



Improving Mental Health Services

Expanding access to quality mental health services

Governor Dayton's budget invests in initiatives to improve the mental health of Minnesota children and adults; improving people's lives with better care and support.

Children's Mental Health

The Governor's budget provides additional funding to improve access to mental health support and counseling for Minnesota kids, helping all our children achieve success in school and life.

» **Mental Health Care in Schools.** The Governor's budget invests \$7.4 million to expand school-linked mental health grants, doubling the number of Minnesota schools that can offer essential mental health services to students while they are at school. An estimated 13,900 students would gain access to these mental health services annually by 2017.

» **Support at Home.** The Governor's budget funds an initiative to teach parents and siblings skills that will help them support a child's mental health treatment at home, in addition to counseling.

Autism Spectrum Disorder

A growing number of Minnesota kids have been diagnosed with Autism. The Governor's budget expands access to quality treatment and services to help kids with Autism improve their communications skills and increase social interaction at a critical time in their development. About 440 kids would gain access by 2014; 880 would gain coverage each year starting in 2015.

Adult Mental Health Services

The Governor's budget makes needed investments in improving access to quality, affordable mental health services for Minnesotans of all ages, including adults with mental illness.

» **Helping People in Crisis.** Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death. That is why the Governor's budget provides \$2 million for four new mobile crisis response teams to help those experiencing a mental health crisis access the care they need and cope with the crisis in their homes.

» **The Right Care at the Right Time.** The Governor's budget provides better, more appropriate care for individuals who have mental illness and require complex treatment needs. His proposal would provide better care and support for individuals transitioning from psychiatric treatment into primary care or independent living situations.

» **Living Independently.** In 2011, 14,200 Minnesotans received Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS), which helps adults with serious mental illness develop the skills they need to safely and successfully live at home. The Governor's budget increases payment rates for ARMHS, expands the range of services offered, and reimburses doctors for necessary services.