



FY22 Budget Presentation

Kimberly G. Boswell, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Mental Health

January 28, 2021

Overview

- COVID-19 Impact on Mental Health
- Alabama Crisis System of Care expansion
- School-Based Mental Health expansion
- Stabilizing Human Infrastructure (Workforce)
- Updates: HCBS, CWP
- Future Challenges and Opportunities

COVID-19

COVID-19 Impact on Mental Health

- **Rapid increase in individuals experiencing mental health symptoms for the first time**
 - Normal grief and stress turning into prolonged grief and major depression
 - Symptoms of PTSD
- **Those with mental health conditions see their symptoms worsen**
 - Youth age 11-17 have been more likely than any other age group to score for moderate to severe symptoms of anxiety and depression.
 - 40% of those responding to a CDC survey indicated they were experiencing at least one adverse mental or behavioral health symptom

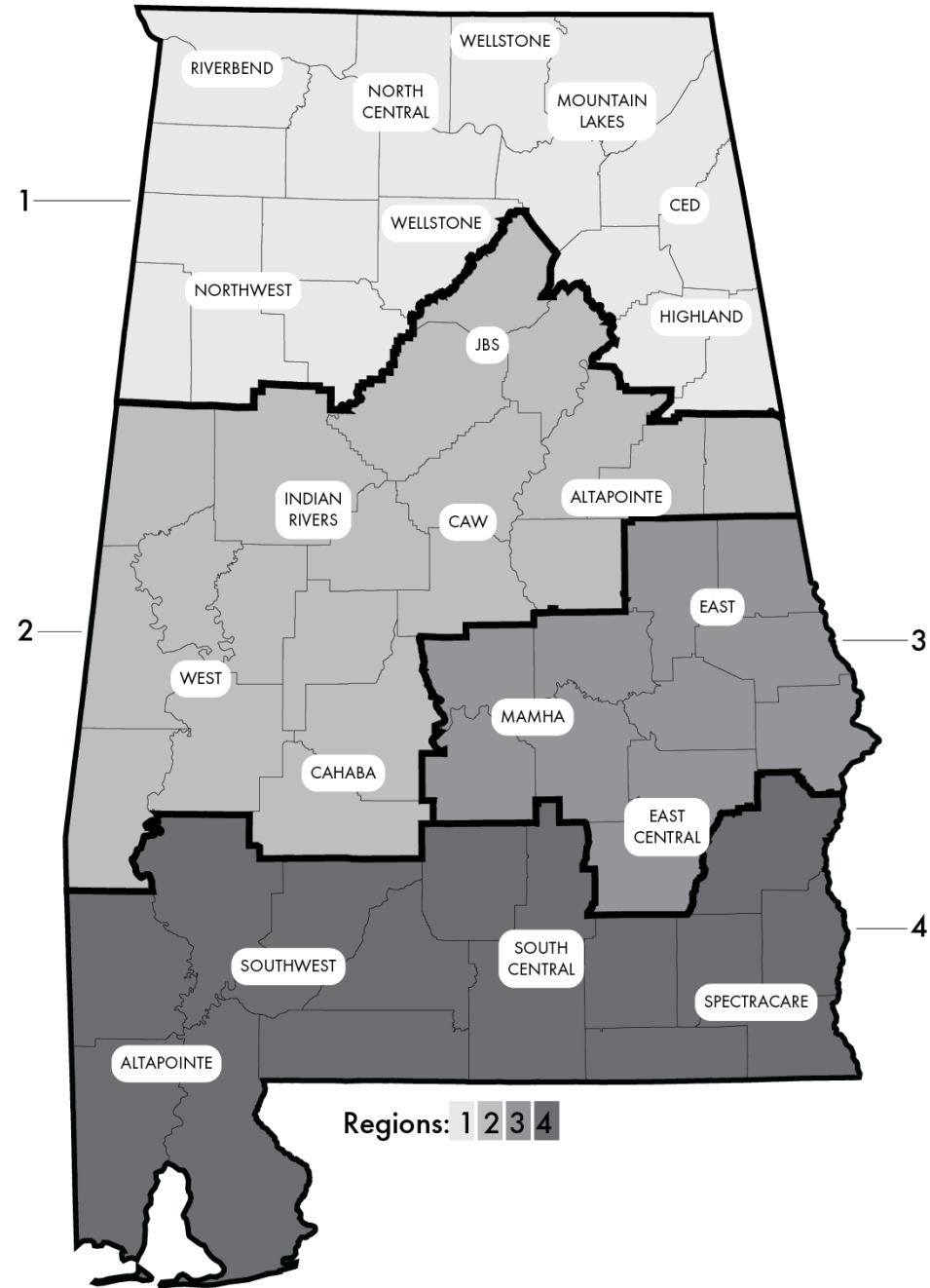
Crisis Diversion Centers | Rural Crisis Care | Stepping Up Initiative

Reduce	Reduce hospital emergency department admissions and jail bookings due to behavioral health crisis.
Promote	Promote integrated services, regardless of diagnosis (mental health, substance use disorder or co-occurring intellectual disability)
Decrease	Decrease the rates of referral to expensive and restrictive inpatient care with extended lengths of stay.
Develop	Develop a regional approach to crisis care through planning and collaboration

Alabama Crisis System of Care

Crisis Diversion Centers
Rural Crisis Care
Stepping Up Initiative

Alabama Crisis System of Care



Crisis Diversion Center

Core Components of the Diversion Center

- 24/7/365 Access, Assessment, Linkage
- Temporary Observation (23 hours)
- Extended Observation (<7 days)
- Collaboration with specialty providers
 - Intellectual/Developmental Disability, Deaf Services, Substance Use Disorder

Crisis Diversion Center

FY21 Update:
RFP Awards

WellStone Behavioral Health (Cullman)

- Contracts: Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center, Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama, Mountain Lakes Behavioral Healthcare, and CED Mental Health Center

