

FACT SHEET | A Continuum of Mental Health Care

2015 Budget for a Better Minnesota

Minnesota's mental health infrastructure is fragile, with too many gaps and insufficient services available in many parts of the state. That is why Governor Dayton's budget proposal would invest a continuum of care solution that promotes mental health and early intervention. The Governor's proposal would ensure that children and adults with mental illness, and their families, have access to the services they need.

Building a Solid Foundation

- **Consulting with Early Childhood Providers** – The Governor's proposal would offer mental health training and consultation for staff at childcare centers across Minnesota. The centers would provide assessments and treatment for children with mental health concerns.
- **School-Based Diversion** – The Governor's proposal would pilot a new model to help schools support students with mental health and substance use disorders. These efforts would help reduce arrests, expulsions, and suspensions, while increasing referrals for treatment and services.
- **Services and Supports** – The Governor's proposal would strengthen Minnesota's capacity to serve youth between the ages of 14 and 26 with early signs of psychosis, and help bridge gaps between children and adult mental health services.
- **Expanding Respite Care** – The Governor's proposal would expand children's mental health respite care grants to serve 500 to 1,000 additional children and their families.
- **Investing in Children's Mental Health and Family Services** – The Governor's proposal would provide Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) training for community partners, parents, and providers to support local mental health efforts, and provide earlier intervention for at-risk children.

Improving Minnesota's Mental Health Treatment System

- **Stabilizing the Mental Health Services Payment Structure** – The Governor's proposal would analyze the state's payment structure for mental health services, and develop reforms to stabilize the state's financially fragile mental health system.
- **Increasing Availability of Crisis Services** – The Governor's proposal would move toward a goal of 24-hour statewide mental health crisis services for both children and adults. The plan would establish one statewide number for all crisis services and improve the consistency and quality of crisis services.
- **Enhancing Behavioral Health Clinics** – The Governor's proposal would enhance Minnesota's community mental health centers, which are the foundation of the public mental health safety net. Under this proposal, Minnesota would seek a 90 percent federal match for these services.

Expanding Care for Children and Adults

- **Establishing Residential Treatment Facilities** – The Governor's proposal would establish psychiatric residential treatment bed capacity and a Medical Assistance benefit to support underserved children with serious mental illnesses.
- **Residential Services for People with Complex Conditions** – The Governor's plan would also create three new Intensive Residential Treatment Service (IRTS) programs for people transitioning from Anoka-Metro Regional Treatment Center.

Supportive Community Services

- **Supportive Housing for Adults with Serious Mental Illness** – The Governor’s proposal would provide grants to serve an additional 840 adults with serious mental illnesses in permanent supportive housing.
- **Expanding Assertive Community Treatment** – The Governor’s proposal would enhance the quality of Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services and expand ACT services across Minnesota. This program allows people with mental illness to receive services in communities, instead of institutional settings.
- **Providing Flexibility for Transitions to Community Initiative** – The Governor’s proposal would allow greater flexibility to use current funding to help more people exit institutional settings and return to the community.