

# Legislative Update Mental Health



**Some news and other information**

**Presented by Hugh Brady**

**for**

**ILAPSC State Conference**

**October 20, 2022**

**3:15**

# Some basics

- State & federal legislation
  - State issues are Considered by the Illinois General Assembly in Springfield
  - National issues are considered by the US Congress in Washington DC



## Mental Health Funding Highlights in the Federal FY 22 Budget:

- **\$2.14 billion** for the National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH), a \$37 million increase
- **\$857 million** for the Mental Health Block Grant (a \$100 million increase) to help state and local governments address gaps and needs in their communities.
- **\$101.6 million** for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (a \$77 million increase from FY 21 — more than four times the previous amount),
- **\$10 million** for a new Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Pilot Program, aiming to help communities establish mobile crisis teams that provide a non-law enforcement response to mental health crises
- **\$120 million** for Project AWARE (a \$13 million increase from FY 21), a program that builds awareness and helps provide training and resources in school settings
- **\$111 million** for school mental health professionals and school-based mental health services (a \$95 million increase from FY 21)
- **\$40 million** for the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment Act (MIOTCRA), a \$5 million increase from FY 21

# MIOTCRA Details:

- MIOTCRA authorizes the US Department of Justice to award grants to help states improve their responses when people living with mental illnesses become involved in the criminal justice system
- Grants may be used for such things as:
  - Trainings such as CIT
  - Cross-training of mental health and law enforcement staff
  - Mental health courts
  - Mental health and substance use treatment for people in jail or prison
  - The development of alternatives to jail
  - Community reentry services
  - For more details see:  
<https://csgjusticecenter.org/projects/justice-and-mental-health-collaboration-program-jmhcp/>

# Recent Federal Legislation

The **Safer Communities Act** recently signed into law by President Biden is one of the largest federal investments in mental health and substance use treatment in the last 50 years, and includes the following key provisions:

- Expanding Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) nationwide
- \$250M to enhance comprehensive mental health services
- \$500M for school-based mental health services
- \$240M to increase awareness of mental health among school-aged children/youth
- \$150M for 988 and crisis response implementation
- \$80M for pediatric primary care to access expertise from mental health specialists
- \$120M for first responder mental health training
- \$40M to support children, adolescents, and families after a traumatic event

# Recent Federal/State Legislation

## Parity!

- US and Illinois law *require* that insurance companies cover mental health and substance use disorder on the same basis as any other illness
  - ✓ Deductibles and co-pays can't be higher
  - ✓ Hospital stays can't be shorter
  - ✓ Etc., etc. etc.
- Concerns? Contact the Illinois Department of Insurance and your state legislators

# Recent Federal/State Legislation, continued

## 988

- Someone to call
- Someone to go
- A place to go
  - ✓ And let's not forget sustainable funding
  - ✓ The 988 Trust Fund (HB 4700) awaits

# 2021 State level changes

- **Public Act 102-0066**—Creates the Housing is Recovery Pilot Program to fund rental subsidies for persons with behavioral health problems who are at high risk of institutionalization. \$10 million in funding appropriated for this Fiscal Year
- **Public Act 102-0580**—Creates the Community Emergency Services and Supports Act to provide alternatives to the use of the police to respond to mental health emergencies
- **Public Act 102-0372**—Gives family members access to information when a loved one is being discharged from a psychiatric hospital to return to their home
- **Public Act 102-0391**— (effective 1/12023) Limits out of pocket and co-pays for prescription medications
- **Public Act 102-0579**—Requires clinically based standards for determining when mental health services, including residential services, are “medically necessary” and therefore, covered by health insurance



# 2021 State level changes continued

- **HB158 Public Act 102-004** (effective 4/26/21) – large human services bill creates Behavioral Health Workforce Center
- **HB711 Public Act 102-0408** (effective 1/1/22) Prior authorization reform act. Improves transparency & clinical review must conform to nationally recognized, generally accepted standards.
- **HB1805 Public Act 102-0206** (effective 7/30/21) creates the **CALL4CALM** mental health help line
- **SB471 Public Act 102-0144** (effective 1/1/22) Requires health insurance companies to have adequate networks of mental health service providers
- **SB2249 Public Act 102-0645** (effective 8/27/21) Forbids DOC from making possession of a FOID card a condition of employment for someone who cannot have one solely due to inpatient mental treatment in the absence of dangerousness.

# 2022 State legislation

- **HB2775, Public Act 102-896** (effective: 1/1/23) – prohibits housing discrimination based on source of income
- **HB2565, Public Act 102-1041** (effective 6/2/22) – reforms problem solving court statutes
- **SB3617, Public Act 102-1053** (effective: 6/10/22) – creates employer tax credits for employers who hire individuals who are in recovery from a substance use disorder or a mental illness & increases funding to train mental health professionals
  - Several provide increased education and training opportunities for people seeking to become MH professionals
- **SB3925 Public Act 102-1089** (Effective: 1/1/23) Creates the Human Services Professional Loan
- **HB1592, Public Act 102-913** (Effective 5/27/22) Creates a process for re-balancing state hospitals to make sure that those most in need are able to access the small number of remaining beds (currently only 1150)