AltaPointe Health

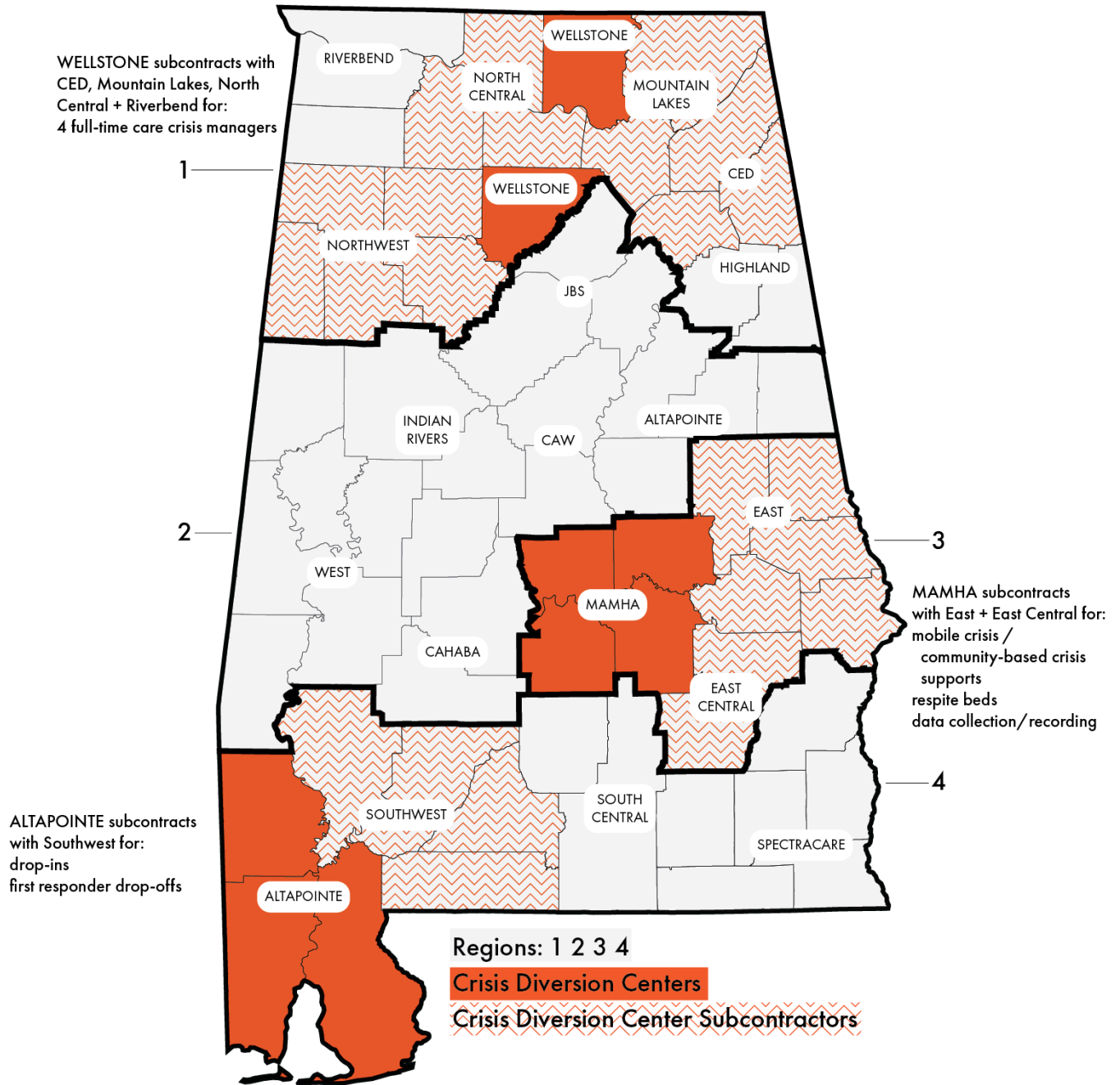
- Contract: Southwest Alabama Mental Health

Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority

- Contracts: East Alabama Mental Health and East Central Mental Health Center

Crisis Diversion Center

FY21 Update: RFP Awards and Counties Served



Crisis Diversion Center

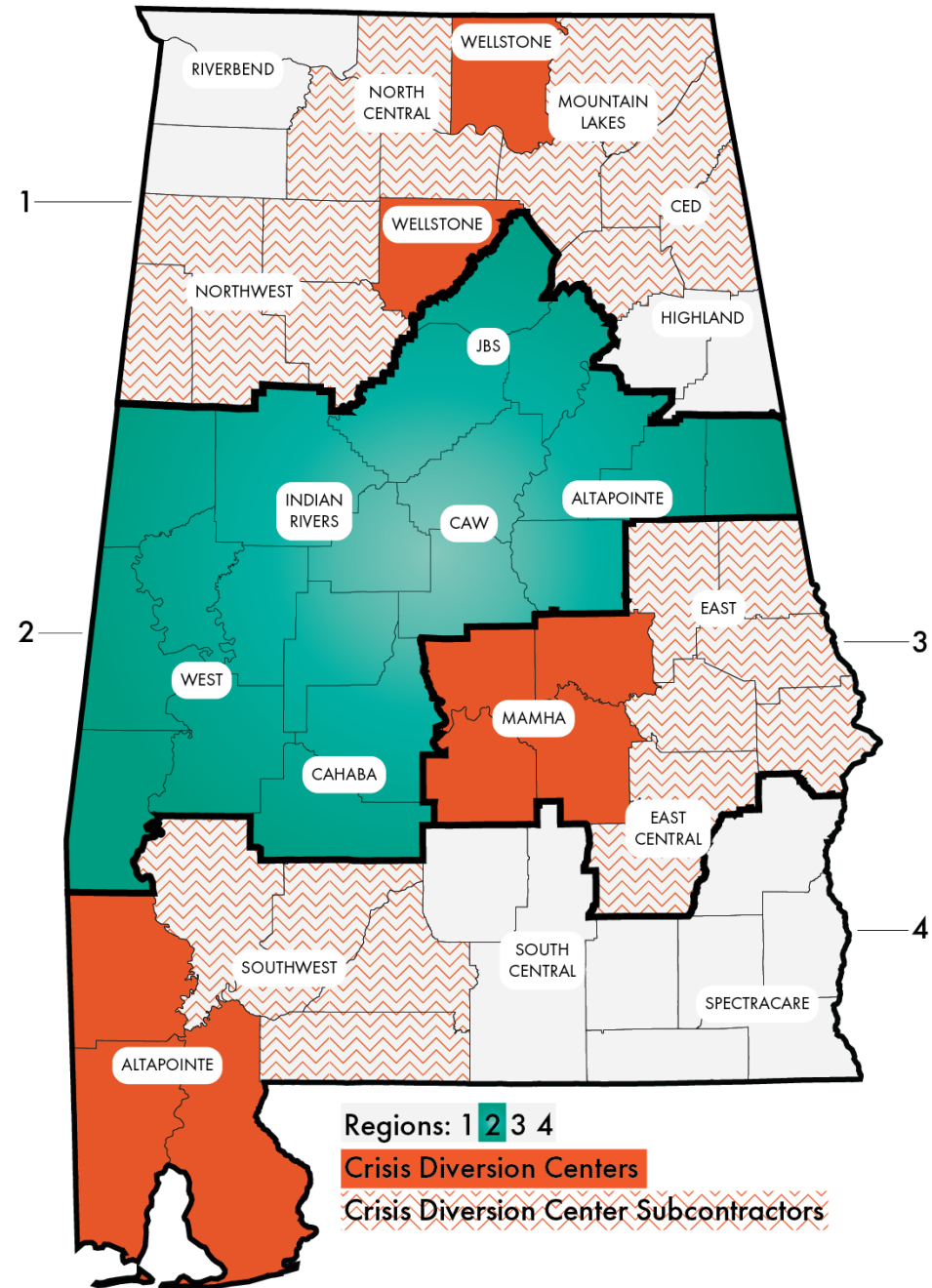
**FY22 Request:
\$6 million
General Fund**

