How Judicial Reforms Fit Into Broader Mental Health Policy Reform

Andy Keller, PhD | June 21, 2019

Vision, Mission, Core Change Strategy

Vision

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

Mission Statement

To provide independent, nonpartisan, data-driven and trusted policy and program guidance that creates systemic changes so all Texans can obtain effective, efficient behavioral health care when and where they need it.
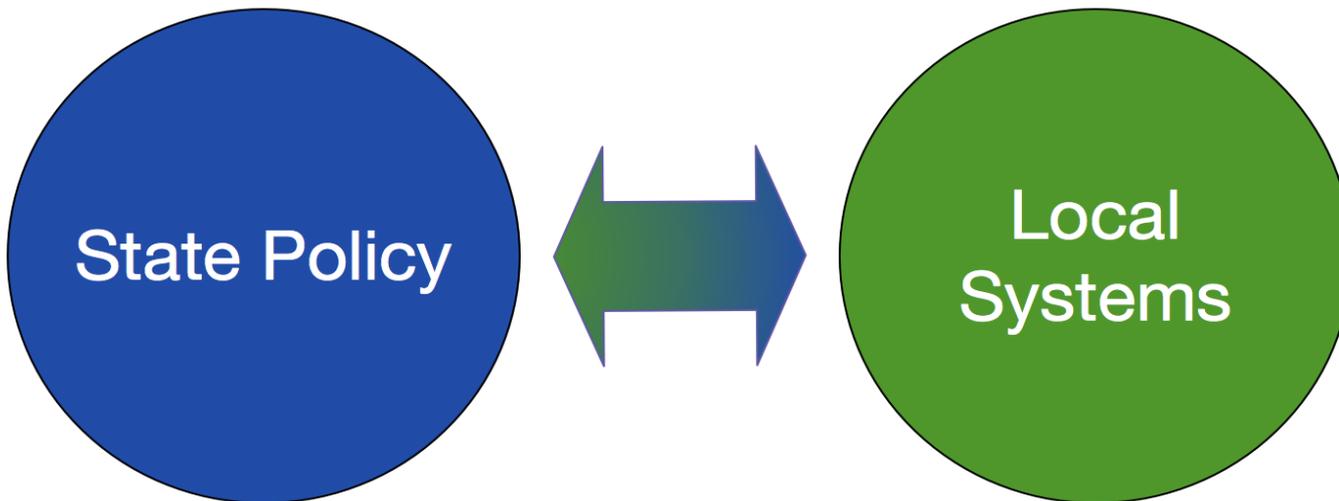
State Policy ⬌ Local Systems

Vision, Mission, Core Change Strategy

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- Since our founding in 2013:
  - Texas **behavioral health funding is up** <u>over $1.8 billion.</u>
  - Legislators have **"found"** <u>over $3 billion more.</u>

- Two legislative sessions: **42 of 48 legislative priorities passed.**

Four Care-Focused Policy Goals

1. <u>Eliminate the need to use the jail</u> for mental health care delivery.

2. <u>Eliminate expulsions</u> due to unmet mental health needs in schools.

3. 100% of <u>first episode psychosis</u> detected, treated, and remitted.

4. 100% of <u>depression</u> detected, treated, and remitted.
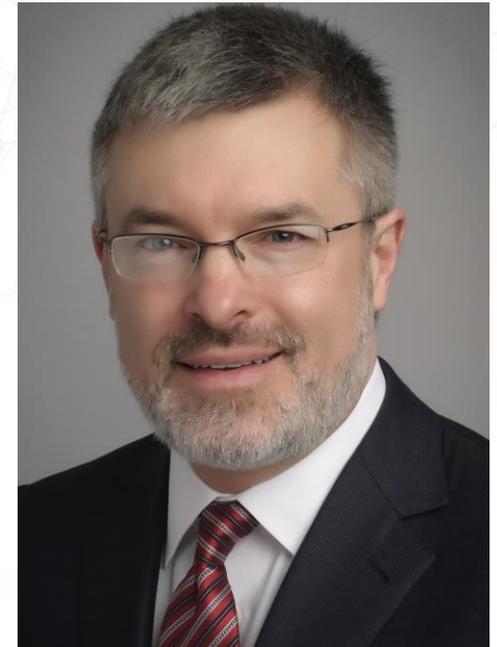
How Many Adults Need Help?

