

The Governor's Proposal on Mental Health

The Governor provides funding to make sure that all the mental health services currently available under the Medical Assistance program will be available under the General Assistance Medical Care, MinnesotaCare and the Prepaid Medical Assistance Program. These services include Assertive Community Treatment teams, Intensive Residential Treatment Services, and Adult Mental Health Rehabilitation Services. Currently, these services are provided to GAMC, MinnesotaCare and PMAP clients only to the extent that county grant funds are available.

Integrated care networks will be established through a request for proposals process in consultation with consumers, advocates and other stakeholders. Enrollment will be phased in region by region as integrated care networks are approved. (A limit of 40% of the population)

The Governor also included funding for infrastructure investments to:

- Shore up school-based mental health services infrastructure for uninsured and under-insured children. (\$20.5 million during the upcoming biennium; \$13.7 million per year thereafter)
- Expand the mental health crisis intervention and stabilization infrastructure as a first-line safety net for children and adults. (\$10 million during the upcoming biennium; \$9 million per year thereafter)
- Monitor and track availability of mental health services and create a system for measuring mental health service outcomes. (Continue one-time funding approved by the 2006 Legislature by providing \$113,000 during the upcoming biennium; \$113,000 per year thereafter)
- Develop and support evidence-based practices and best practices. (\$4.5 million during the upcoming biennium; \$4 million per year thereafter)
- Address workforce shortages by extending mental health rate increases approved by the 2006 Legislature to include Children's Therapeutic Services and Support providers and Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Service medication education. (\$2.4 million during the upcoming biennium; \$3 million per year thereafter)
- Develop intensive outpatient treatment coverage for certain disorders that require time-intensive approaches. (\$507,000 during the upcoming biennium; \$1 million per year thereafter)
- Develop capacity to address the mental health needs of other specialty populations. These include people with such illnesses as attachment disorders, childhood trauma, and eating disorders as well as people from racial and ethnic minorities or those who are deaf or hard of hearing or deafblind who are most effectively treated by people with specialized skills and knowledge necessary to communicate with them and draw on the context and strengths of their culture. (\$2.5 million during the upcoming biennium; \$2.5 million per year thereafter)
- Expand access to a range of housing options. (\$4.5 million during the upcoming biennium; \$3 million per year thereafter)

For more information contact:

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Mental Health Association of Minnesota at 612-331-6840