Request: One New Crisis Diversion Center Located in Region 2

- Five Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) are currently eligible to respond to the agency's RFP
- Respondents must be able to:
 - Score high enough to demonstrate capacity to stand up a Crisis Diversion Center
 - Incorporate a regional approach

Crisis Diversion Center

FY22 Request:
One New Crisis
Diversion Center
(Located in Region 2)



Goals aligned with overarching goals of crisis care:

Decrease

Decrease admissions to hospital emergency departments

Reduce

Reduce burden on law enforcement and jails

Improve

Improve access “right care, right time, right place”

Rural Crisis Care

Mobile Crisis

- Expanded with 24/7/365 Access

Co-Response

- With law enforcement and emergency medical services
- Both on-site & virtual to maximize availability

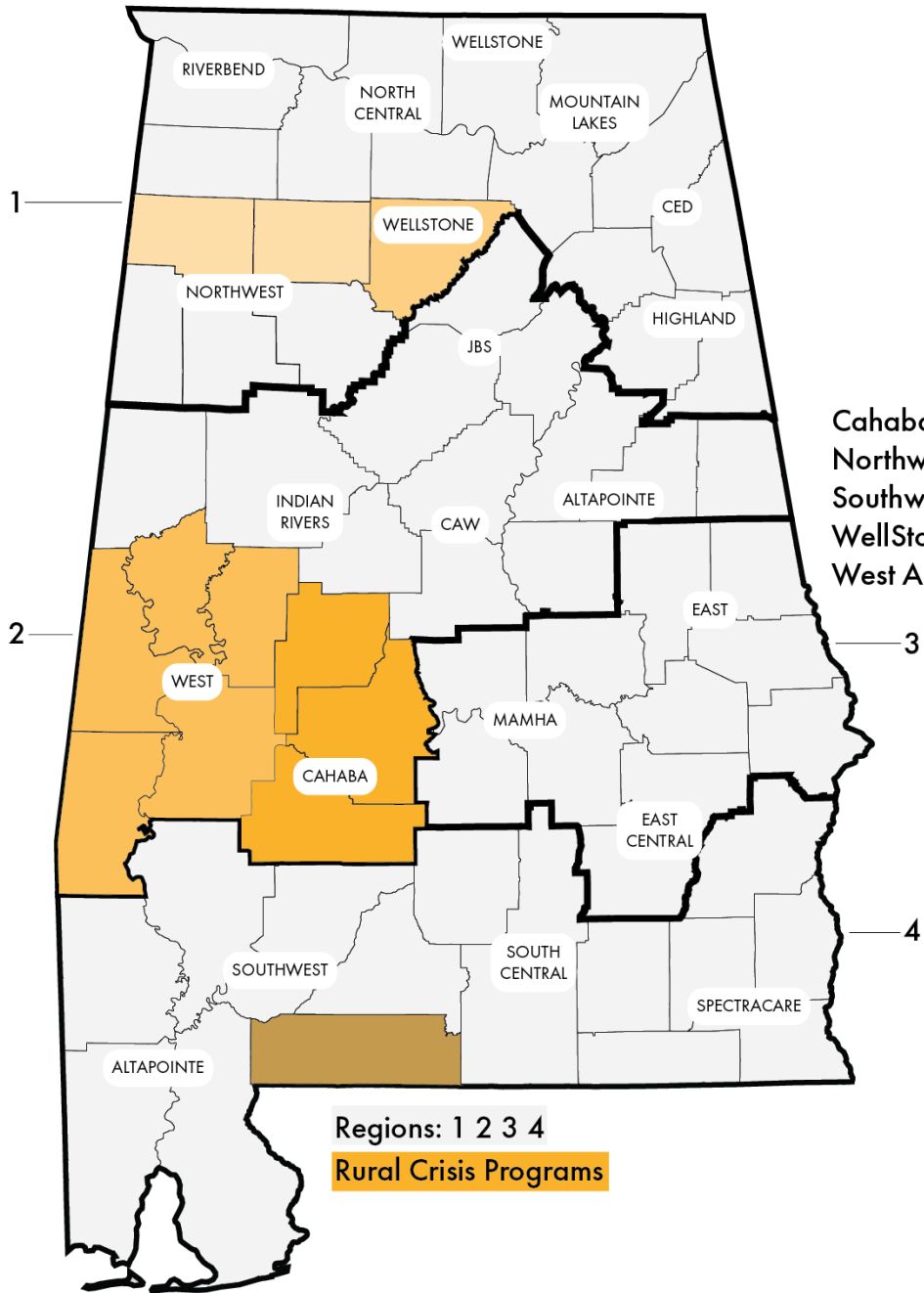
Crisis Peer Support

- Promotes recovery-oriented crisis care

Crisis Case Management

- Targeting high-utilizers to reduce future crisis episodes

Rural Crisis Care



Cahaba Center for Mental Health
 Northwest AL Mental Health Center
 Southwest AL Mental Health Center
 WellStone Behavioral Health
 West AL Mental Health Center

