

## Behavioral health: Building capacity to serve people in crisis

New investments will address widening gaps in Minnesota’s behavioral health continuum of care. The need for mental health and substance use disorder services for all ages – already increasing before the COVID-19 pandemic – has only grown since.

The Legislature approved funding for several new and existing programs, including intensive and crisis services for a growing number of children experiencing behavioral health crises. New resources will enhance Minnesota’s mobile crisis response system, while an additional investment will create new teams to help transition people in emergency departments and inpatient settings when they no longer need hospital-level care.

### 2022 legislation

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**Increasing resources for Adult Mental Health Initiatives.** Additional funding will maintain regional allocations when an equitable, research-based funding formula is implemented in 2025, increasing funding for 11 of the 18 county-based Adult Mental Health Initiatives. An evidence-based services inventory will help evaluate promising or theory-based practices. *FY 2025-26: \$20.4 million*

**Establishing grants for mental health provider supervision.** These grants will help address workforce challenges for providers serving people on Medical Assistance and from underrepresented communities, improving access to mental health professionals in communities with the most disparate access and health outcomes. Funding will cover costs for supervising clinical trainees and interns, as well as fees for licensing exams and applications. *FY 2023-25: \$7.5 million*

**Increasing mobile crisis grants.** Continued funding will permanently strengthen Minnesota’s mobile crisis infrastructure and improve access to crisis services. Expanded funding originally approved in 2021 will continue on an ongoing basis, instead of ending in April 2024. *FY 2024-25: \$9.6 million*

**Expanding Intensive Treatment in Foster Care.** Broader eligibility will include children living with their families in the community and at risk of needing a higher level of care. Services include therapy, family psychoeducation, clinical care consultation, crisis assistance and care coordination. These changes promote family preservation and improve access to early intensive services. *FY 2024-25: \$3 million*

**Expanding mobile transition teams for people with behavioral health concerns.** New teams will focus on people in emergency departments and inpatient hospital settings who no longer need hospital-level care. The teams will help them transition to lower levels of care, such as psychiatric residential treatment facilities, group homes or residential facilities. This initiative will also strengthen person-centered discharge planning for people exiting behavioral health facilities and hospital settings. *FY 2023-25: \$2.8 million*

**Establishing a Mental Health Urgency Room pilot project.** Funding will allow Ramsey County or other entities to create urgency rooms for youth under age 26 who are experiencing mental health crises. Grants may cover the

cost of expanding current space, conducting evaluations, and developing care plans and discharge plans. *FY 2023: \$1.2 million*

**Building a framework for Children’s Residential Crisis Stabilization services.** A new licensing and policy framework for children’s residential stabilization services will improve services for youth under the age of 21 experiencing mental health crises. Crisis stabilization stays of up to 30 days will be provided at children’s residential facilities, with funding for room and board from the Behavioral Health Fund. *FY 2023-25: \$1.1 million*

**Funding an African American Community Mental Health Center.** A one-time grant will go to an African American mental health provider specializing in children and families services. The funding will support culturally specific, trauma-informed, and family-centered behavioral health services. *FY 2023: \$1 million*

**Investing in First Episode Psychosis program.** Additional funding will support programs serving people 15 to 40 years old with early signs of psychosis. *FY 2023-25: \$890,000*

## Related information

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- [DHS 2022 session fact sheets](#)

***DHS Communications: July 2022***