

ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

One Layer at a Time

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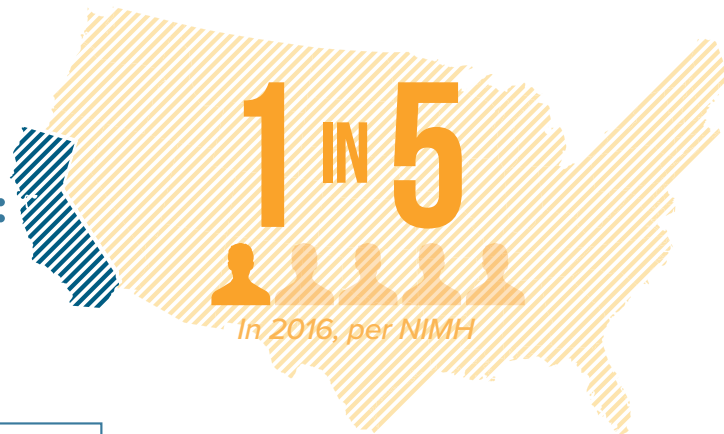


SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

Adults diagnosed with a mental illness



In 2014, per California Healthforce Center



In 2016, per NIMH

1 IN 14 Children in California diagnosed with a serious emotional disturbance



Many Californians suffer from substance abuse



How Government is Impacted

- ❑ **Child Welfare Services**
- ❑ **Education**
- ❑ **Corrections**
- ❑ **Health Care**
- ❑ **Workforce**

State Auditor's Work

- 2017-112 Homelessness in California
- **2017-117 Mental Health Services Act**
- 2016-131 CDCR Inmate Suicides
- **2015-131 Psychotropic Medications**
- 2015-115 Dually Involved Youth
- **2015-112 Student Mental Health Services**
- 2015-504 Follow-up Armed Prohibited Persons

Mental Health Services Act

- ❑ **Expanding Programs and Services**
- ❑ **Preventing Severity of Illness**
- ❑ **Increasing Services With Innovative Approaches and Improved Accessibility**

AUDIT RESULTS

Mental Health Services Act

❑ Ineffective Direction to Local Agencies on Use of MHSA Funds

- No Process for Recovering Unspent Funds From Local Agencies
- No Guidance Regarding Interest Earned on Unspent Funds
- Agencies Held Too Much in Reserves

❑ Inadequate Oversight of Funds Local Agencies Receive

- Annual Reporting Deadlines Not Enforced
- Fiscal Audit Process Insufficient

AUDIT RESULTS

Foster Youth: Psychotropic Medications

- Oversight for Child Welfare System Is Fragmented
- Lack of Reliable Use of Psychotropic Medications
- Dosages and Quantities Prescribed Were Too High
- Children Not Receiving Timely Follow-up Visits
- Medications Prescribed Without Proper Approval/Consent
- Health and Education Passports Incomplete and Inaccurate

AUDIT RESULTS

Student Mental Health Services

□ **Local Educational Agencies:**

- Removed Services From Student Individualized Education Program
- Need to Improve Student Access
- Do Not Track Costs of Services
- Some Had Not Spent the Funds
- Do Not Track Educational Outcomes for Students

What Have We Learned?

- ❑ **Timing and Types of Treatment Makes a Difference**
- ❑ **Need to Focus Attention and Resources**
- ❑ **Funding Is Available But Agencies Have Been Slow to Spend It**
- ❑ **More Direction and Oversight Is Needed**



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