

December 2021

Blues Brief



For behavioral health providers

Urgent request: Contact us if you can offer behavioral health appointments for members affected by the Oxford High School tragedy

In the wake of the tragedy at Oxford High School, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network want to make sure that there are behavioral health appointments available for any members who urgently need care.

What we're asking

We ask that our participating behavioral health professionals dedicate some time to see Blue Cross and BCN members who have been affected by this tragedy. This means that you'd make appointments available for these members on an urgent basis over the next few weeks — either face to face or via telemedicine.

We can use your help whether you're located close to Oxford, Michigan, or farther away.

Action to take

If you're able to accommodate additional appointments and see these members within a day or two of a request, email William Beecroft, M.D., at WBeecroft@bcbsm.com with the following information:

- The names, NPIs and tax IDs of your staff who will see these members
- The contact information for these staff so we can do a "warm handoff" of our members
- The number of members you might be able to accommodate in the next two or three weeks
- The ages of the patients you can see
- The general times that appointments might be available

Thank you

If you'll agree to accommodate one or more patients who have urgent needs, we'd be grateful for your help.

We expect that the surge of patients will be most acute in the next two or three weeks. It's this acute stage we're most concerned about. The acute need may taper off after that, and you'll follow your usual triage procedure to prioritize patients who request appointments. We do, however, expect that more members will ask for care over the next year.

We appreciate your help in this time of crisis.