

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 13, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: H.R.1767 and S.824, the Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Expansion Act**

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leaders McCarthy, McConnell, and Schumer:

As you know, on June 30, 2019, funding for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) is set to expire in Oregon, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. As co-chairs of the Mental Health Caucus, we write to urge immediate consideration of H.R.1767 and S.824, the Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Expansion Act, to reauthorize funding for this critical program.

Since being authorized in 2014, CCBHCs in the eight participating states have dramatically increased access to a range of mental health and addiction services for at-risk individuals. Modeled after federally qualified health centers, CCHBCs, provide patients with 24-hour access to crisis services, immediate screenings, risk assessments, and diagnoses. CCHBCs also partner with emergency rooms, law enforcement, and veterans' organizations to provide outpatient mental healthcare and substance abuse treatment.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, last year only 41% of adults in the United States with a mental health condition received mental health services and just over half of children with a mental health condition received mental health services. To address this grave issue, Congress must take swift action to improve accessibility to these vital services. By reauthorizing funding for CCBHCs, we will take the important step of renewing a program that has yielded measurable results.

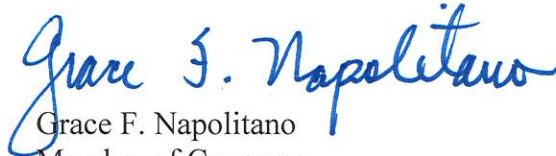
It is imperative that Congress acts now and in a bipartisan manner to ensure that the thousands of Americans who rely on the services offered by CCHBCs have continued access to treatment.

We urge expeditious consideration of the Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Expansion Act and thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Katko'.

John Katko  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Mental Health Caucus

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Grace F. Napolitano'.

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Mental Health Caucus