## MEADOWS MENTAL HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE

#### **Mental Health in the Workplace**

Andy Keller, PhD, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute | April 22, 2021

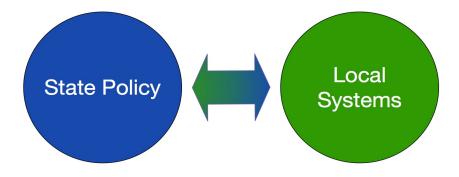
# **Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute**

#### Vision

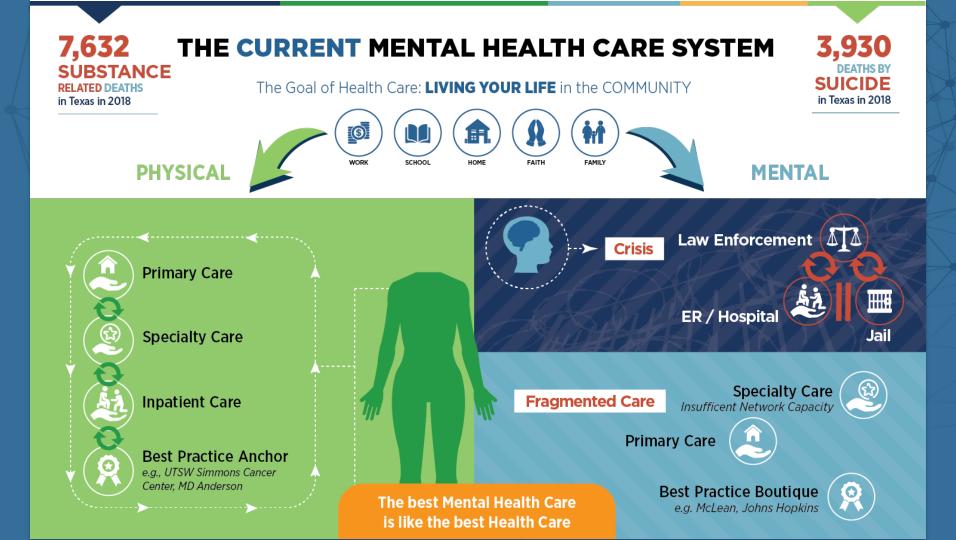
We envision Texas to be the national leader in treating all people with mental health needs.

### **Mission Statement**

To provide independent, non-partisan, data-driven, and trusted policy and program guidance that creates equitable systemic changes so all Texans can obtain effective, efficient behavioral health care when and where they need it.

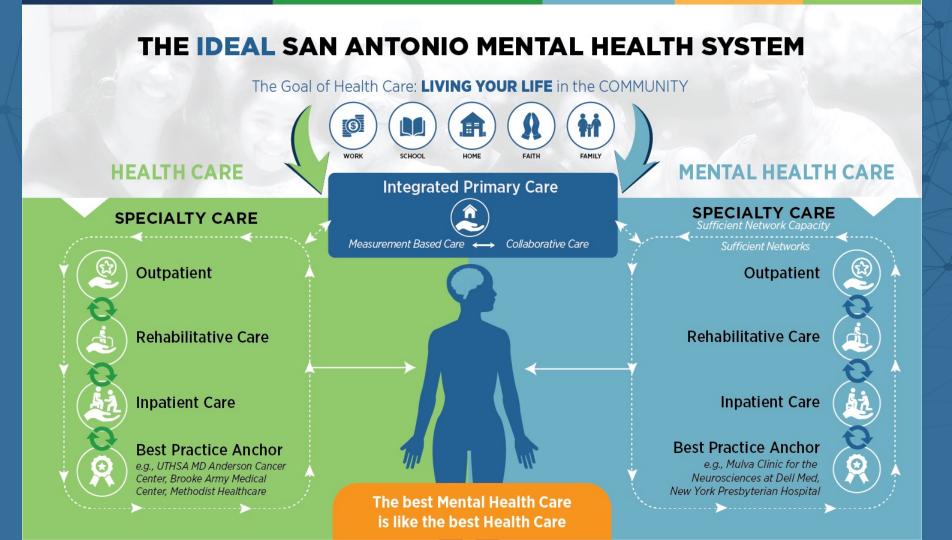


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# **COVID-19 and Mental Health: Big Picture**