# 2022 State legislation continued

- **HB 4736 Public Act 102-0756** Creates co-responder pilot programs in E. St. Louis, Springfield, Peoria & Waukegan to send mental health professionals out with the police when their presence is needed
- **The State budget** included significant new funding for behavioral health
  - **\$170M:** Medicaid rate increases for targeted MH/SUD services
  - **\$180M:** Dedicated to HFS for workforce investment in underserved and rural areas
  - **\$150M:** Pathways to Success services for children with behavioral health needs
  - **\$70M:** Implementing 988 Call Center and Crisis Response
  - **\$50M:** Mental health and substance use grants
  - **\$8M:** Peer support services

# 2022 State legislation continued

- **SB3617 – miscellaneous collection of mental health legislation**
  - Grants for professional development and diversity to enhance training/supervision. Subject to appropriation.
  - Employer Recovery & Mental Health Tax Credit. To improve employment opportunities for people in recovery.
  - License Renewal & Restoration. For licensed clinical psychologists, licensed professional counselors, and licensed clinical social workers who are inactive or have an expired license for less than 5 years.
- **HB4343 – An omnibus Medicaid reform bill**
  - Increase in Medicaid Rate for Hospital Psych Outpatient Services for Children.
  - Medicaid Coverage of Peer Recovery Services for those with SUD
- **IM+CANS Reform** – The Department of Healthcare and Family Services significantly streamlined the IM+CANS mental health assessment process.

# How to find out who your legislators are

- Try [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov)
  - “Legislator Lookup”
    - At the bottom of the left hand column
  - Can be finicky
  - 9 digit Zip Code works better than your address
  - And it changes in January



# Contact your US Senators at *senate.gov*

- Richard Durbin



<https://www.durbin.senate.gov>

Washington, DC Phone: (202)224-2152

Chicago Phone (312) 353-4952

- Tammy Duckworth



<https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/>

Washington, DC Phone: (202) 224-2854

Chicago Phone (312) 886-3506

# Contact your US Representative at [house.gov](https://www.house.gov) (Remember, it changes in January)

District	Representative	Regional office	Phone
1	Bobby Rush	Chicago	(773)7792400
2	Robin Kelly	Chicago	(773) 321-2001
3	Marie Newman	Chicago & Bridgeview	(708) 821-1141
4	Chuy Garcia	Chicago	(773) 342-0774
5	Mike Quigley	Chicago	(773)267-5926
6	Sean Casten	Glen Ellyn	(630) 520-9450
7	Danny Davis	Chicago	(773) 533-7520
8	Raja Krishnamoorthi	Schaumburg	(847) 413-1959
9	Jan Shakowski	Glenview	(847) 328-3409
10	Brad Schneider	Lincolnshire	847-383-4870
11	Bill Foster	Aurora and Joliet	630-585-7672
12	Mike Bost	Carbondale & O'Fallon	(618) 622-0766
13	Rodney Davis	Champaign & Decatur	(618) 622-0766
14	Lauren Underwood	Crystal Lake & West Chicago	(630) 549-2190
15	Mary Miller	Danville & Effingham	(217) 703-6100
16	Adam Kinzinger	Ottawa & Watseka	(815) 431-9271
17	Cheri Bustos	Rockford & Peoria	(815) 968-8011
17	Daniel LaHood	Bloomington & Jacksonville	(217) 245-1431

# On the ILGA website you can:

- Find out more about specific bills under consideration;

Search the 101st  
General Assembly

By Number  
(example: HB001)

- You'll find something like this:

**Bill Status of SB1243** *101st  
General Assembly*

[Full Text](#) [Votes](#) [Witness Slips](#) [View All  
Actions](#) [Printer-Friendly Version](#)

**Short Description:** ACCESS TO  
MENTAL HEALTH INFO

**Senate Sponsors** Sen. [Laura Fine](#)

That will be followed by a summary of the bill and a history of the actions on the bill to date.



# Committees

Accessed through the [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov) website

## House

- Mental Health and Addiction
- Insurance
- Judiciary – Criminal
- Housing

## Senate

- Behavioral and Mental Health
- Criminal Law
- Insurance

# Easy ways to advocate

- Heads on pikes
- The cockroach theory

- Slipping – the greatest idea since sliced bread
  - Done through the ILGA website
- Give ‘em a call.
- Meet in person
- Write a letter

- Relationships are important
  - Get to know the District Director
  - Go to functions
  - Invite ‘em to functions
  - Volunteer for committees

# Ways to Keep up with Legislation

- Mental Health Summit

<https://mentalhealthsummit.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MENTALHEALTHSUMMIT/>

- MHSU Advocates

[thresholds.org](https://thresholds.org)

- NAMI Illinois

<https://namiillinois.org/>

- Mental Health America Illinois

<https://www.mhai.org/>

# Some Resources

- Community Behavioral Healthcare Association  
<https://www.cbha.net/>
- Statewide Referral Network  
<https://www.ihda.org/developers/statewide-referral-network/>
- Your local Continuum of Care

# Questions Thoughts & Observations

You can reach me at  
[bradyhugh@aol.com](mailto:bradyhugh@aol.com)



ILLINOIS STATE CAPITOL  
SPRINGFIELD

F. H. H. 12-11