



**Senate Finance Committee  
February 14, 2023**

**Senate Bill 362  
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics – Established  
Support**

NCADD-Maryland supports Senate Bill 362. Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) are specially-designated, sustainably-financed, 24/7 clinics that provide a comprehensive range of integrated, evidence-based mental health and substance use services, including 24/7 crisis response and medication assisted treatment (MAT).

In states around the country that have instituted CCBHCs, they have shown an increase in access to care, reductions in emergency department and inpatient utilization, higher engagement post discharge from hospitals, improved utilization of MAT for opioid use disorders, and improved integration with physical care. With increases in suicides and overdose deaths in Maryland, creating these kinds of comprehensive programs that utilize teams of professional and paraprofessional staff to provide holistic services is a necessary tool for our families and communities.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 362.

*The Maryland Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-Maryland) is a statewide organization that works to influence public and private policies on addiction, treatment, and recovery, reduce the stigma associated with the disease, and improve the understanding of addictions and the recovery process. We advocate for and with individuals and families who are affected by alcoholism and drug addiction.*