Rural Crisis Care

FY21 Update:
 Current Rural
 Crisis Programs

Request: \$2.5 million for 5 existing programs

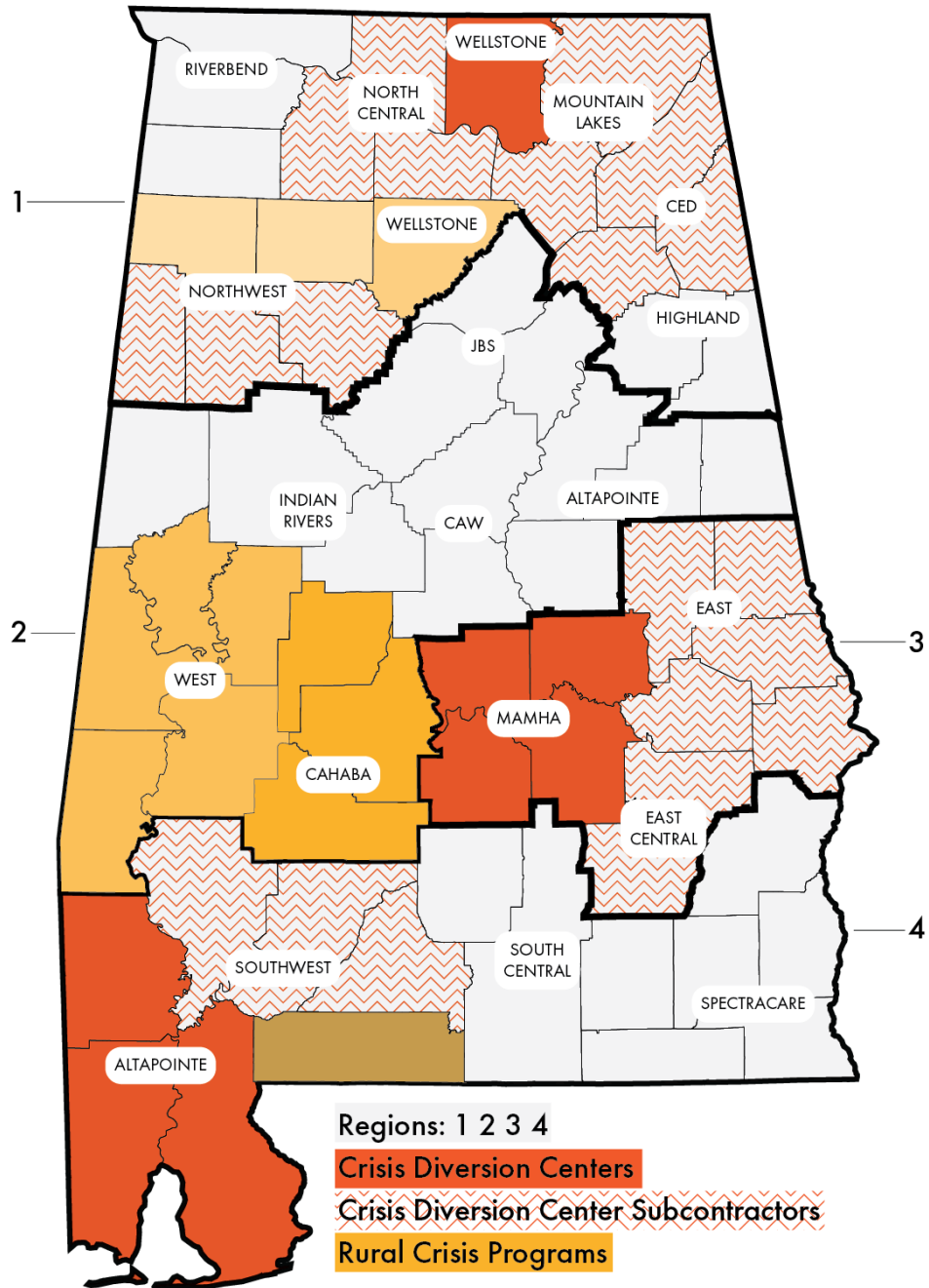
- Continuation funding for 5 programs funded through FY21 supplemental appropriation

Request: \$2.5 million for 5 new programs

- 5 new Rural Crisis Care programs selected through an RFP process

Rural Crisis Care

**FY22 Request:
\$5 million
General Fund**



Crisis Diversion Centers and Rural Crisis Care

FY22 Request:
Funding for 10 Total Rural Crisis Programs

DD/ID
Enhanced
Behavioral
Support
Program

FY22 Request:
\$2.2 million
General Fund

Request: Three New Crisis Homes

- One (1) four-bed crisis respite home
- Two (2) three-bed crisis homes for individuals with an intellectual disability and co-occurring behavioral health issue
- Reliable studies indicate that 33-40% of individuals with intellectual disabilities have a co-occurring behavioral health issue
- Current incident management data indicates there are 230-300 behavioral related episodes that could be addressed through enhanced behavioral services

Substance Use Co-occurring

**FY22 Request:
\$1 million
General Fund**

Request: Provide specialized mental health services to decrease the number of co-occurring high utilizers

