked to give feedback on the design, graphics, messaging, and campaign name. Group 2 was walked through the web platform and survey evaluation and then asked to provide feedback on user experience. Once this was complete, the groups swapped and Group 1 was walked through the web platform and Group 2 reviewed creative campaign directions.

Overwhelmingly, youth provided very positive feedback about both campaign creative directions, and shared important insights on campaign messaging. Youth were drawn to the “I Matter” campaign name, because, as one youth commented, “we’re often told to care more about others than ourselves, but this reminds me that I matter, too.” They were drawn to the bright colors and loved that there were many different people represented, as they felt it fostered inclusion and showed that the program is for everyone (see Figure 1). As one youth said, “I really like the people represented in these illustrations, because I think a lot of times mental health resources to people of color, including me, seem white-washed, it only caters to white communities. To show these different representations kind of just implicates the ‘hey, this is for everyone, instead of just certain communities.’”

Figure 1: I Matter program website home page

I Matter.



Powered by TeleTeachers



Some additional quotes from the focus group:

“It’s really bright, it’s going to catch your eye. And having the ‘I Matter’ it’s so easy to remember. This will do something for [teenagers] and make them do something about [mental health].”

“I really like the posters and colors and the message that’s coming across.”

“I feel like if I were to walk past one of these posters, it really would catch my attention. I really like the bright colors, and the messages are really good as well.”

“I like the first person messages, it makes it easier to connect and it’s more relatable.”

Youth Advisor Demographic & Geographic Representation*

Race/Ethnicity (could select all that apply):

Asian: 2
Black/African American: 4
Hispanic/Latinx: 6
White: 2

Identified as LGBTQIA+: 5

Gender Identity:

Female: 11
Male: 2

Location:

Arvada: 1 Castle Rock: 1 Parker: 1
Aurora: 1 Denver: 1 Pueblo: 1
Boulder: 2 Julesburg: 1 Thornton: 1

**Note: Providing demographic information was optional.*

Performance Metrics

Paid media will include out-of-home placements (i.e., posters, lawn signs, banners), streaming audio, social media (including contracting with influencers), in-app video, search, and streaming video. Only a portion of the I Matter paid advertising campaign had launched as of November 30. Therefore, performance for tactics such as social media ads, streaming video and Spanish ads are not included in this report. Note that all tactics will be in market by mid-January 2022.

As of November 30, three tactics had launched—paid search, streaming audio, and posters. In addition to 4,500 posters distributed to pediatricians’ offices and schools statewide, the tactics had yielded the following results:

<u>Tactic</u>	<u>Impressions</u>
Paid Search	19,205
Streaming Audio	2,023,027
Total Impressions	2,042,232

The 2,042,232 impressions, or the total number of times I Matter content was served to Coloradans, led to 4,940 clicks. The Matter website had 36,279 sessions through November 30.

Earned media, or coverage by news media, generated 130,654,690 impressions through November 30, including 31 unique stories.

Materials Ordered

Between October 27 and November 30, there were 573 individuals and organizations that ordered free campaign materials. This includes the following orders, totaling 222,826 I Matter campaign materials that have been (or are in the process of being) distributed statewide.

- 46,550 Youth Rack Cards (English)
- 27,650 Youth Rack Cards (Spanish)
- 43,850 Trusted Adults/Parent Rack Cards (English)
- 27,700 Trusted Adults/Parent Rack Cards (Spanish)
- 5,619 Youth Posters (English)
- 1,148 Youth Posters (Spanish)
- 4,021 Adult Posters (English)
- 825 Adult Posters (Spanish)
- 18,160 of each Youth Sticker - 54,480 total (English)
- 9,405 Youth Stickers (Spanish)
- 391 Schoolyard Banners
- 1,187 Lawn Signs

Marketing Material Examples

Posters:



Stickers:



Social Media Graphics:



Community Outreach and Community Influencer Strategy/Activities to Date

I Matter's paid media strategy goes hand-in-hand with grassroots connections and community engagement.

