

SUPPORT ACT

expand access to treatment

In the 2018 legislative session Maryland successfully passed SB 704/HB 1652 allowing providers to use telehealth for psychiatrists in Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) programs - a major win in maintaining this critical evidence-based program in the face of a severe psychiatric shortage. In follow up to this milestone legislation, CBH is looking at expanding the use of advance nurse prescribers to expand access to ACT.

26.8%

Reduction in hospital
ED admissions post
ACT enrollment

Did you know?

- ACT is a team intervention targeting high-host healthcare users.
- The State regulates this evidence-based program in Maryland.
- Providers are paid a monthly case rate fee per patient.
- The psychiatric shortage limits providers' ability to expand ACT capacity. Allowing advance nurse prescribers will improve access.

A University of Maryland study, *highlighted on MDH's Innovations website*, identified significant cost savings after ACT interventions

- ✓ **\$20,000** reduction in inpatient hospitalization costs
- ✓ **26.8%** increase in diversion from hospital EDs
- ✓ **6.1** reduction of hospital admissions per participant
- ✓ **\$2,805** reduction in ED costs
- ✓ **\$224,250** total cost savings across study participants

50%

Only 50% of Maryland jurisdictions are home to an ACT program. Of those, half are at risk of losing ACT status because of workforce issues. Support ACT in Maryland today by allowing nurses to participate in ACT via telehealth.