- Individuals with co-occurring disorders are persons who have one or more mental disorders, *but do not meet the criteria for serious mental illness or a serious emotional disturbance*, and have one or more substance use disorders
- Examples of conditions that may not meet the criteria for 'serious' mental illness
 - Mild to moderate depression
 - Moderate to severe anxiety

Stepping Up Alabama Initiative

FY19-FY21 New Grantees and Counties

Community Mental Health Centers	FY19-20 Counties Added	FY21 Counties Added
AltaPointe Health	Mobile	Talladega Washington Baldwin
Central Alabama Wellness	Shelby	
East Alabama Mental Health Center	Chambers	Tallapoosa Russell
Indian Rivers Behavioral Health	Tuscaloosa	
JBS Mental Health Authority		Jefferson
Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama	Limestone Morgan	Lawrence
Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority		Montgomery
SpectraCare		Geneva Houston Dale
WellStone Behavioral Health	Cullman Madison	
West Alabama Mental Health Center	Marengo	

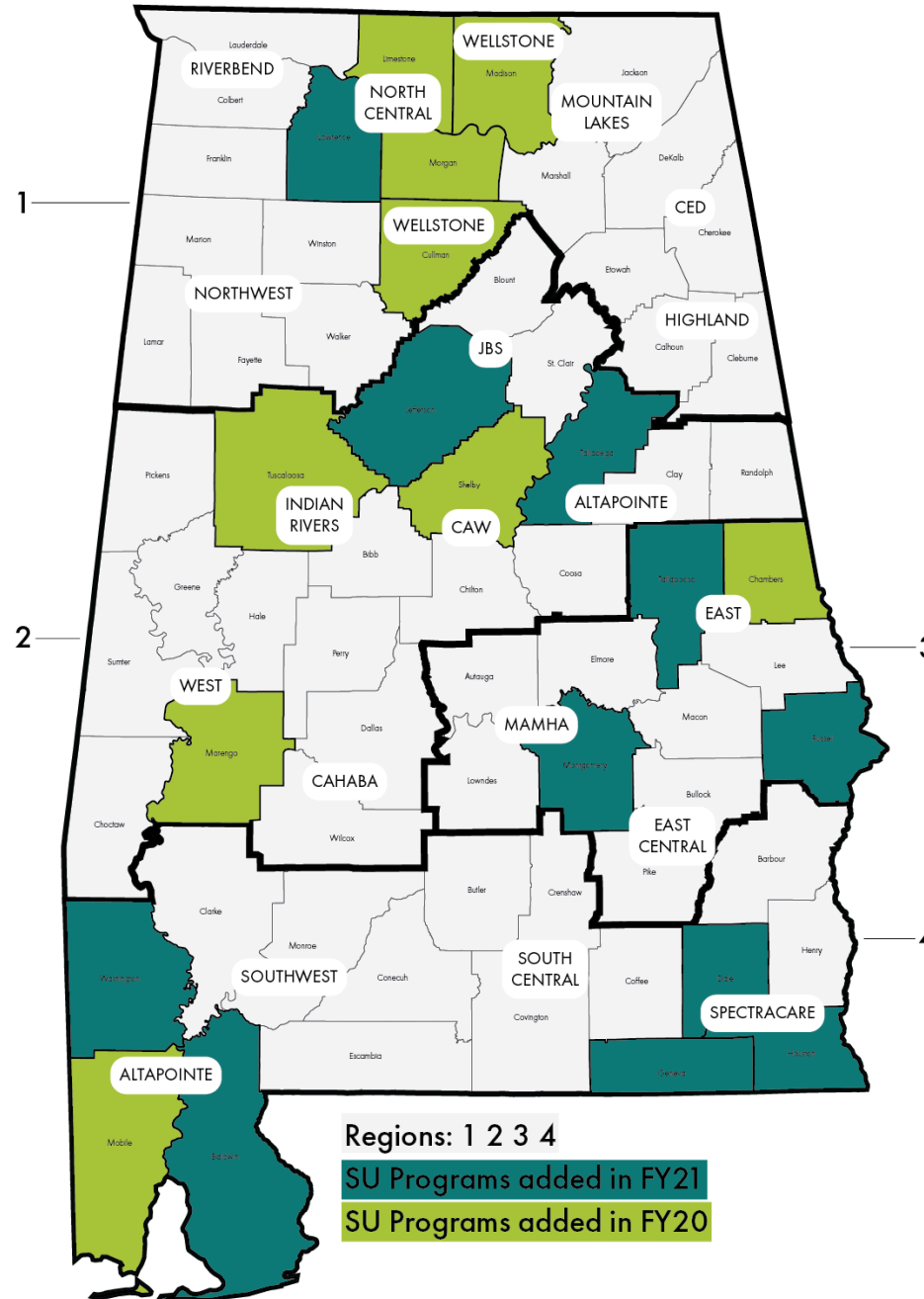
Stepping Up Alabama Initiative

**FY22 Request:
\$1.8 million
General Fund**

Request: Fund remaining 28 counties to complete statewide implementation

- Stepping Up provides case management services to individuals in jails and hospital emergency departments
- Stepping Up is a ground-up approach engaging local communities to identify needs
- Alabama is one of five states working to expand statewide
- <https://mh.alabama.gov/stepping-up-alabama/>

