

# Responding to the Current Child and Youth Mental Health Crisis and Preventing the Next One NASEM Forum for Children's Well-being

Amy Wimpey Knight President May 2, 2022



# Mental, emotional and behavioral health of our children and youth

- Demography our kids
- Demand their changing health needs
- Delivery system the ecosystem of care
- Challenges barriers to timely care
- Downstream risk of doing nothing
- Solutions how will we make change?



## Representative incidence of childhood illness

- 1 in 518 children (under 20) have
   Type 1 diabetes
- 1 in 285 will be diagnosed with cancer (by age 20)
- 1 in 13 have a food allergy
- 1 in 12 have asthma
- 1 in 5 experience a mental health condition annually

### **Behavioral Health Continuum**

#### PROMOTION -

environments/
conditions supporting
behavioral health and
the ability of children
and youth to withstand
challenges

#### PREVENTION -

interventions intended to prevent or reduce the risk of children and youth developing behavioral health conditions

#### TREATMENT -

services provided for children and youth diagnosed with behavioral health needs or disorders

#### **RECOVERY** –

services to support children and youth's abilities to live productive lives in the community

#### **PROMOTION**

Adapted from IOM and parentslead.org

## Sound the Alarm for Kids



A communications initiative presented by Children's Hospital Association (CHA), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry AACAP).

- Raise awareness of the emergency in child and adolescent mental health.
- Amplify our expert partners' voices.
- Provide opportunities for collective engagement.
- Elevate the unique needs of kids in mental health policy discussions.

## Sound the Alarm for Kids



- Over 60 partners
- Nearly 80 children's hospitals
- Roundtable series with mental health experts and members of Congress

www.soundthealarmforkids.org

## Advancing children's mental health legislation

H.R. 7236: Strengthen Kids' Mental Health Now Act

Introduced by Reps. Anna Eshoo, D-Calif.,
Brian Fitzpatrick, R-Pa., and Lisa Blunt Rochester, D-Del.,
Strengthen Kids' Mental Health Now is a bipartisan bill that
would provide much-needed investment in the nation's
mental health infrastructure for children.



Designed to address children's needs, this bill includes reforms and investments
that will bolster the pediatric mental health workforce and expand the
availability of a full continuum of care for kids.

More at: www.childrenshospitals.org

## Advancing children's mental health legislation

#### H.R. 4943: Children's Mental Health Infrastructure Act

 Provides \$2 billion in funding for five years to make grants to children's hospitals and other providers to enhance care capacity and support mental health infrastructure.



### H.R. 4944: Helping Kids Cope Act

- Provides \$500 million per year for five years for grants to pediatric providers to support community-based behavioral health coordination and integration.
- Provides \$100 million for five years for grants to support pediatric behavioral health workforce training for range of physician and non-physician professionals.



## On behalf of our nation's children's hospitals and health systems, thank you!

Children's Hospital Association
600 13th St., NW | Suite 500 | Washington, DC 20005 | 202-753-5500
16011 College Blvd. | Suite 250 | Lenexa, KS 66219 | 913-262-1436
www.childrenshospitals.org