Comparable statistics:

- New cases of breast cancer: 16,000

- Breast cancer survivors: 100,000

- Texans with diabetes: 2 million

Twelve-Month Prevalence of Mental Health Disorders in Adults in Texas, 2016	Prevalence
Total Adult Population	**20,450,000**
All Behavioral Health Needs (Mild, Moderate, Severe)	4,800,000
Mild and Moderate Conditions	3,850,000
Severe - Serious Mental Illness (SMI)	950,000
SMI in Poverty	520,000
Complex Needs/ Super Utilization	10,000
Subset with High Forensic Needs	8,000
Specific Diagnoses	
Schizophrenia	100,000
First Episode Psychoses (FEP) Incidence (Ages 18–34)	2,000
Major Depression	1,450,000
Bipolar I Disorder	110,000
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	720,000
Substance Use Disorders	1,650,000
Deaths Due to Suicide	3,339
Deaths Due to Opioid Use	1,261
Deaths Due to Alcohol Use	1,261

Figures rounded for simplicity; citations available on request

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The Progression of Mental Health Conditions

- <u>Half</u> of all mental health conditions manifest by <u>age 14</u>; interventions work best <u>at this early stage</u> when symptoms are *less severe*, *more treatable*, and *more readily kept from escalating* to more dangerous conditions that increase risk.

- By young adulthood, **75% of lifetime cases have presented**.

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THE **CURRENT** MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

LIFE IN COMMUNITY

WORK · SCHOOL · HOME · FAITH · FAMILY

PHYSICAL

- Primary Care
- Specialty Care
- Inpatient Care
- Best Practice Anchor *(e.g., MD Anderson)*