OBH has already begun reaching out to health care providers, schools, after-school programs, community-based organizations, including those serving immigrant and refugee families, and foundations with requests, including but not limited to:

1. Share the digital toolkit and promote the campaign via social media.
2. Invite our Marketing and Outreach Manager to speak at regular meeting(s) of their own staff, as well as at community convenings they identify as appropriate for I Matter.
3. Use a sample newsletter insert or sample blog post in communications products.
4. Encourage youth in their community to share their stories and experience with I Matter with their peers on social media as a type of micro-influencers (the first of which is the Youth Advisory Board of Colorado Children's Hospital). The posts that youth share can simply be organic, and only broadcasted to their followers, or, for those willing to participate on a larger level (and with parent/guardian permission), we can boost their content with our paid media dollars on social platforms—particularly TikTok— to amplify their voices and create organic content for the campaign.

Organizations reached out or presented to as of December 20 include:

- Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver
- Colorado Association of School Nurses
- Colorado Children's Campaign
- Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
- Colorado Health Institute
- Colorado Rural Health Center

- Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition
- Denver Foundation
- Denver Indian Family Resource Center
- Mi Casa Resource Center
- One Colorado
- Pediatric Mental Health Institute of Children's Hospital of Colorado
- Rocky Mountain Health Foundation
- San Miguel Behavioral Health Collaborative
- The Colorado Health Foundation
- Women's Foundation of Colorado
- Youth Roots

Section 3: I Matter Advisory Committee

In October, OBH and SBHN established a statewide advisory committee for the I Matter program. Members of this committee represent multiple stakeholder groups throughout Colorado. The purpose of this advisory group is to provide support for the implementation and oversight of the I Matter program, and offer recommendations related to the following:

- Clinical workflows and interventions
- Raising awareness of I Matter
- Accountability of implementation
- Recruiting of providers
- Youth input on the implementation and improvements needed
- Informing connection to ongoing care for youth in need

Since its first meeting on October 14, 2021, this group has met on a monthly basis, and will continue to do so as needed.

Table 3: I Matter Advisory Committee Members

Name	Role
Katia Morquecho	Youth Representative, Colorado Office of Behavioral Health
Paul Barnett	Child, Youth and Family Behavioral Health Director, Colorado Office of Behavioral Health
Commr. Byron Pelton	County Commissioner, Logan County
Jessica Courtney	Provider, Mile High Behavioral Healthcare
Mandy Kaisner	Provider, Solvista Health
Meg Taylor	Regional Accountable Entity (RAE) Rep - Rocky Mtn Health Plans
Scott Cypers	Dir. of Stress & Anxiety Programs, Johnson Depression Ctr, Univ of CO
Megan Miccio	Social Worker, Denver Public Schools

Section 4: Individuals Served

Pursuant to HB 21-1258, SBHN is required to ensure the provision of up to three in-person or telehealth trauma-informed mental health sessions for any youth statewide. OBH provides the funds for the first three sessions for all youth and also additional sessions if funding allows. A few youth have received funding for more than three sessions as of December 20.

The following metrics reflect information reported by SBHN through December 10, 2021 regarding individuals serviced by the I Matter program.

Definitions

- Go-Live: The date that the I Matter program launched (October 27, 2021).
- Session: A psychotherapy or evaluation service delivered via telehealth or in-person by a qualified professional therapist.

Table 4: Session Information Measures

Metric	10/27/21- 12/20/21
YTD Scheduled Appointments: Appointments scheduled since Go-Live. Scheduled appointments include those that have occurred in the past or are scheduled. Appointments scheduled includes sessions where the youth did not show up, or no-shows.	1,551
Upcoming Scheduled Appointments: Appointments that are scheduled from the reporting date up to two weeks in the future.	267
Total Youth on Waitlist: Youth on the waitlist who have received fewer than two outreach attempts to schedule an appointment or youth who have been reached but have been unable to schedule due to language needs, availability of therapists, time frame alignment, or another reason.	215

