



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

DHS Initiative: 2013 Legislative Session

Continuing improvement of behavioral health services

Minnesota recognizes that people with behavioral health needs can be most successful when they are served in their communities, close to their families and other supports. Yet services are uneven around the state and among different populations. The 2013 Minnesota Legislature has approved changes proposed by Gov. Mark Dayton and other provisions that will continue to strengthen the community-based behavioral health system.

These changes capitalize on opportunities in Affordable Care Act, which will provide more people access to behavioral health services on par with physical health services. Models to encourage coordination of care will be developed and new incentives for providers to adopt outcomes-based decision-making will be created.

2013 legislation

Mental Health Grants for Schools. Doubles the capacity in schools for mental health prevention and early intervention services for children and facilitates the integration of service delivery. (*\$7.43 million investment*)

Expand Mental Health Crisis Response Services. Provides startup funding for four new mobile crisis response teams to service an additional 16 counties and two tribes. Currently 59 Minnesota counties have mobile crisis response services for children, 49 have these services for adults and one tribe has these services for both children and adults. These services help people experiencing a mental health crisis to cope with the crisis in their home rather than being transported to a more restrictive and expensive setting. (*\$1.5 million investment*)

Substance Abuse Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment. Expands the number of primary care clinicians trained to use the Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment process to identify people at risk of drug or alcohol abuse so treatment can be offered. (*\$600,000 investment*)

Adjust Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services payment rate, services. Increases payment rates for ARMHS services, which help adults with serious mental illness to gain emotional stability and learn new coping skills. Expands the range of these services and adds provider reimbursement for currently unfunded but necessary services such as mental health functional assessments.

Mental Health Foster Care Treatment. Permits any foster care setting serving children with mental health needs to receive mental health services within the foster care setting. Currently, the foster care settings are narrowed to a very small group of providers. (*\$231,000 savings*)

Establish a Clinical Care Coordination Benefit in Medical Assistance. Allows clinicians to be reimbursed for the time they spend in clinical consultation regarding a patient's care. (*\$694,000 savings*)

Establish a Family Psycho-education Benefit in Minnesota Health Care Programs. Creates a psycho-education benefit that allows family members to learn skills to support their child's treatment progress as a cost-effective extension of care.

Mental Health Special Treatment Service. Establishes a 24/7 medically monitored mental health special treatment service as a transition service from psychiatric hospitalization for individuals with mental illness and complex treatment needs who require a longer stabilization period.

Mental Health Certified Family Peer Specialists. Adds Medical Assistance coverage for services provided to families who have children with serious emotional disturbance by specially trained individuals who also have children with serious emotional disturbance in their families. (*\$250,000 investment*)

Text for Life. Provides funding the expansion of the text message suicide prevention service currently available in the northeast quarter of Minnesota and allow for statewide access. Support the training within schools/communities to encourage use of available service. (*\$1.25 million investment*)

Willmar Intensive Residential Treatment Service (IRTS) remains open. Operations at the Willmar IRTS will continue due to the Legislature's agreement to use dedicated State Operated Services resources and facility revenue.

Chemical Health Navigator Programs. Extends the operation of existing county chemical health navigator pilot programs and establishes eligibility criteria for others to begin. The pilots will develop and test new services for people with substance abuse disorders. The new services will support treating substance abuse as a chronic disease.

Related information:

- Omnibus Health and Human Services bill: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=108&doctype=Chapter&type=0&year=2013>
- DHS fact sheet page: <http://mn.gov/dhs/media/fact-sheets/>

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