MENTAL

- Law Enforcement
- Inpatient Care
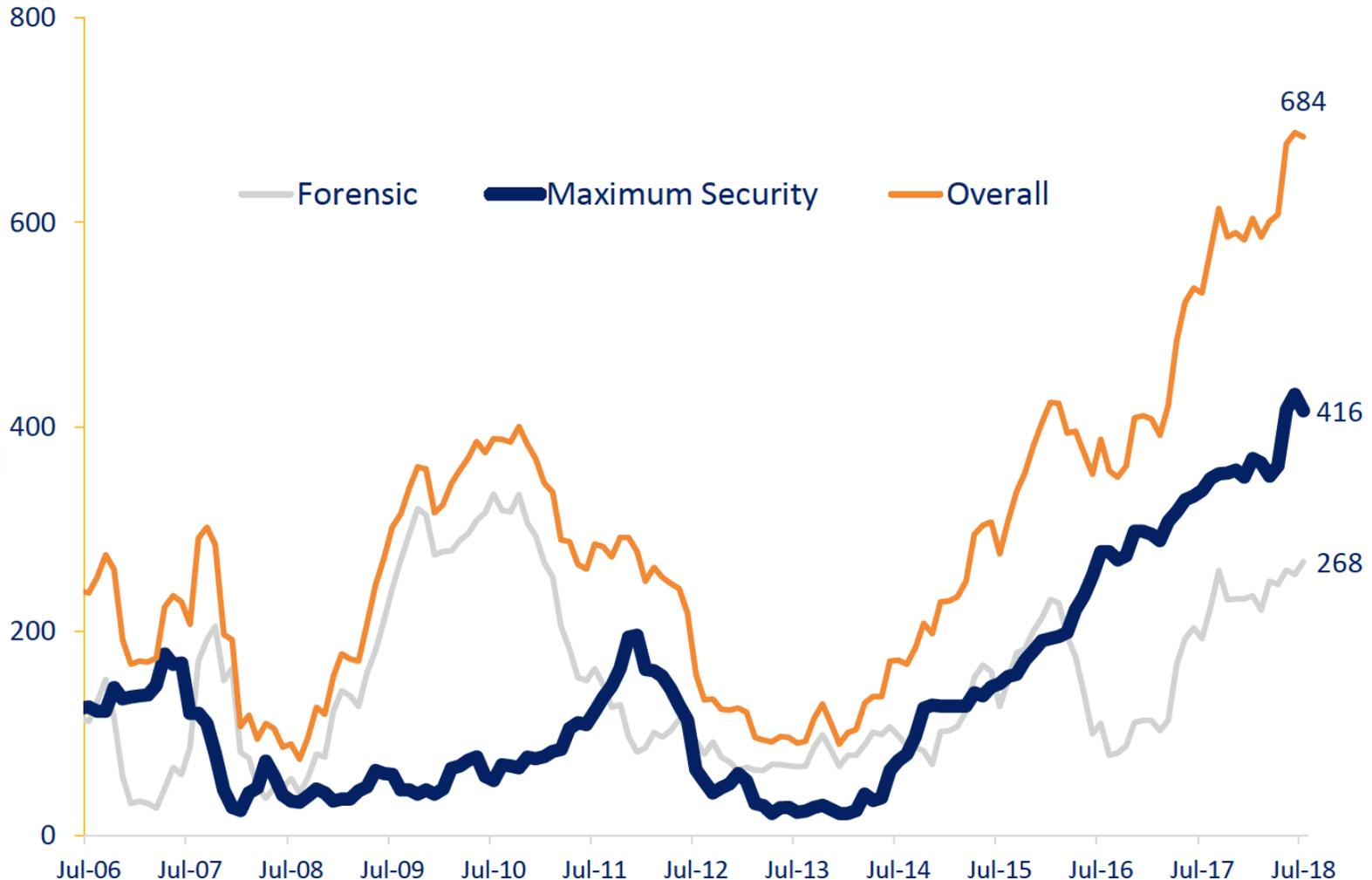- Jail
- Specialty Care
- Primary Care
- Best Practice Boutique *(e.g. McLean, Johns Hopkins)*

The best Mental Health Care should be just like the best Health Care

Growing Forensic Commitment Waiting List

The waiting list has risen over 600% since 2013.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission. (September 12, 2018). State Hospital Capacity & Waitlist, Testimony to the Texas Senate Health and Human Services Committee.
Retrieved at: https://hhs.texas.gov/file/95316/download?token=9KXKwhTX

The Sequential Intercept Model

Intercept 1	Intercept 2	Intercept 3	Intercept 4	Intercept 5
Law Enforcement	Initial Detention and Court Hearing	Jail and Courts	Continuity of Care from Jail	Forensic-Focused and Community-Based Care

Linear depiction of the Sequential Intercept Model
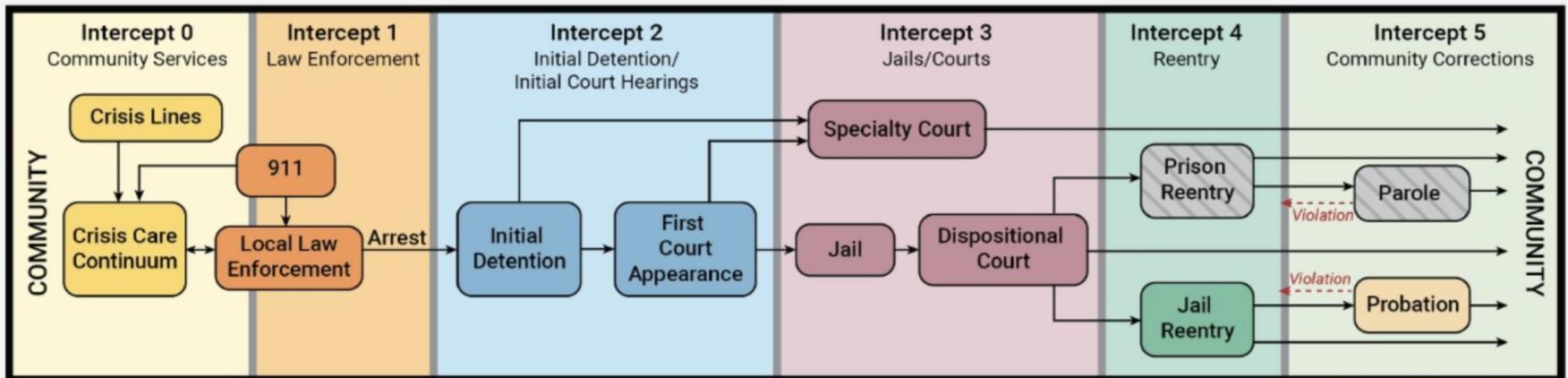
**Source:** Abreu et al., 2017. Used by permission.