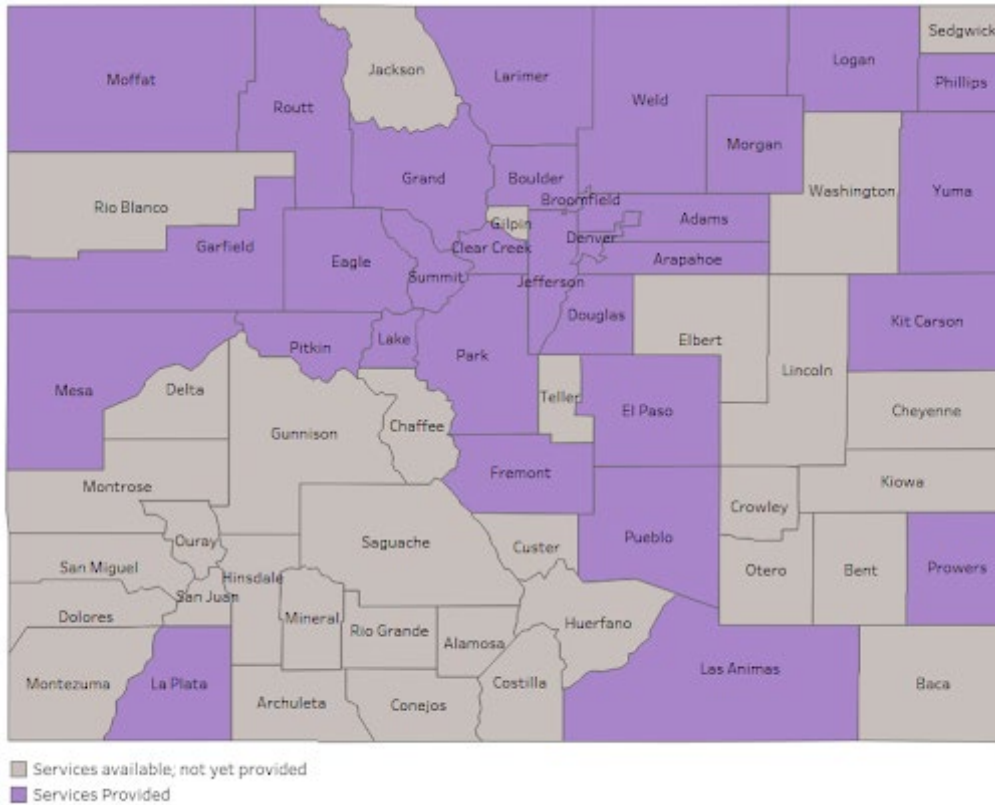
Table 5: Monthly Reported Elements

Metric	10/27/21- 12/20/21
YTD Youth Receiving 1 or more sessions: The total number of clients who have received 1 or more sessions since Go-Live. This includes all clients who may have received 2 or more sessions.	450
YTD Youth Receiving 2 or more sessions: The total number of clients who have received 2 or more sessions since Go-Live. This includes all clients who may have received 3 or more sessions.	244
YTD Youth Receiving 3 or more sessions: The total number of clients who have received 3 or more sessions since Go-Live.	121
YTD Past Scheduled Appointments: The total appointments that have been scheduled from Go-Live until the end of the previous month.	1,284
YTD Kept Appointments: The total appointments that have occurred and been attended by both the client and therapist from Go-Live until the end of the previous month.	828

Youth Demographic Information

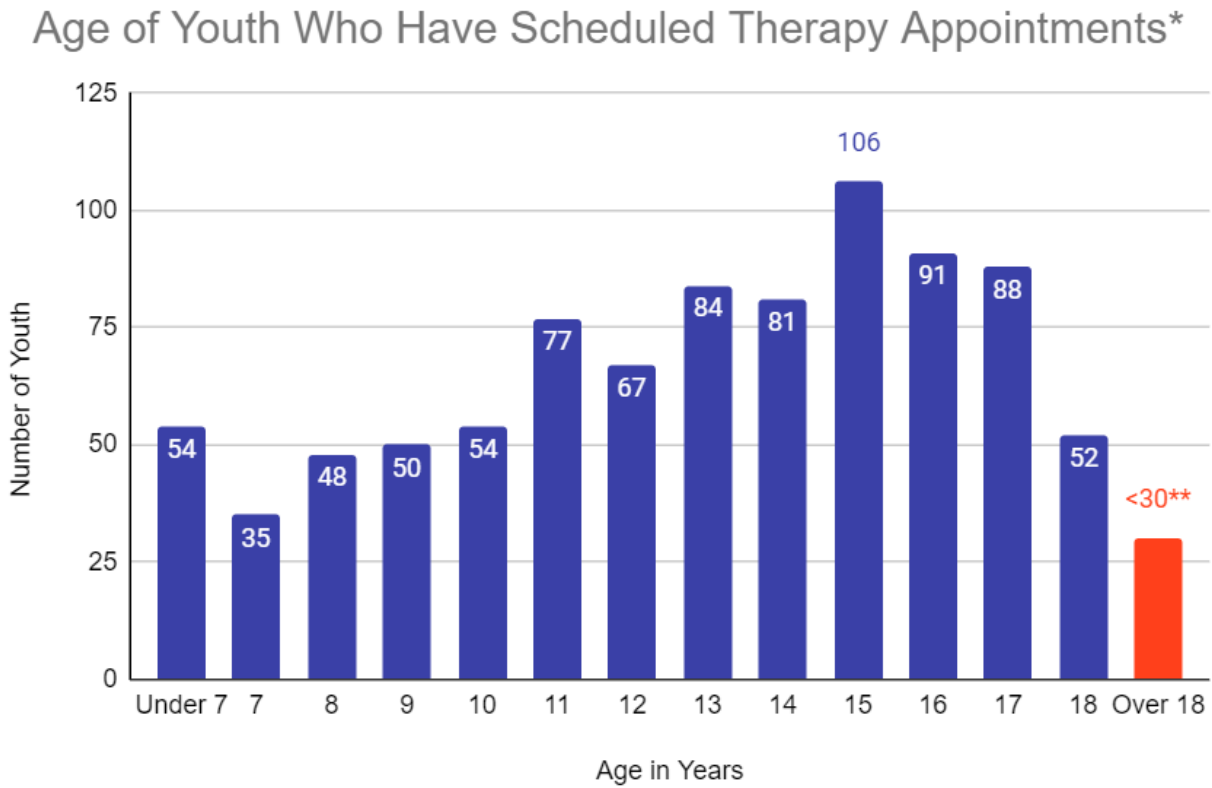
As of December 20, the I Matter program has had youth from 31 counties participate.

