

# PUGET SOUND BUSINESS JOURNAL

## Community Psychiatric Clinic to merge with Sound instead of Navos

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Patrick Evans is CEO of Sound, one of the largest mental health and addiction treatment providers in Washington.

Community Psychiatric Clinic is merging with Sound, one of the largest mental health and addiction treatment providers in Washington, creating a single organization with a broader reach and impact.

"The emerging organization will be in a more strategic position to adapt to the changes taking place in health care, where operational and clinical efficiencies are essential," Sound President and CEO Patrick Evans said in a news release. "By serving more clients with a broader continuum of health care services, throughout a wider geographic reach, Sound will have a more sizable impact on community health."

Evans will remain president and CEO of the new organization and the deal is expected to go into effect early this fall.

Doug Crandall, CEO of Community Psychiatric Clinic, said combining operations with Sound "will create better health care" and Evans added it will allow for better economies of scale and sustainability.

This comes after Community Psychiatric Clinic nearly joined Navos last year. That deal was planned to close in November, but Navos withdrew from the arrangement.

Crandall said he quickly started looking for a new partner because Community Psychiatric Clinic is not big enough to make it as a stand alone agency, given the competitive health care landscape.

"My job has been to find a suitable partner for CPC," he said in an interview. "Sound was the logical next step."

The combined operations of Sound and CPC will have 18 locations and serve more than 26,000 people in the region with mental health, addiction treatment, supportive housing and vocational training. Sound has 510 full time employees and Community Psychiatric Clinic has 270 full time employees, but Sound spokesman Steve McLean said it is too early to know what the workforce transition to Sound will look like.

"In our industry, there is a shortage of quality behavioral health talent and clinicians," he said. "I can tell you that we will need all the qualified people we can get."