Stepping Up Alabama Initiative



School-Based Mental Health

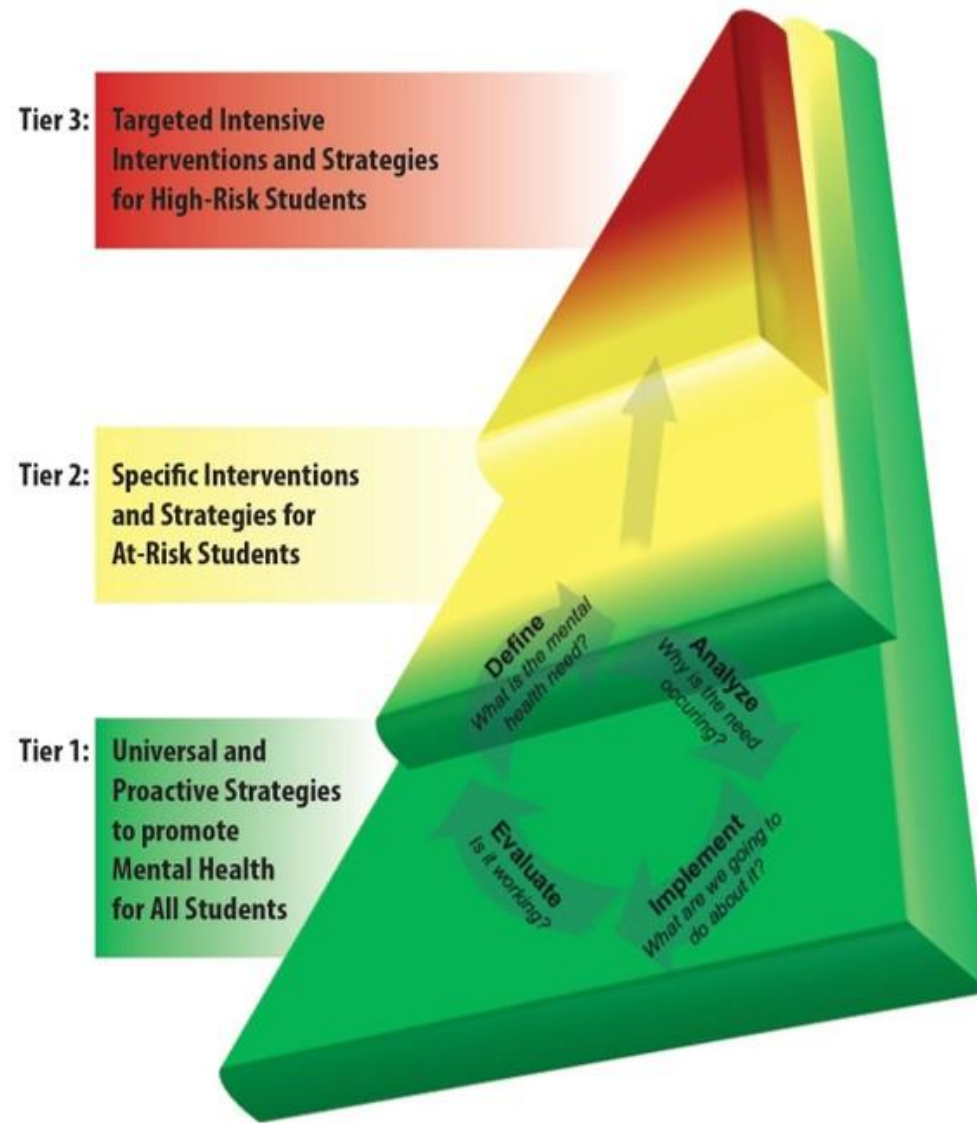
FY21 Update: Tiered Services

The Best Investment in Prevention and Early Intervention

- 50% of mental illness begins by age 14 and 75% by age 24
- Evidence-based practice in collaboration with the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)
- ADMH provides Tier 3 services in partnership with community mental health centers
- ALSDE provides Tier 2 services in partnership with local education agencies (LEAs)
- ADMH is producing 10 training modules to certify ALSDE Mental Health Service Coordinators.
 - ADMH has offered the modules virtually since December 2020

School-Based Mental Health

FY21 Update: Tiered Services



Wheeler, D. (2017). Student Support Services Project. Florida Department of Education and the University of South Florida.

