



eUpDate

News Brief from the Illinois Psychiatric Society

ILLINOIS PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY MEMBER ALERT!!

As a result of the proposed budget cuts by the legislature, it is estimated that:

- 175,000 people will lose community mental health services, dramatically increasing homelessness, institutionalization and incarceration rates.
- 65,000 people with alcohol and substance addictions will lose treatment.

Here are some examples of the impact the proposed cuts have already had:

- The Chicago Department of Public Health will:
 - Reduce the number of visits to mental health clinics by 3100 visits
 - Reduce funding by 10% to the Domestic Violence hotline
- The Clearbrook Center, in Arlington Heights, IL is laying off 25 employees and cutting off services to 85 adults with developmental disabilities.
- The Domestic Violence programs funded through the Department of Health and Family Services will be cut by 75%.
- Mutual Ground, the only Domestic Violence agency in Aurora, will have to close.
- Alexian Brothers Mental Health Center, in Arlington Heights, has to lay off 25 employees, almost completely eliminate its psychiatric programs, and eliminate other services to 50% of its clients.
- Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) contracts to community services providers will be cut by 75%.
- The Mental Health Association of Illinois Valley, in Peoria, will have its contract to the serve the Stark County Rural Mental Health Initiative eliminated. 613 Stark County residents (about 10% of the population) have used these services this year. Also, staffing for the Call for Help/Teens Need Teens hotline will be reduced by 20%. The hotline responds to approximately 730 suicide prevention hotline callers.
- The Mental Health Center of Champaign County has laid off 31 of its 210 staffers.
- Crosspoint Human Services, in Danville, Illinois, has closed intake to all persons seeking mental health services.
- 4900 children, teens and adults served by Lutheran Social Services of Illinois will lose mental health services.

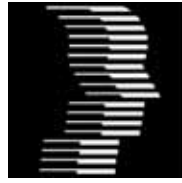
What can you do about it?

1. Contact your legislators and tell them to stop the legislature from making these cuts.
2. To find out who your legislators are, please go to this link:

<http://www.elections.il.gov/DistrictLocator/SelectSearchType.aspx?NavLink=1>

3. If you have any questions, please contact Meryl Sosa at msosa@ilpsych.org or 312-224-2601.

Please contact your legislators today. Time is of the essence!!!



Illinois Psychiatric Society

“To advocate for the highest quality care for patients with psychiatric conditions which include substance use disorders, and to represent the profession of psychiatry and serve the needs of its membership.”

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