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mindspring
MENTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

An independent organization formerly known as
NAMI Greater Des Moines

The May 2021 Journal/newsletter is [here](#)

Excellence in information for you continues. **May is Mental Health Month!!**

Celebrate by taking a class, attending an event, reading a mental health article, watch a movie, read a book, be kind, listen to their story, invite someone to lunch.

At the same location as the newsletter is:

- A multi-page document entitled "**Additional Mental Health Articles From Around the Nation**" - for your reading pleasure.
- A **May education document**. Access to register for the classes is in the document. Classes are at no cost to you. It also includes access to the recordings of the Inspirational Speakers.
- **The 2021 Community Conversation invitation**. The first community conversation will be on Friday, May 14, over the noon hour. It will be a virtual event. The speaker will be Dr. Josephine Gittler from the U. of Iowa. The topic will be Guardianships and Conservatorships.

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- The following social media accounts were transferred to our new name. The new names are:
 - Twitter: [@mindspring_dsm](#)
 - Instagram: [@mindspring_health](#)
 - Facebook will be changed soon
 - Our office is still closed. Please contact director@mindspringhealth.org if you have questions or concerns.

- Please be patient with our transition to a **new website**. It's underway. In the meantime, go to www.mindspringhealth.org or www.weareherewithyou.com.
- We are still offering our **crisis cards for sale**. The landing page to reach this information is under reconstruction. You can personalize the cards with your organization's name and website. We have found the cards to be incredibly useful - people appreciate the instantaneous help on the cards since they are wallet-size and are made of a nearly indestructible material.
 - Do's and Don'ts in a Mental Health Crisis
 - Suicide Warning Signs and Response
 - Compassionate Communication (can double as a business card)
 - For now, contact Mike Larkin at mlarkin@asb-ia.com

7-day window to apply for telehealth funding opens 4-29-21. The Federal Communications Commission will accept [applications for COVID-19 Telehealth Program](#) Round 2 funding from April 29 at 12 p.m. ET to May 6 at 12 p.m. ET. The Consolidated Appropriations Act authorized an additional \$249.95 million in funding for the program to reimburse eligible health care providers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic for telecommunications services, information services and devices needed to provide critical connected care services. For more on eligibility and the application process, visit the Universal Service Administrative Company [website](#) or email specific questions to Round2TelehealthApplicationSupport@usac.org

From *Open Minds* - We've heard the stats many times in the past decade—

- health care services account for only 20% of health outcomes,
- while health-related behaviors and socioeconomic factors—housing, food, environment, employment—can drive 80% of health outcomes.
- We know that consumers between the ages of 25 and 44 experiencing homelessness have a mortality risk that is 8.9 times higher than the risk of the general population.
- Nearly 50 million people are food insecure and food insecurity is associated with increased risks of anemia, asthma, worse oral health, anxiety, depression, behavioral problems, and suicide ideation.

Youth Detention Facility Finds Culture of Kindness More Effective than Punishment | [PACe's Connection](#)

CIT in San Antonio

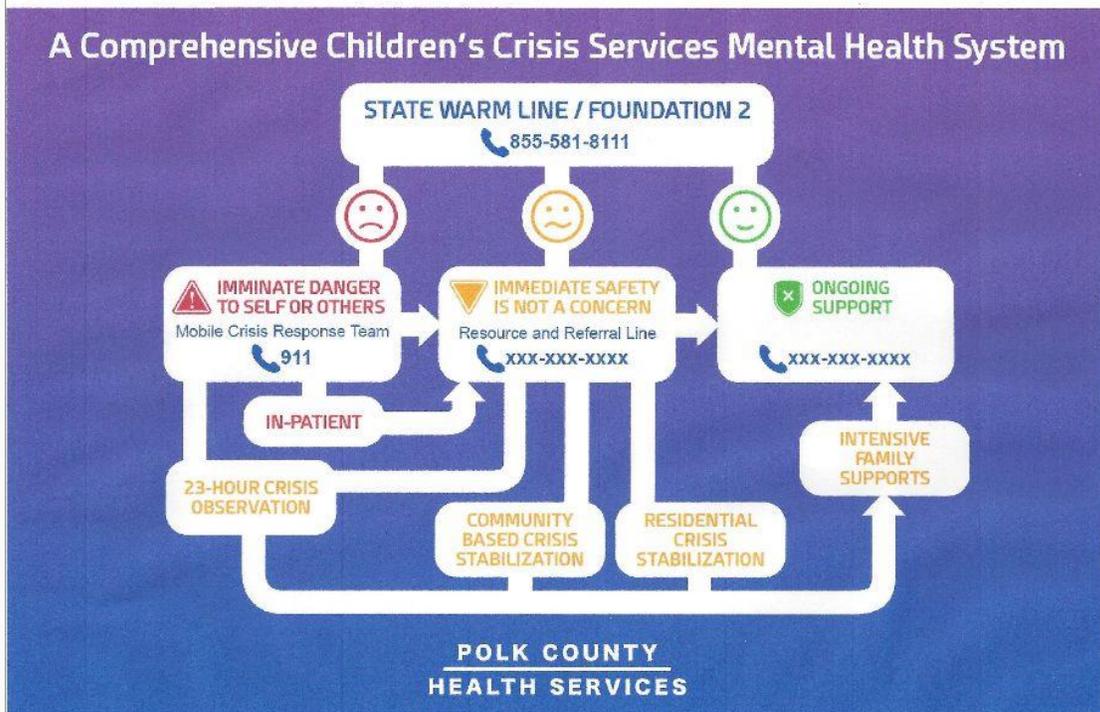
NBC Left Field ran [this documentary](#) on members of law enforcement in San

Antonio, Texas who are responding to people in psychiatric distress. If you are familiar with their work, you will hear citations from their research, as well as some of the reasons why they advocate for timely and effective treatment of severe mental illness. Hopefully, some day soon, law enforcement officers will not be forced to address the failures of the mental health treatment system. In the meantime, it is encouraging to see dedicated public servants trying to approach mental illness in the right way.

