

Vermont's service delivery structure enhances access and is well-designed for a rural state. The state mental health authority (DMH) is authorized to select a regional network of core providers, known as Designated Agencies, which deliver both intensive and other outpatient services.

In Vermont, the state Medicaid agency designed a payment reform with the network of core mental health providers, which are known as Designated Agencies (DAs) and are selected by the state mental health authority. Although Vermont does not have traditional managed care, the managed care entity in Vermont, a statewide ACO, is required to work closely with Designated Agencies on service delivery. The ACO model and quality program operate to encourage the payer to work with and support the regional providers selected by the DAs.