Figure 2. I Matter Utilization by County as of December 20, 2021



Youth or parents of youth ages 4 to 21 have scheduled appointments through I Matter. The table below breaks down the ages of the youth for scheduled appointments; some of the appointments were no-shows and some of the appointments have yet to occur, so this table is not equivalent to the ages of the youth served.

Figure 3. I Matter Utilization by Age



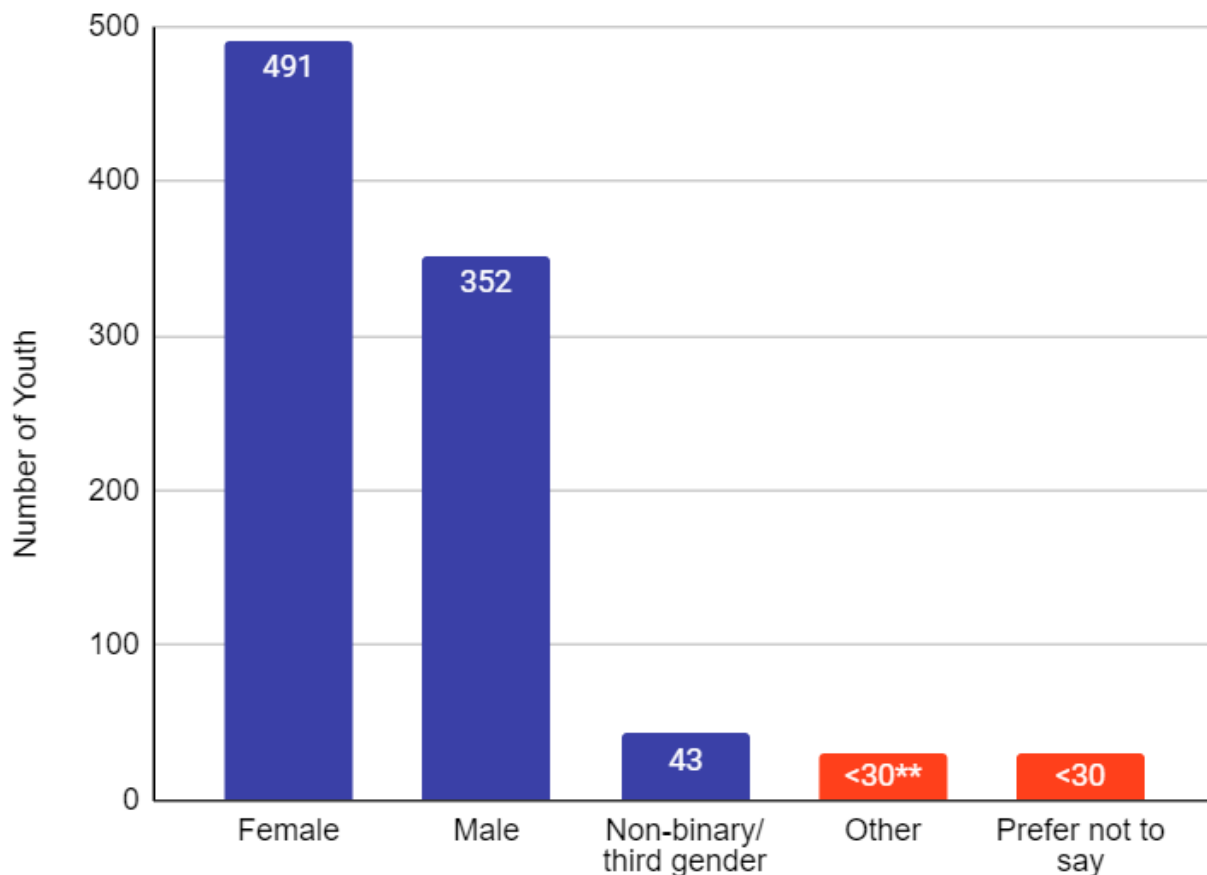
*Some youth did not show up for their therapy appointments, so this data is not consistent with the number of youth served.

