

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Over half (54.7%) of adults with a mental illness do not receive treatment, totaling over 28 million individuals. The region's first-ever psychiatric urgent-care/walk-in clinic answers the call!

Chesapeake, VA-- 11/01/22—According to the “[State of Mental Health in America](#)” report, which is published by Mental Health America (MHA), “In 2019-2020, 20.78% of adults were experiencing a mental illness. That is equivalent to over 50 million Americans. Even in Montana (ranked #1), over 4 in 10 adults with a mental illness did not receive care. The disparities and inequities of mental health treatment were evident during the COVID-19 pandemic, where there was a tremendous need but a strained system for urgent care. “In the U.S., there are an estimated 350 individuals for every one mental health provider.” The report continues, “However, these figures may overestimate active mental health professionals, including providers who no longer practice or accept new patients.” What do individuals and families who need urgent mental health treatment or have a loved one impacted by mental health issues do?

Help is at hand! A Hampton Roads area behavioral health practice, Rawles Psychological Services, has recently opened, a first-of-its-kind Psychiatric-specific Mental Health Urgent Care center, to help reduce these numbers. Access Behavioral Health Urgent Care (ABHUC) is the region's first and only psychiatric-specific urgent care/walk-in clinic dedicated to mental health. The clinic treats adults and children in urgent need of care for mental health crises. This service provides immediate access to behavioral health care without the often lengthy and costly wait for Emergency Room care to address non-emergent issues.

Cathy Clay, ABHUC Practice Director, says, “We’ve seen too many of our mental health patients right here in Hampton Roads get lost in the gap of mental health care service offered ONLY by psychiatric inpatient or repeat trips to the ER.” She continues, “We wanted to provide an urgent care center solely for mental health patients to get quality and affordable professional mental health service in an acute care environment.”

ABHUC is a subsidiary of [Rawles Psychological Services \(RPS\)](#), a behavioral health organization with a team of caring and certified counselors and therapists. RPS has over 16 years of experience providing mental health services and specializes in traditional psychological, traumatic clinical, educational, speaking corporate training, and consultation services. RPS has an impeccable record of past performance with local/state governments and vetted organizations

Contact Access Behavioral Health Urgent Care (ABHUC), Ms. Cathy Clay, at 757-271-2980 for more information or media inquiries.

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