

## Summary of 2018 Report to the Governor and Legislature:

# State Advisory Council on Mental Health & Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health

The 2018 Report to the Governor and Legislature provides recommendations from the members of the State Advisory Council on Mental Health and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health. The Council and Subcommittee have seven work groups, each work group having contributed to this report.

The State Advisory Council on Mental Health and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health recommend that the Governor and the Legislature focus on the areas discussed in this report in order to improve the mental health system and continuum of care in Minnesota.

The recommendations in this report are organized by the following areas:

- Education
- Economic Development
- Health and Human Services
- Judicial and Public Safety
- State Licensing Boards

## RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

---

In summary, the State Advisory Council on Mental Health and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health recommend the following:

### Education

- Increase and permanently fund school linked mental health grants and make the service available across the state.
- Fund Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) fidelity initiatives and provide incentives for the use of PBIS within school linked mental health grants.
- Make investments to ensure that all students have safe transportation to access mental health services that cannot be provided within a school setting.
- Expanding mental health services available in schools to increase school safety.

### Economic Development

- Expand resources to increase service levels of existing programs and for expansion of Individual Placement and Support services to make the service more widely available and allow people with mental illness to find and keep meaningful jobs in the community.
- Increase opportunities for access to readily available affordable housing such as Bridges, subsidized rentals, vouchers, and similar supportive housing bridges subsidized rental.

## Health and Human Services

- Continued funding and support for the ethnic workforce program and including the program in base funding.
- Allow families to receive child care hours through the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) for obtaining mental health treatment.
- Add children who have a caregiver with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) as a priority to access Early Learning Scholarships.
- Expand and increase capacity for home visiting models.
- Increasing mileage reimbursement and travel time for providers who provide mental health services to children and families in rural communities to support equal access to mental health services across the state.
- Make changes to the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) to better support families with caregivers experiencing a mental illness.
- Increase funding and support to allow statewide access to a shared HIPPA compliant telecommunications platform for the delivery of mental health care services provided by many different providers.
- Creation and funding for a 2-year Psychiatric Fellowship pilot project.
- Increase key residential mental health and substance use disorder intermediate level services to improve the outflow from psychiatric units.
- Increase the number of staffed and operated beds in Community Behavioral Health Hospitals by 45 beds.
- Increase the number of staffed and operated Anoka Metro Treatment Center by 70 beds.
- Fund and continue to support the development of a Traditional Healing demonstration project to meet the needs of American Indians in Minnesota in collaboration with the American Indian Mental Health Advisory Council.
- Continue to dedicate, support, and expand current resources committed to Housing Support Services to include making such services eligible under Medicaid, reduce the incidence of mental and physical health issues routinely encountered among people who experience housing instability, and lower costs incurred in addressing them.
- Recognize and include Certified Peer Specialists as a distinct provider type in all areas of mental health care.
- Fund two demonstration six bed Peer Respite Centers.
- Expand existing training programs to include instructing providers in the evidence supporting required practices. Ensure that the continuum of evidence based practice policy making extends to providers.

## Judicial and Public Safety

- Create a single entity with oversight over the juvenile justice system and services provided to juveniles in the justice system.
- The creation of programming that diverts those that may be experiencing mental health or other special circumstances from entering the criminal justice system.
- Develop a culturally responsive residential treatment program for youth who present with significant physically aggressive behaviors and mental health needs.
- Pursue a federal waiver for funding and the continued expansion of Yellow Line Projects.

## State Licensing Boards

- Minnesota state boards licensing professionals who address the mental health needs of children, adolescents should review their licensee data to determine if they are meeting the cultural and diversity needs of the ever changing landscape of the state. If found to be inadequate, the Boards should develop initiatives to increase the diversity in their license profession.

## About the report

---

Every two years the State Advisory Council on Mental Health and the Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health reports to the governor and Legislature their recommendations for how to improve the state's mental health system. The Council and Subcommittee have seven work groups, each work group having contributed to the report.

### Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health

The Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health was established in 1989 in order to make recommendations to the State Advisory Council on Mental Health. The chair of the State Advisory Council on Mental Health appoints the Subcommittee members. Subcommittee members include:

- parents of children with a lived experience of emotional or behavioral disorders,
- former recipients of children's mental health services, and
- representatives of state departments, advocacy organizations, mental health professionals, legislators, educators, community corrections, county commissioners, social services agency representatives and others representative with experience in the children's mental health system.

### State Advisory Council on Mental Health

State Advisory Council on Mental Health is charged with making recommendations to the governor, Legislature and state departments on mental health policies, programs and services. The governor appoints the State Advisory Council members. State Advisory Council members include:

- individuals with lived experience of mental illness,
- family members of individuals with lived experience of mental illness,
- parents of children with a lived experience of emotional and behavioral disorders,
- representatives of state departments and advocacy organizations, mental health professionals, legislators, county commissioners, social service agency directors and other representatives with experience in the mental health system.

## See the full report on the State Advisory Council on Mental Health and Subcommittee on Children's Mental Health website



For accessible formats of this publication or additional equal access to human services, [dhs.behavioral.health.division@state.mn.us](mailto:dhs.behavioral.health.division@state.mn.us), call 651-431-2460, or use your preferred relay service. (ADA1 [9-15])