**OBH suppresses counts less than 30 to protect client confidentiality. Chart displays value for these suppressed groups at 30 and is indicated in red.

The Office of Behavioral Health also has gender information available for the youth who have scheduled therapy sessions. This information is self-reported by either the youth or their parent.

Figure 4. I Matter Utilization by Gender Identification

Gender of Youth Who Have Scheduled Therapy Appointments*



*Some youth did not show up for their therapy appointments, so this data is not consistent with the number of youth served.

**OBH suppresses counts less than 30 to protect client confidentiality. Chart displays value for these suppressed groups at 30 and is indicated in red.

The intake form for the youth or their parents does not ask about race or sexual orientation, so OBH does not have that data available. However, youth are able to identify LGBTQ+ issues and racial identity as areas of priority to work on with their clinicians, and OBH intends to report additional

data about areas of focus for the youth served in our June report on I Matter. We are continually evaluating the right information to collect while keeping the intake form simple for youth and their parents or guardians.

Section 5: I Matter Clinicians

As of December 20, there are 77 licensed providers in the I Matter program. Of those, 31 are licensed professional counselors (LPC) and 19 are licensed clinical social workers (LCSW). The rest are licensed social workers, addiction counselors or specialists, licensed marriage and family therapists and licensure candidates.

Participating clinicians' specialties are comprehensive, which is vital to the clinical efficacy of the program. Sixty-four have expertise in treating depression, 54 in Trauma/PTSD, 31 in offering culturally competent therapy, 29 in LGBTQ+ issues involving mental health, 27 in gender-affirming care and 20 in racial identity.

Of the providers, most offer telehealth appointments ensuring statewide coverage for youth. Thirteen providers offer in-person sessions, 12 of whom offer virtual sessions as well.

I Matter providers are located throughout the state, and we anticipate the number of providers in some of the more populous northern, northeastern, and central Western Slope counties to grow in the coming two months (e.g., Weld, Larimer, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel). The location data, for where each I Matter provider contract is based, may be grouped as follows:

- City and County of Denver: 11
- Aurora: 3
- The rest of the Metro Denver area: 9 (including one in Evergreen)
- Colorado Springs, including Penrose: 9
- Pueblo and Pueblo West: 4
- Grand Junction: 3
- Durango: 2
- Greeley: 1
- Sterling and Roggen: 2
- Canon City and Florence: 2
- La Junta: 1
- Glenwood Springs: 1

- Akron: 1
- Peyton: 1

**Locations are based on the zip codes associated with the address for each agency and/or individual provider but aren't necessarily where the therapist or services are located.*

Conclusion

The I Matter program provided has more than 800 free therapy sessions to Colorado youth across the state. This number reflects the important, often unmet, need for behavioral health services that are free and accessible to young people.

The program has generated attention nationwide. I Matter is believed to be the first program of its kind in the country to offer free therapy statewide for any youth. The U.S. Surgeon General called out the I Matter program in a [recent advisory](#), speaking to the importance of expanding telehealth in addressing mental health challenges. At least two other states have reached out to OBH to inquire about how I Matter was developed. The Office of Behavioral Health and program partners will work in the coming months to ensure as many youth as possible access this free program and get the care they need.