School-Based Mental Health

FY21 Update:
71 Active LEAs

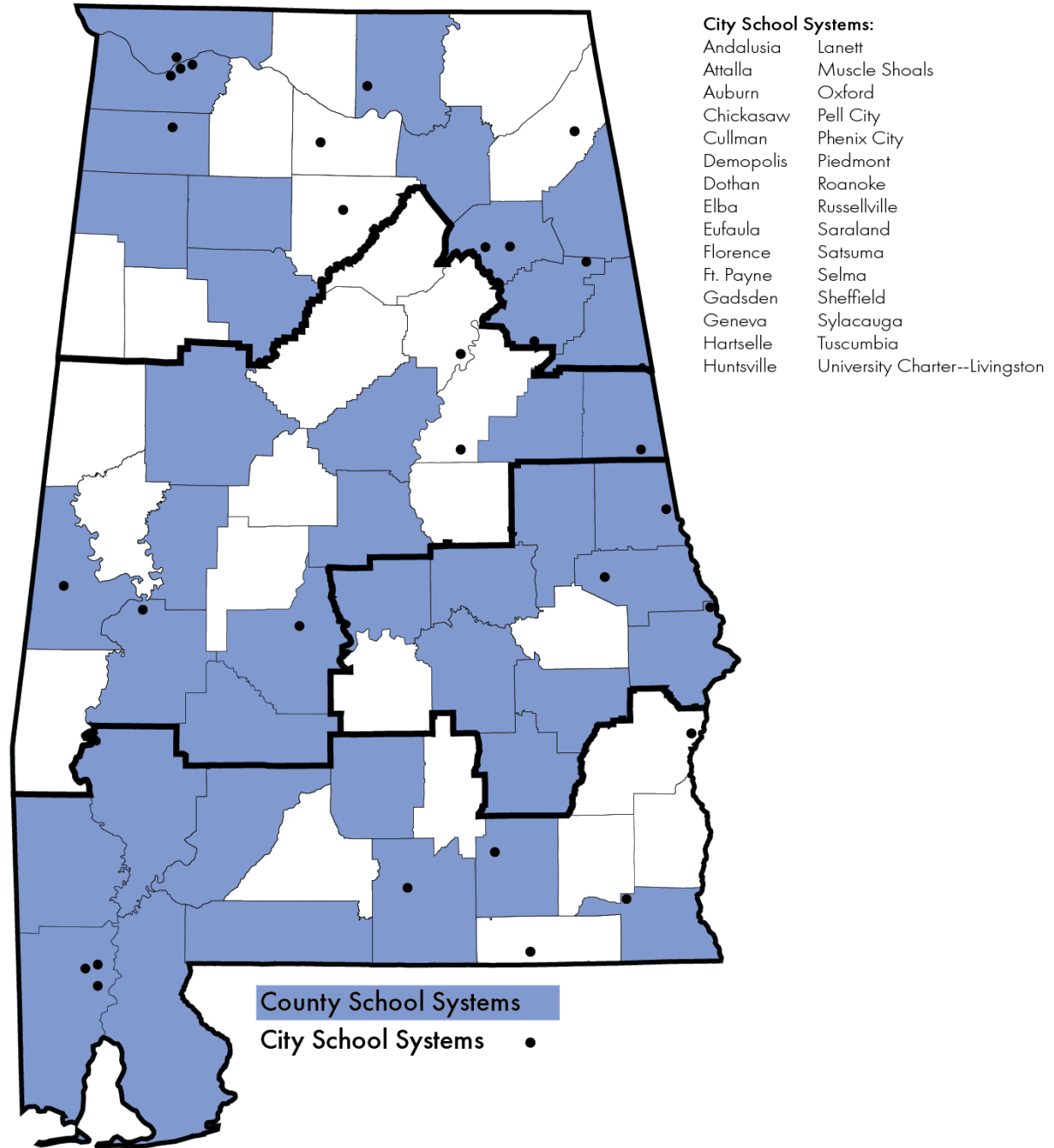
CMHC	LEA	CMHC	LEA	CMHC	LEA	
AltaPointe:	Baldwin County	East Central:	Bullock County	South Central:	Andalusia City	
	Chickasaw City		Pike County		Butler County	
	Clay County	Highlands:	Calhoun County		Coffee County	
	Mobile County		Cleburne County		Covington County	
	Randolph County		Oxford City		Elba City	
	Roanoke City		Piedmont City		Southwest:	Clarke County
	Saraland City	Indian Rivers:	Tuscaloosa County			Escambia County
	Satsuma City		JBS: Pell City			Monroe County
	Sylacauga City	Montgomery:	Autauga County		SpectraCare:	Dothan City
	Washington County		Elmore County			Eufaula City
Cahaba:	Dallas County	Montgomery County	Geneva City			
	Selma City	Mountain Lakes:	Marshall County	Houston County		
	Wilcox County		North Central:	Hartselle City		
CED:	Attalla City	Northwest:	Marion County	WellStone:	Cullman City	
	Cherokee County		Walker County		Huntsville City	
	Etowah County		Winston County		Madison County	
	Ft. Payne City	Riverbend:	Colbert County	West AL:	Demopolis City	
	Gadsden City		Florence City		Marengo County	
	Central AL Wellness:		Chilton County		Franklin County	Sumter County
Shelby County			Lauderdale County		Livingston City	
East AL:	Auburn City	Muscle Shoals City	Hale County			
	Chambers County	Russellville City				
	Lanett City	Sheffield City				
	Lee County	Tuscumbia City				
	Phenix City					
	Russell County					
	Tallapoosa County					

School-Based Mental Health

FY21 Update:
15 New LEAs

Community Mental Health Center	LEA
AltaPointe	Talladega County
Cahaba	Perry County
CED	DeKalb County
East Alabama	Alexander City
East Central Alabama	Troy City
Highlands	Anniston City
JBS	Blount County
MAMHA	Lowndes County
North Central	Decatur City
Northwest	Lamar County
Riverbend	<i>expansion with</i> Florence City
South Central	Crenshaw County
SpectraCare	Henry County
SpectraCare	Dale County
West Alabama	Hale County

School-Based Mental Health



School-Based Mental Health

FY21 Update:
55 Non-Active LEAs

CMHC	LEA	CMHC	LEA
AltaPointe	Talladega City, Coosa County, Gulf Shores City	MAMHA	Tallassee City
Cahaba	Perry County	Mountain Lakes	Jackson County, Scottsboro City, Albertville City, Arab City, Boaz City, Guntersville City
Central AL Wellness	Alabaster City, Pelham City	North Central	Athens City, Lawrence County, Morgan County, Limestone County
East AL	Tallassee City, Opelika City	Northwest	Winfield City, Haleyville City, Jasper City, Fayette County
East Central	Macon County	South Central	Opp City
Highlands	Jacksonville City	Southwest	Thomasville City, Conecuh County, Brewton City
Indian Rivers	Bibb County, Tuscaloosa City Pickens County	SpectraCare	Barbour County, Geneva County, Daleville City, Ozark City
JBS	Jefferson County, Hoover City, Mountain Brook City, Vestavia Hills City, Homewood City, Bessemer City, Birmingham City, Fairfield City, Leeds City, Midfield City, Tarrant City, St. Clair County, Oneonta City, Trussville City	WellStone	Cullman County, Madison City
		West AL	Greene County, Choctaw County, Linden City

School-Based Mental Health

**FY22 Request:
\$750,000
Education Trust Fund**

Request: Add 15 new LEAs to School-Based Mental Health Collaborative

- Partner with ALSDE to provide resources and training to address COVID-19 impact on student and teacher mental health

The Human Infrastructure Crisis (Workforce)

Stability in staffing over time is the cornerstone of treatment consistency and therapeutic relationships

- Alabama is last in the nation in the ratio of behavioral healthcare workforce to citizens (1:1200)
- Alabama ranks 50th in behavioral health workforce availability
- People with an intellectual disability (ID) rely on Direct Service Providers (DSP) for daily support that enables them to live in our communities
- Unfortunately, finding, keeping and training this workforce has reached crisis levels:
 - Average annual DSP turnover rates of 45 percent (range 18-76%)
 - National average DSP wages of \$10.72 per hour which is below the federal poverty level for a family of four
 - Half of DSPs rely on government-funded and means-tested benefits
 - Most DSPs work two or three jobs

Stabilizing Human Infrastructure (Workforce)

