



2026-2029 Pinellas Behavioral Health Receiving (BHRS) & Behavioral Health Transportation Plans Edits

Both plans are standing agenda items of the Pinellas Acute Care Committee to allow for ongoing updates. In February 2025, the Pinellas Acute Care Committee formed a subcommittee to conduct a comprehensive review. The Pinellas BHRS & Subcommittee met from April through September and provided regular updates to the Pinellas Acute Care Committee. Recommendations were reviewed monthly, with an intensive review period from September through December. The Pinellas Acute Care Committee approved the plans on December 16, 2025.

Behavioral Health Receiving System (BHRS) Plan Updates

Structure and Organization

- The BHRS plan was reorganized by major service categories, including Acute Care, Crisis Intervention (988, Mobile Crisis Response Teams, Law Enforcement Response Teams), Respite, and Outpatient Treatment.

Provider and Content Updates

- All providers listed in the BHRS plan were contacted for updates; revisions were incorporated as submitted.
- Evidence-Informed Practices elements were integrated into the provider descriptions.

Section-Specific Revisions

- **CAM Section** – reviewed by Dr. Barnett.
- **Referrals & Linkages (post-Acute Care)** – reviewed by Eleos.
- **Non-Acute Care Section** – reviewed and consolidated for clarity.
- **Recovery-Oriented and Peer-Involved Approaches** – reviewed by NAMI Pinellas.
- **Section A. Review Effectiveness of BHRS Plan** – updated to align evaluation criteria with *Guidance Document 27: Centralized Receiving Systems*.
- **Enhancement of Access to Services Beyond Current Limitations and Method to Address Deficiencies** – reviewed with no changes required.

Attachments

- **Attachment A** was sent to all providers for confirmation and updated accordingly.



Behavioral Health Transportation Plan Updates

Definitions and Statutory Alignment

- Updated definitions for CAM, Mental Illness, Designated Receiving Facility, and Pinellas Matters.
- Reviewed and revised references to Florida Statutes Chapters 394 and 397 throughout the plan.
 - Expanded Voluntary Assessment and Stabilization section to include updated Florida Statute 394 language.
 - Section D. Emergency Substance Use Examination or Involuntary Marchman Act updated and aligned with Statutes 397.
 - Updated Involuntary Assessment and Stabilization language for accuracy and compliance.

Provider and Naming Updates

- Updated all references from Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services (PEMHS) to Eleos, formerly PEMHS.
- Updated 211 Tampa Bay Cares to First Contact throughout the document.
- CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) years were revised.

Section Enhancements and Additions

- Choice Section added under *C. Emergency Mental Health Examination or Involuntary Baker Act*.
- New subsections added for Special Populations, including:
 - Veterans
 - Adults age 65+
 - Youth
- Mobile Crisis Response Teams and Diversion section reviewed and updated by Eleos.
- Added a Medical Emergency Department Transfers section.
- Section H. Continuing Treatment Providers updated.

Attachments

- **Attachment A** – Pinellas County Acute Care Providers: reviewed and updated.
- **Attachment B** – Medical Exclusion and Eligibility Criteria for Non-Medical Designated Receiving Facilities: reviewed and updated by Eleos and Windmoor.
- **Attachment C** – Overflow Plan: reviewed and updated by Eleos.
- **Attachment D** – Behavioral Health Acute Care Patient Flow / COVID-19: reviewed and updated.