85(R) SB 292

SB 292 (Huffman, Nelson, Schwertner) created the <u>Mental Health Grant Program for Justice-Involved Individuals</u>.

- **GOAL** – to reduce: (1) **recidivism rates**, **arrests**, and **incarceration** for people with mental illness; and (2) the wait time for **forensic commitments** of people with mental illnesses to a state hospital.

- **FUNDING** – **$12.5 million** in fiscal year (FY) 2018 and **$25 million** in FY 2019, plus **$5 million** per fiscal year for Harris County. It was just reauthorized through FY 2021 at that level.

- **APPLICANTS** must be a <u>county-based community collaborative</u> and provide a local match of 1:1 in large counties and 1:2 in smaller counties.
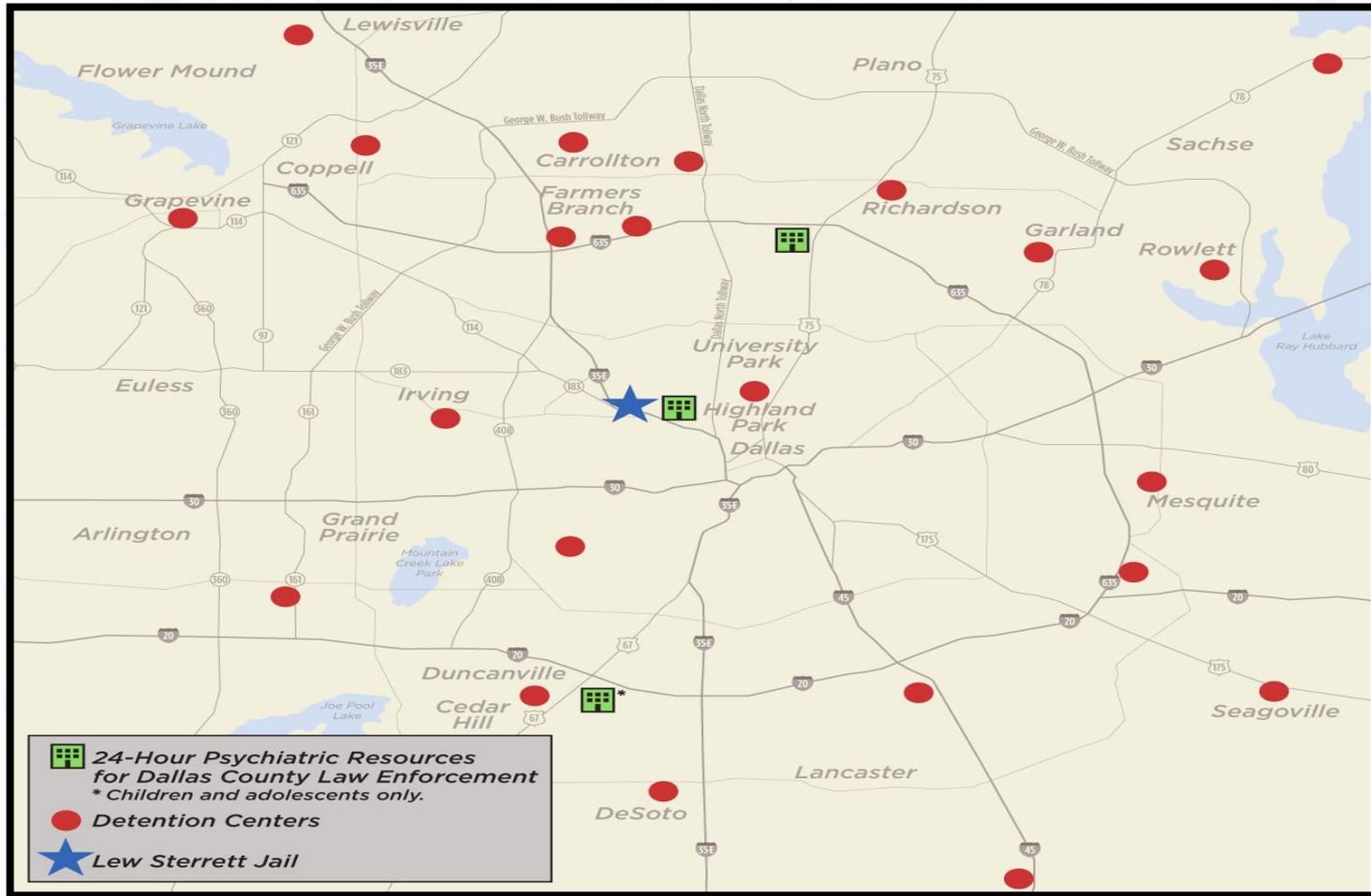
Progress Thus Far – SB 292 (Urban)