FY22 Request:
\$15.2 million
General Fund
\$1.2 million
Education Trust Fund

- **SA Services** – 6% residential and 3% outpatient services (\$2.27M GF)
- **MH Services** – 6% residential and 3% outpatient services (\$6.69M GF)
- **DD Services** – 6% residential and 8.7% all other waiver services (\$6.31M GF)
 - Nurse Delegation Program – \$4 a day to \$8 a day (\$1.2M ETF)
 - DD Services combined total \$7.52M

Implementation of Home and Community-based Settings Rule

- Due to COVID-19, the HCBS deadline was extended from March 2022 to March 2023
- ADMH and AMA agreed to proceed with the compliance work
- Accomplishments:
 - Deconflicted case management
 - Advocacy and Education www.hcbsalabama.org
 - Validation, monitoring and reporting complete
 - Remediation/transition plans are approved for all but 10 waiver settings

New Waiver Program

- The new waiver is called the Community Waiver Program (CWP)
- Due to federal administration changes, CMS postponed the waiver effective date from February 1 to March 1, 2021

Developmental
Disabilities

FY21 Update

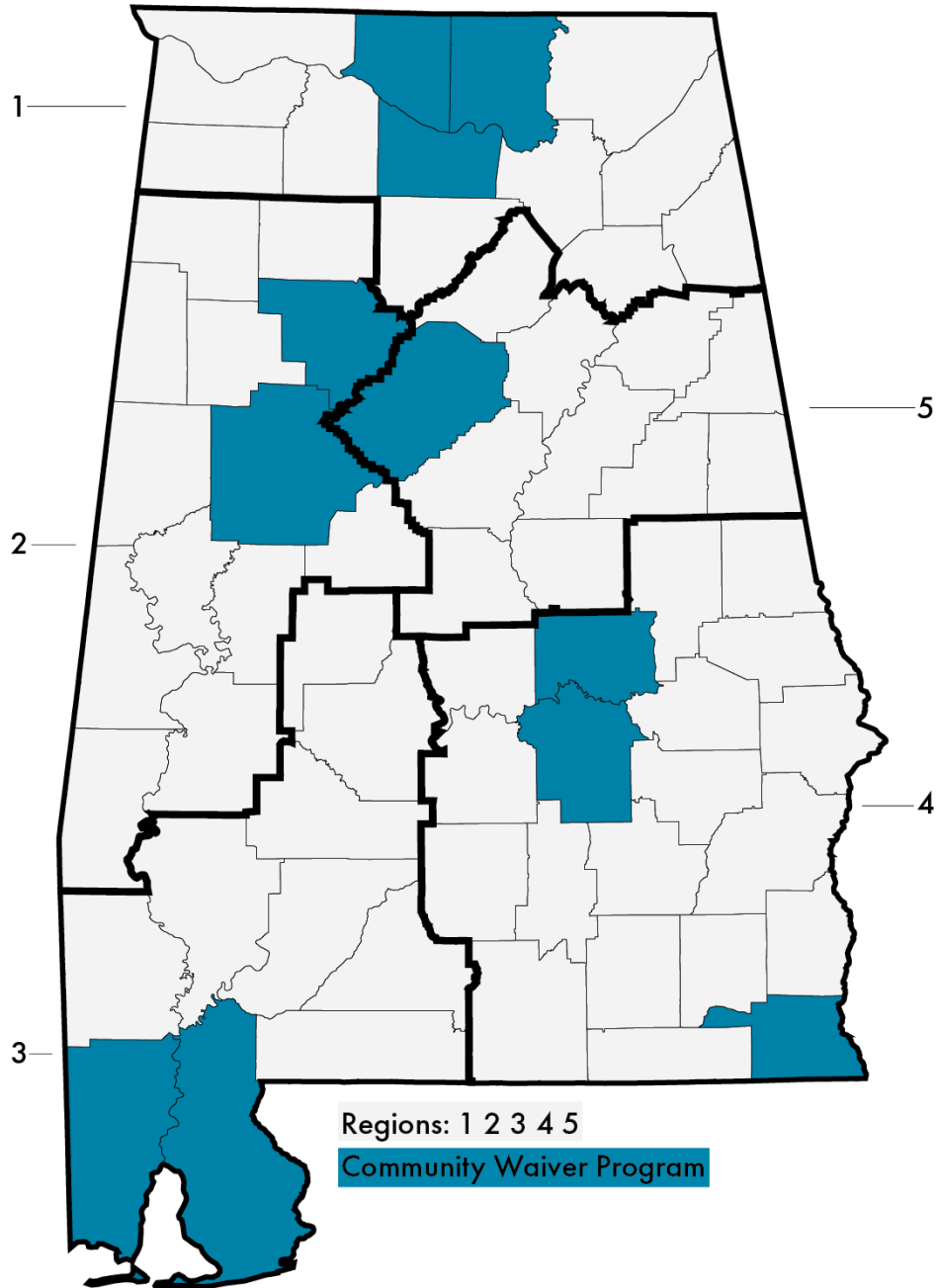
- The new waiver program will begin in a pilot phase with services offered in **11** counties

There are five enrollment groups:

1. Children (ages 3-13) with intellectual disabilities who live with family or other natural supports
2. Transition-age youth with intellectual disabilities who (ages 14-22) live with family or other natural supports or who live independently (ages 18-22)
3. Working age or older adults (ages 23+) with intellectual disabilities who live with family or other natural supports or who live independently
4. Persons (ages 3+) with intellectual disabilities who are unable to live with family or other natural supports or to live independently
5. Individuals with ID, ages 22 and older, who have a minimum of one substantial functional limitation

Developmental
Disabilities

Community Waiver
Program



11 Pilot Counties: Baldwin, Elmore, Houston, Jefferson, Limestone, Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, Morgan, Tuscaloosa, and Walker

- New Community Program Waiver will serve 500 individuals in first year
- This will reduce the waiting list by 25%
- 46% of the individuals on the current waiting list reside in six counties:
 - Baldwin, Jefferson, Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa



Future Challenges and Opportunities

Alabama Department of Mental Health FY22 Budget Request

	General Fund	Education Trust Fund
Grand Total	\$33,717,568	\$2,330,794



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