- **1 in 5 (20%)** adults in the United States lives with a mental health condition.
- **1 in 25 (4.2%)** adults in the United States lives with a serious mental illness.
- **Half** of all lifetime mental health conditions **begin by age 14** and **75% by age 24**, but early intervention programs can help.
- **90% of those who die by suicide have an underlying mental illness.** Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, but suicide is preventable. 52% of suicides are firearms related.
- The best treatments for serious mental illnesses today are highly effective; **between 70 and 90% of individuals** have significant reduction of symptoms and improved quality of life with the right treatments and supports.

Attachment A

Draft



Highlights from Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee* meeting on 4-29-21:

Services Required to be in place by 7-1-21 in Polk County

1. Children's Crisis Services - a draft of the proposed flow chart is the picture prefacing this article on CJCC

- if the call involves imminent danger - a call to 911 will dispatch the mobile crisis team with law enforcement
- if immediate safety is not a concern - a community based crisis stabilization team will be dispatched (without police)
- if the placement needed is residential crisis stabilization - the stay would be for up to 5 days
- intensive family supports would be a part of the continuum of care
- a 23 hour observation center is on the wish list for later development
- a communications plan will also be part of placing the system in service so families know who to call
- an RFP has been issued - responses are due by 5-27-21
- more information coming

2. Early ID and Intervention - for kids

3. Subacute beds for adults

4. Intensive Residential Homes for adults

Negotiations are ongoing for completing a sobering center.

Stepping Up Initiative: Polk County will present a three[1]part webinar series sponsored by Stepping Up and Council of State Governments Justice Center with Fulton County, GA and Bernalillo County, NM regarding Familiar Faces. Part 1: First Face Encounter will be May 13, 2021.

Stepping Up Initiative: Polk County was accepted into the Stepping Up Set, Measure, Achieve virtual Community of Practice. We will learn strategies to guide data collection and analysis efforts with the goal of reducing the number of people with serious mental illness who come in contact with the justice system.

Post-Booking Jail Diversion: The University of Iowa Law, Health Policy and Disability Center was awarded a grant from Nellie Ball Trust Research Fund to support a one-year research project in collaboration with Polk County Health Services and Eyerly Ball Community Mental Health Services Jail Diversion Team.

The Health Information Sharing Grant: Polk County Health Services, Polk County IT, Polk County Sheriff's Office, and jail medical IT staff are collaborating with Mission Critical Partners to create connectivity between the jail Electronic Health Records and the Department of Corrections. It went live last week. Next phase is to create connectivity between the jail Electronic Health Records, the community mental health centers and hospitals through the Iowa Health Information Network (IHEN). This should be completed in 2-3 months. This will allow the hospitals, prescribers

and jails to provide a better continuity of care. Only health care related information is shared.

Mobile Crisis Response Team 7-1-20 through 3-31-21

of calls – 2381 - 21% were calls for children 79% were calls for adults

42% resolved in the community –

824 people treated in field would have cost

\$3,806,880 if taken to jail

\$824,000 if taken to Emergency Room

\$3,296,000 if taken to hospital

27% other - 273 taken to hospital for treatment would have

cost \$1,261,260 if taken to jail

14% to the hospital

11% resolved by phone

4% follow-up phone calls

1% MCRT unavailable

1% to jail

Broadlawns Psychiatric Urgent Care 7-1-20 through 3-3-21

1740 individuals served

129 assisted with prescriptions through SafeNetRX Justice

Involved program

Crisis Observation Center (up to 23 hours and 59 minutes of care)

Admissions - 1272

Came from – 51% walk-ins

37% from MH provider

8% from police

3% from SA provider

1% from community program provider

Discharged to - 66% home

15% other shelter admittance

9% Hospital ER, Broadlawns

6% Hospital admit, private hospital

4% Community outpatient services

Mental Health Service Coordination for the Homeless

Cost Avoidance based on University of Texas two-year survey of homeless individuals www.endhomelessness.org

- Individuals experiencing homelessness spend more time in jail or prison due to laws such as regulations against loitering, sleeping in cars, and begging.
- Each individual experiencing homelessness costs the taxpayers \$14,480 per year, primarily for overnight jail.
- Typical cost of a prison bed in a state or federal prison is \$20,000 per year

• Homeless Action Plan for Des Moines and Polk County (2009) found that the average chronically homeless person costs Polk County taxpayers an estimated \$40,000 a year through the utilization of public resources, from hospital emergency room visits to police time.

15 homeless people were housed from 7-1-20 to 3-31-21

This program's budget was capped and no new clients have been provided housing funding since September 2020.

** The Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee has members from the Polk County Supervisors, Fifth Judicial District, Polk Co. Public Defender's Office, the Polk County Attorney's office, Police Chiefs from Des and Ankeny, Polk County Sheriff, Polk County Health Services.*



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MindSpring Mental Health Alliance (formerly NAMI Greater Des Moines)
511 E 6th St Ste.B
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

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