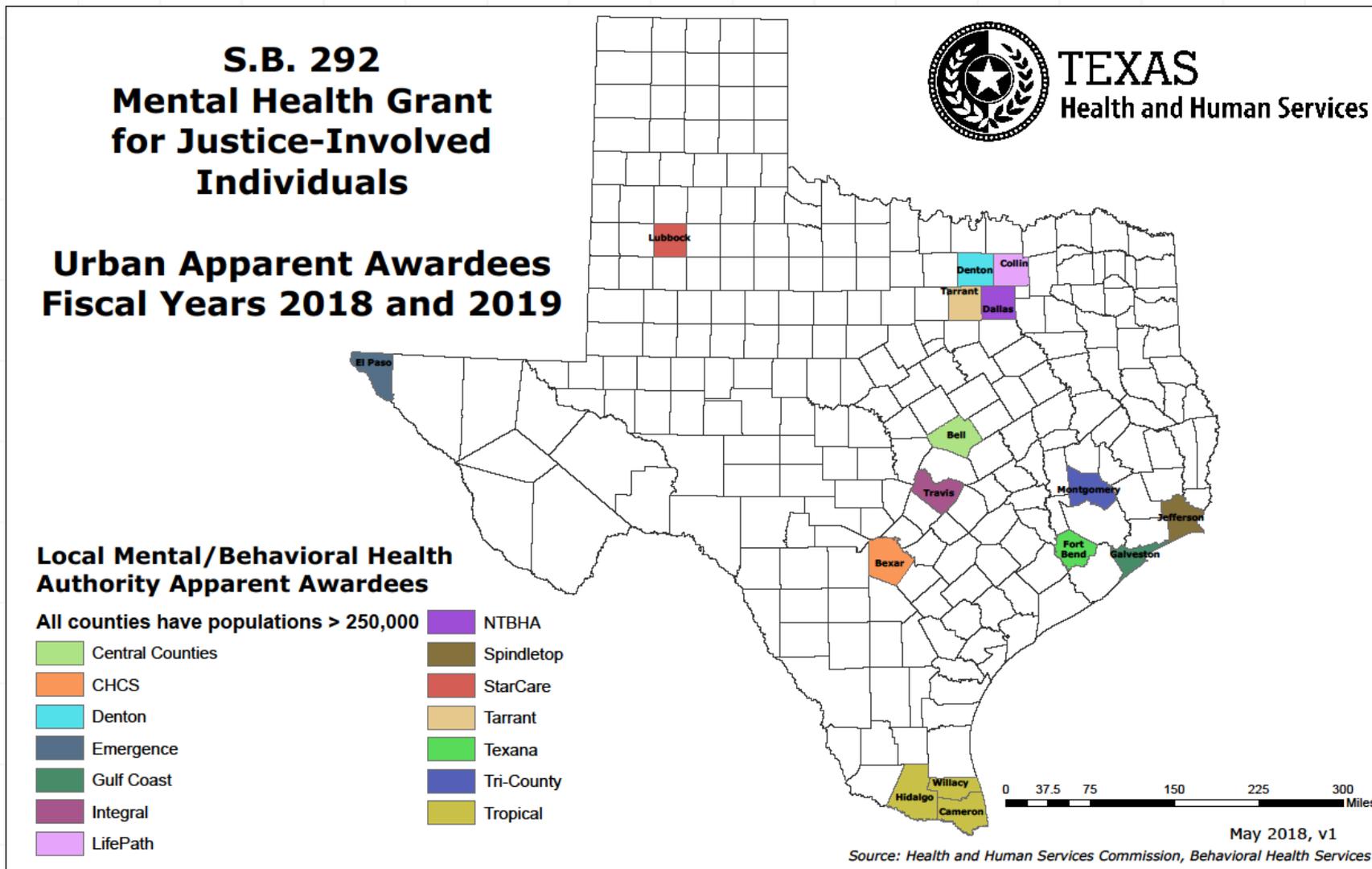
Progress Thus Far – SB 292 (Rural)
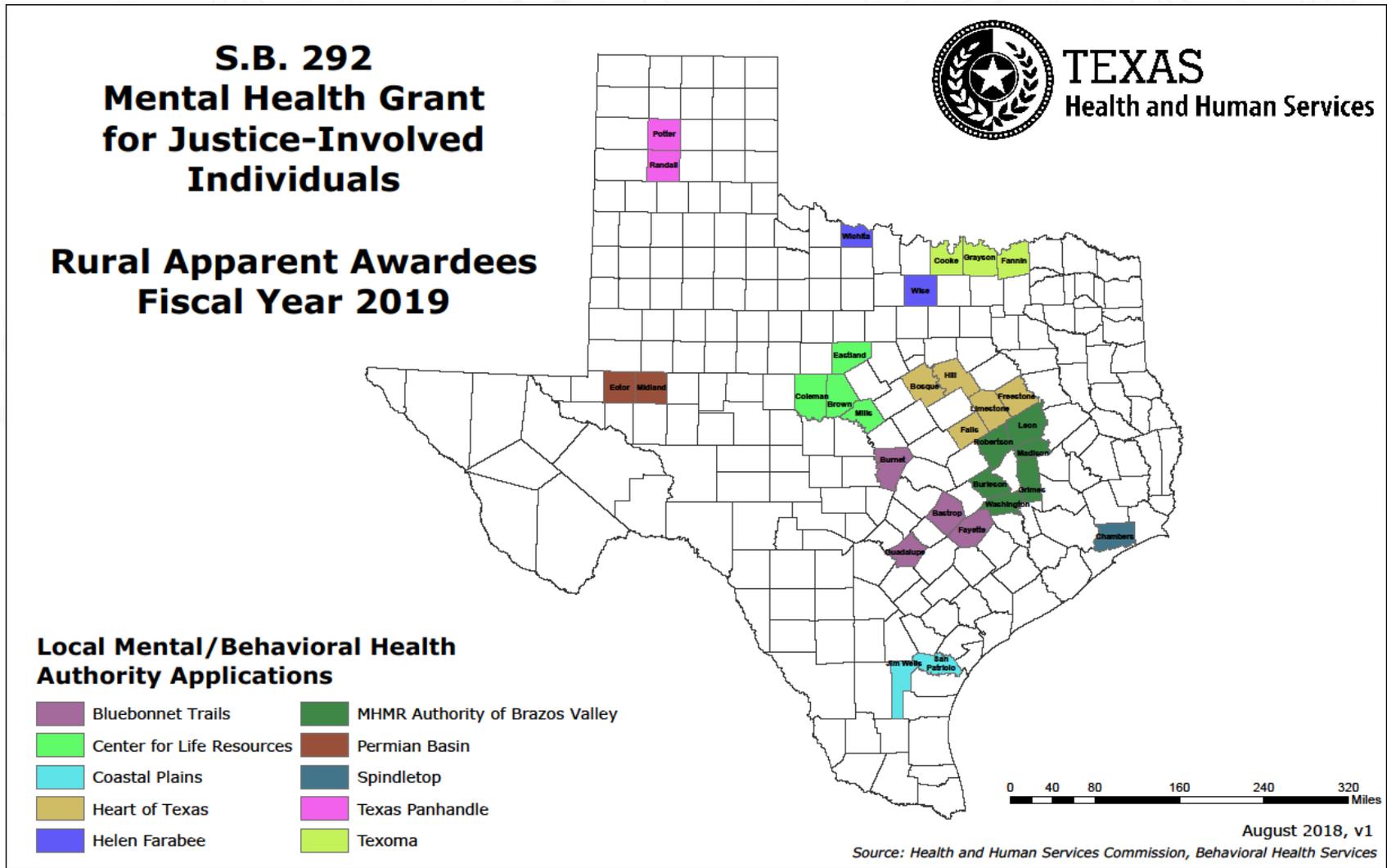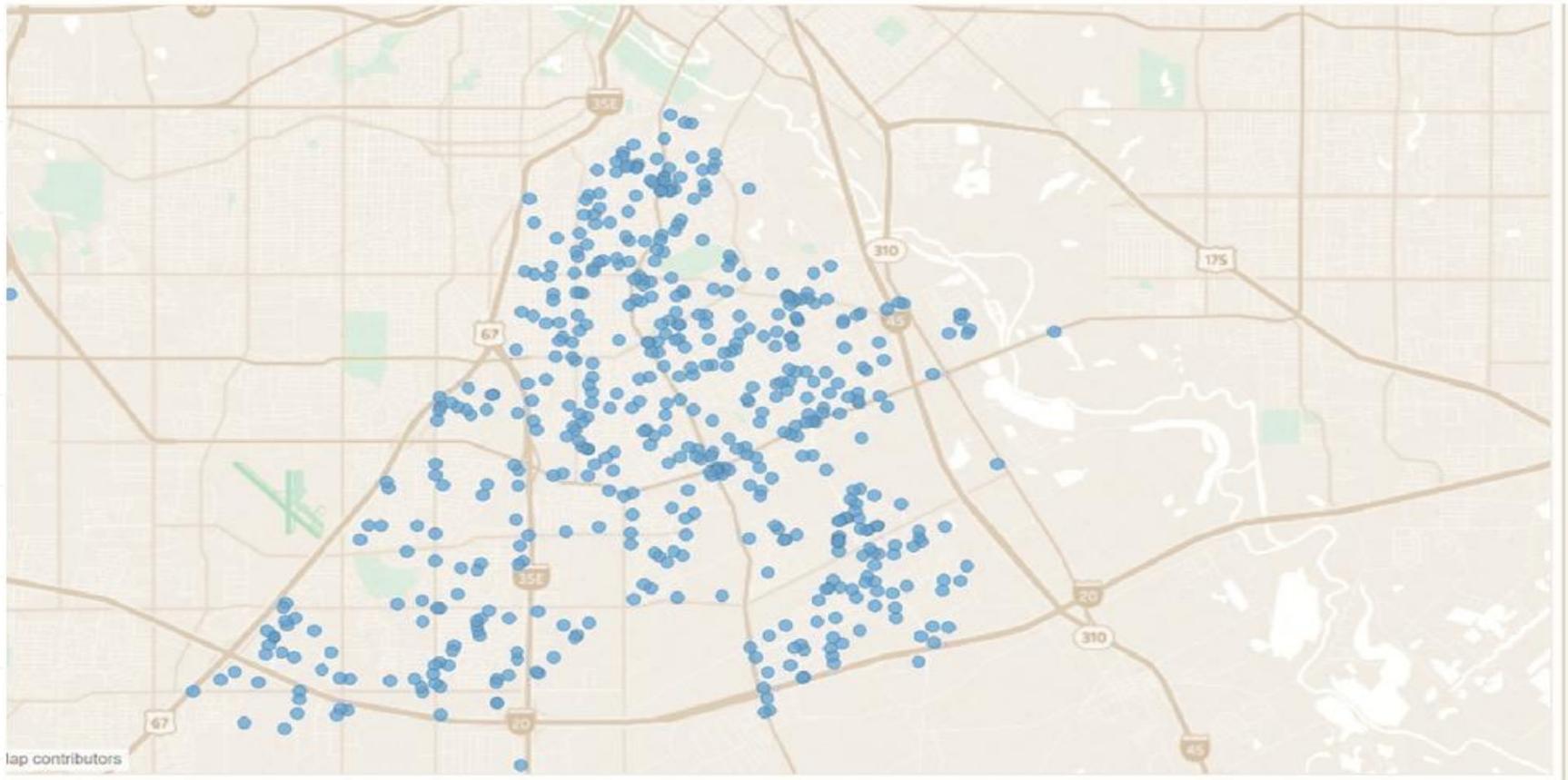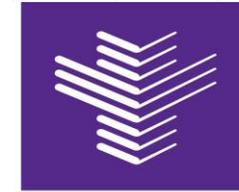
Jail Vs. Care in One County: Dallas in 2016

