



OFFICE OF
Sheriff of Vanderburgh County

Headquarters

3500 North Harlan Avenue • Evansville, IN 47711
(812) 421-6203

Noah Robinson
Sheriff

Nathan Sugarman
Chief Deputy

Monday, October 30, 2023

Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction
402 W Washington Street #W353
Indianapolis, IN 46204

To the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction:

As the Vanderburgh County Sheriff, I am writing this letter of commitment to demonstrate our support of the Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare (SWBH) 2023 application to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Demonstration Site.

Through this work, SWBH plans to develop the full menu of CCBHC services in our community. The services include comprehensive community-based mental and substance use disorder services; treatment of co-occurring disorders; advancing the integration of behavioral health with physical health care; ensuring equitable access to care and reduction of healthcare disparities; consistently utilizing evidence-based practices; ensuring access to care across the lifespan; providing comprehensive care coordination; and promoting improved access to high-quality care.

We believe this program is critical to the well-being of the residents of Vanderburgh County and its surrounding communities because our citizens are in need of the comprehensive, integrated care offered by this model.

The Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) has partnered with SWBH for multiple decades through SWBH providing on-site mental health consultation in the jail setting. More recently VCSO has enjoyed a partnership with SWBH through the Jail Based Competency Restoration program as well as other services provided on-site through Recovery Works programs. In the past year, VCSO has implemented a co-response with SWBH mobile crisis team as the law enforcement partner within Vanderburgh County. In addition, SWBH has provided on-site training as well as essential components to the local CIT training of which VCSO deputies attend.



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In our commitment to this endeavor, VCSO will offer continued collaborative training related to mental health and substance use crisis, and continued support of the mobile crisis team through co-response. VCSO will offer as part of this partnership:

- On-site safety assessments by VCSO Deputies prior to deployment of SWBH mobile crisis team staff
- Data Sharing
- Training
- Secure space within the jail for on-site consultations with inmates with mental health and/or substance use concerns.

For our role as SWBH's partners, we will build upon our history of collaboration, during which we have jointly organized CIT trainings for more than a decade, collaborated to assure mental health care is accessible in the jail, as well as creating the current successful mobile crisis model with SWBH and VCSO working as a team.

We appreciate this opportunity to collaborate with SWBH in this service transformation and we highly recommend them for receipt of this funding. SWBH is a key member of our continuum and enhancement of their services will be an integral part of continuing to promote equitable access to high-quality care to our community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or VCSO's support of SWBH, please reach out to me at my contact information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah Robinson".

Noah Robinson

Vanderburgh County Sheriff

nrobinson@vanderburghsheriff.org