Bennington Banner

UCS acquired by HCRS

The unified organization will serve Bennington, Windham and Windsor counties, while both agencies say client services will continue unchanged.



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REPORTER

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BENNINGTON COUNTY — The respective boards of United Counseling Services (UCS) and Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) have officially voted to approve the long-discussed acquisition of UCS by HCRS, following a dual-board vote which took place on Thursday, Nov. 5. The two organizations will unify into a multi-county organization that will serve Bennington, Windham and Windsor County, according to a press release from the two organizations.



United Counseling Service in talks about possible acquisition

“The decision follows several months of collaboration between the organizations and a comprehensive review of the proposed acquisition by merger of UCS by HCRS, conducted by Health Management Associates (HMA). Since April, HCRS has provided operational and administrative leadership support to UCS during a period of leadership transition and ongoing quality improvement efforts. During this time, the organizations have explored opportunities to build on their respective strengths, preserve access to essential community services, and establish a sustainable structure for serving individuals and families across the region,” according to the press release.

“HMA’s review included interviews with organizational leaders, staff, Board members, State officials, clients, client representatives, and community partners, along with an examination of services, operations, governance, and regulatory considerations. Based on its findings, HMA recommended that the organizations move forward with unification,” continued in the press release.

The press release stated that community members will not be negatively affected by the acquisition.

“Client services at both organizations will continue without any changes. Both agencies remain committed to ensuring continuity of care and maintaining strong local connections throughout the transition,” said the press release.

The Bennington Banner will continue to follow this story.

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