- COVID-19 has dramatically <u>increased mental health needs</u>. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now tracks mental health needs weekly. As of March 1, 2021:
  - Symptoms of anxiety disorders are up 4-fold (33.4% vs 8.2%),
  - Symptoms of depression are up 4-fold (27.7% vs 6.6%),
  - The number of people seriously considering suicide doubled.
  - Mid-March through October 2020, <u>the proportion of mental health-related emergency department</u> visits increased 24% among children aged 5–11 and 31% among adolescents aged 12–17.
- In late April, we began a series of reports projecting the mental health impacts of the pandemic overall, for veterans.
- Multiple national groups and media sources (Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, NPR, CNN) are using our estimates.
- We project that for every five-percentage point increase in unemployment in Texas during the COVID recession across a year, <u>an additional 725 Texans could die each year from suicide (300) and drug overdose (425)</u>.
- Universal access to Collaborative Care (a proven, team-based approach to detect and treat mental illness in primary care) to treat major depression <u>could reduce suicide deaths by 725 to 1,100 per year in Texas</u>.
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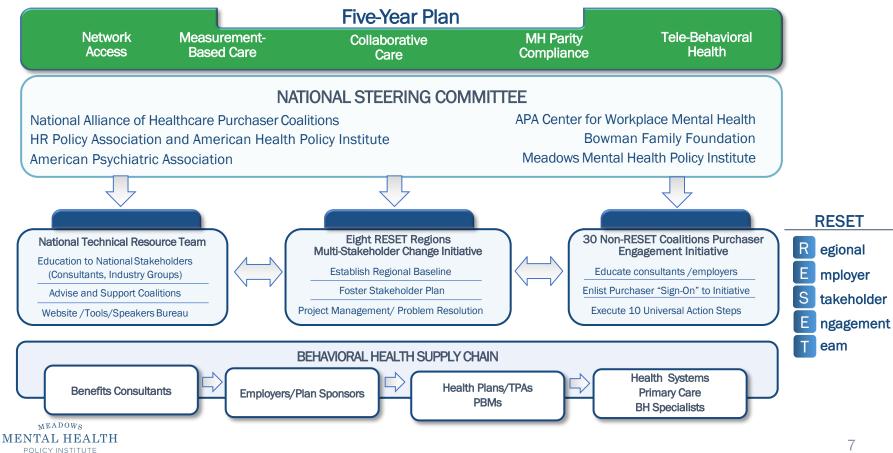
## The Path Forward for Mental Health and Substance Use

 The Path Forward is a coalition of leading national groups representing business, government, nonprofits, and health care providers and plans working to re-focus the nation's healthcare delivery systems through early detection and broad access to effective mental health and substance use care.



- It is the only national behavioral health initiative:
  - Using a market-driven approach to assure major advances by leveraging the "purchaser" influence of employer coalitions
  - Focusing on both behavioral specialists and primary care providers
  - Transforming behavioral healthcare at a population level and MEADOW achieving health equity for all Americans
     NTAL HEALTH
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## Milliman High-Cost Study Published August 2020

A Milliman High-Cost Study commissioned by The Path Forward of 21 million lives nationally, published in August 2020 shows:

- Of the total population, the most expensive 10% of patients accounted for 70% of annual total healthcare costs;
- A majority of the top 10% (57%) 5.7% of the total population had both behavioral and physical health conditions - and accounted for 44% of the annual total healthcare costs of the total population; and
- 50% of this 5.7% (high-cost behavioral patients) had less than \$95 per year of total spending for behavioral health (BH) treatment.

See The Path Forward Press Release with link to study: <u>https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2020/08/13/2078017/0/en/Study-Reveals-Individuals-with-Behavioral-Health-Conditions-in-Addition-to-Physical-Conditions-Drive-High-Total-Healthcare-Costs-Small-Portion-Spent-on-Behavioral-Treatment-Vast-Ma.html</u>

### **Okay to Say in the Workplace**

## **Hiring Our Heroes**

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MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS ARE MORE COMMON **THAN CANCER** AND DIABETES

okay to say



#### WELLBEING IN THE **W**CRKPLACE



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#### FOR MENTAL HEALTH

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The truth is: mental illness affects more people than you may think, and we need to talk about it. It's Okay to say..." okaytosay.org