

# THERE IS NO HEALTH WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Fix gaps  
in the  
mental health/  
addiction  
treatment  
system

People experiencing a mental health or addiction crisis cannot access the right treatment at the right time.

Families and communities are at risk.

Solutions exist.



## Support the *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R.3717).*

### The challenge:

- **Two-thirds of adults with serious functional impairment due to emotional and behavioral health problems do NOT receive mental health treatment.**
- **Nearly one in five Americans has a mental illness.**
- **Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for young adults ages 25 to 34.**
- **Inpatient beds in the U.S. have dropped from more than 550,000 beds in 1955 to 40,000 today....making access to acute hospital care difficult.**
- **Recent tragedies have spotlighted barriers to access to mental health and addiction treatment** (such as those in Newtown, CT; Tucson, AZ; Aurora, CO).

### H.R.3717 would:

- **Create a pathway under Medicaid for people to get access to short-term acute psychiatric care.**
- Give behavioral health organizations **funding for health information technology**
- **Elevate mental health in the federal government** by creating an Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- Promote primary care **integration**
- Support **suicide prevention** for children and youth

*continued*

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Support the *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R.3717)*.



## H.R.3717 would: *continued*

- Encourage **research** on serious mental illness and self- or other-directed violence
- Improve **communication** between families and mental health providers
- Apply quality standards for a new class of Federally Qualified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (FQCBHC), requiring them to provide a range of mental health and primary care services
- Promote **justice system reforms**
- Establish **national standards** for both inpatient and outpatient commitment to reduce barriers to timely access to treatment

## Background:

- The bill was introduced by Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA) after a year-long study of the nation's mental health system. Rep. Murphy is chair of the House Oversight Subcommittee of the Energy & Commerce Committee.
- Rep. Murphy is also the co-chair of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus.
- There are 40 cosponsors of this legislation, including Republicans and Democrats.