

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Thinking about addiction a different way

Pennsylvania now leads the nation in drug overdoses among men ages 12 to 25, and ninth in the country among the general population. That is not acceptable, and we are going to fight to do better. Fifty-eight of 67 counties reported drug-related overdose deaths in 2014.

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services is working to address this crisis by creating Centers of Excellence. Gov. Tom Wolf's proposed budget includes \$34.2 million to open 50 Centers of Excellence across the commonwealth. Interest was overwhelming; DHS received 116 applications from providers in 45 counties.

We believe the implementation of these centers will benefit thousands of Pennsylvanians in need.

Two existing examples of health homes working in our communities are Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC and CleanSlate Centers.

SEE MAP OF INTEREST ON NEXT PAGE

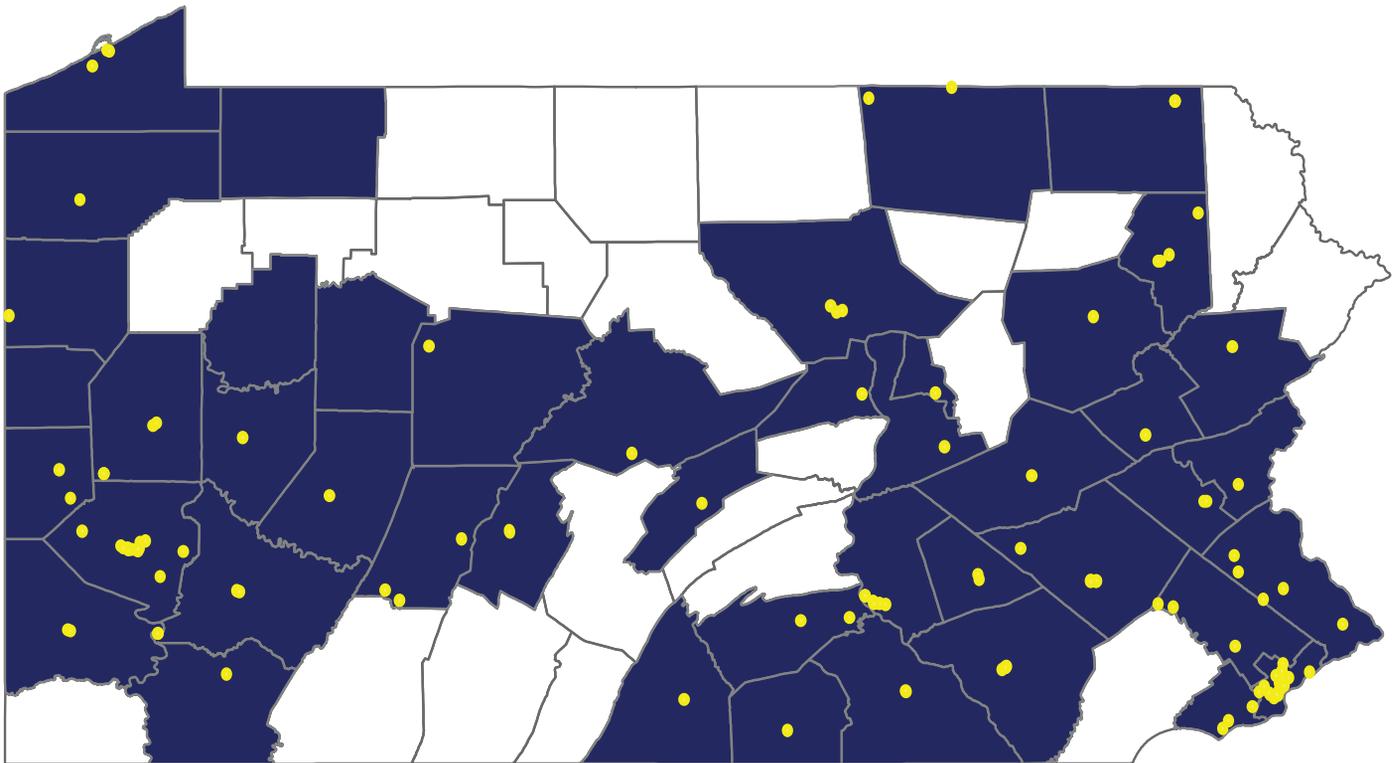
What is a Center of Excellence?

Centers of Excellence, also referred to as health homes, coordinate care for people with Medicaid. Treatment is team-based and focused on the "whole person" — with the explicit goal of integrating behavioral health with primary care. Patients of these centers:

- Have an opioid use disorder
- May have co-occurring behavioral and physical health conditions
- Need help to navigate the care system
- Need guidance to stay engaged in treatment to avoid relapsing

PREGNANCY & RECOVERY

MAGEE-WOMENS HOSPITAL OF UPMC has a Pregnancy Recovery Center with a medical "health home" model approach to strengthen families. In 2009, DHS approached western Pennsylvania Medicaid providers about establishing a pregnancy addiction program. The recovery center opened in 2014, in partnership with Community Care Behavioral Health and UPMC for You and other insurance providers. It offers outpatient, office-based buprenorphine treatment in an integrated setting, with routine obstetric services and prenatal care. In collaboration with Addiction Medicine Services of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of UPMC, patients receive support and behavioral counseling. Magee also offers inpatient methadone



conversion for pregnant women struggling with an opioid dependency, and has a Cuddler Program through which trained volunteers soothe babies who show symptoms of withdrawal. The hospital believes women are highly motivated and more active in seeking recovery during pregnancy. The philosophy is, “Focus on the pregnancy and wrap recovery around this life event.”

TREATMENT BASED ON UNIQUE NEEDS

CLEANSLATE CENTERS IN SCRANTON AND WILKES-BARRE

is another great example of how this comprehensive, whole-person approach is working. They are providing addiction services with dignity through doctor-led treatment that combines medication with effective therapy. CleanSlate Centers operate under the mindset that no one patient is the same. They tailor each treatment program based on the person’s unique needs, personality, and goals. That combined approach to treat opioid addiction uses two innovative and proven medications: buprenorphine (Suboxone) and Vivitrol.

MAPPING INTEREST

DHS received 116 applications from providers across Pennsylvania who are interested in becoming Centers of Excellence. Dots are locations of provider offices for those who applied. The counties with the most interest are:

