



## 2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### **Teach Our Children Critical Mental Health Skills**

Providing accurate information about mental health and teaching about early intervention will encourage early intervention, shortening recovery time and reducing future costs.

- Require that all schools teach emotional and behavioral health regulation skills
- Require that mental health literacy be included in the health class component of graduation requirements

### **Improve behavioral health treatment options for youth & families**

Improve the ability of parents to assist their youth by increasing access to information and expanding treatment options.

- Expand Parent Initiated Treatment to include partial hospitalization, residential and intensive outpatient treatment to give parents additional options for their youth
- Improve family engagement by allowing providers to share certain information with parents without the youth's consent
- Allow parents to consent for up to 12 session of outpatient treatment over a 3-month period before the youth must provide consent for treatment

### **Support the *Trueblood* settlement**

Improves the competency and restoration process for individuals in jail with mental illness. Beyond ensuring that evaluations are done timely, the settlement focuses on diversion and policy changes to limit the number of individuals needing competency and restoration.

- Support additional resources for diversion services to give law enforcement and judges options other than sending people to jail
- Support funding for housing vouchers for people discharged from Crisis Triage and Stabilization Facilities
- Fund mobile crisis responders to respond to those in crisis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

### **Improve inpatient care and support early intervention**

- Support investments in community-based inpatient facilities, providing better care closer to home
- Fund housing with wrap-around services to keep people stable while they recover from a crisis
- Invest in peer support programs to allow patients to receive support from people they can relate to

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