# 911 Calls in South Central Patrol District

Dallas RIGHT Care Team

- 4,019 total responses to calls for service;

- 3,377 connections to care;

- 22% (over 875 people) resulted in hospital diversions to community care, and only 5% resulted in an emergency detention;

- 12% (over 460 people) resulted in jail diversion (over 460 people diverted from arrest); and

- 1.7% of contacts resulted in an arrest for a new offense.

Parkland Hospital Psychiatric Data

While the total volume for psychiatric emergency detentions (PEDs) presentations at Parkland Health & Hospital System (Parkland Hospital) increased, the volume of people presenting from zip codes within South Central Patrol District decreased.
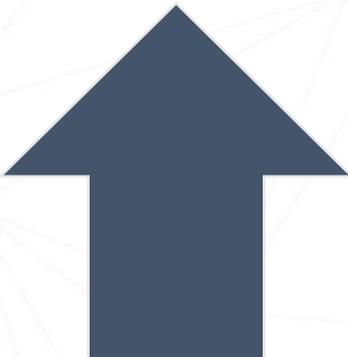
The total volume of PEDs presented at Parkland experienced a **+5% increase** from 2017 to 2018.
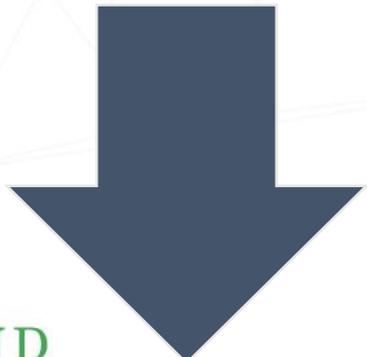
The volume of PEDs presented at Parkland from zip codes within South Central experienced a **-9% decrease** from 2017 to 2018.

Program Growth

Tulsa police pilot program to handle mental health 911 calls to begin compiling data as it seeks funding

Data Gathering • Its aim is to treat people in mental health crisis on site

By Corey Jones Tulsa World   Jul 23, 2017

IRVING, TX -- The Irving Police Department is launching a new mental health response team. Under the guidance of the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute's Caruth Smart Justice Program, the department created the team consisting of three specially trained officers and a mental health professional. These people will provide "a comprehensive response to calls involving behavioral health emergencies as well as outreach and follow-up calls as necessary," the department said in a news release.
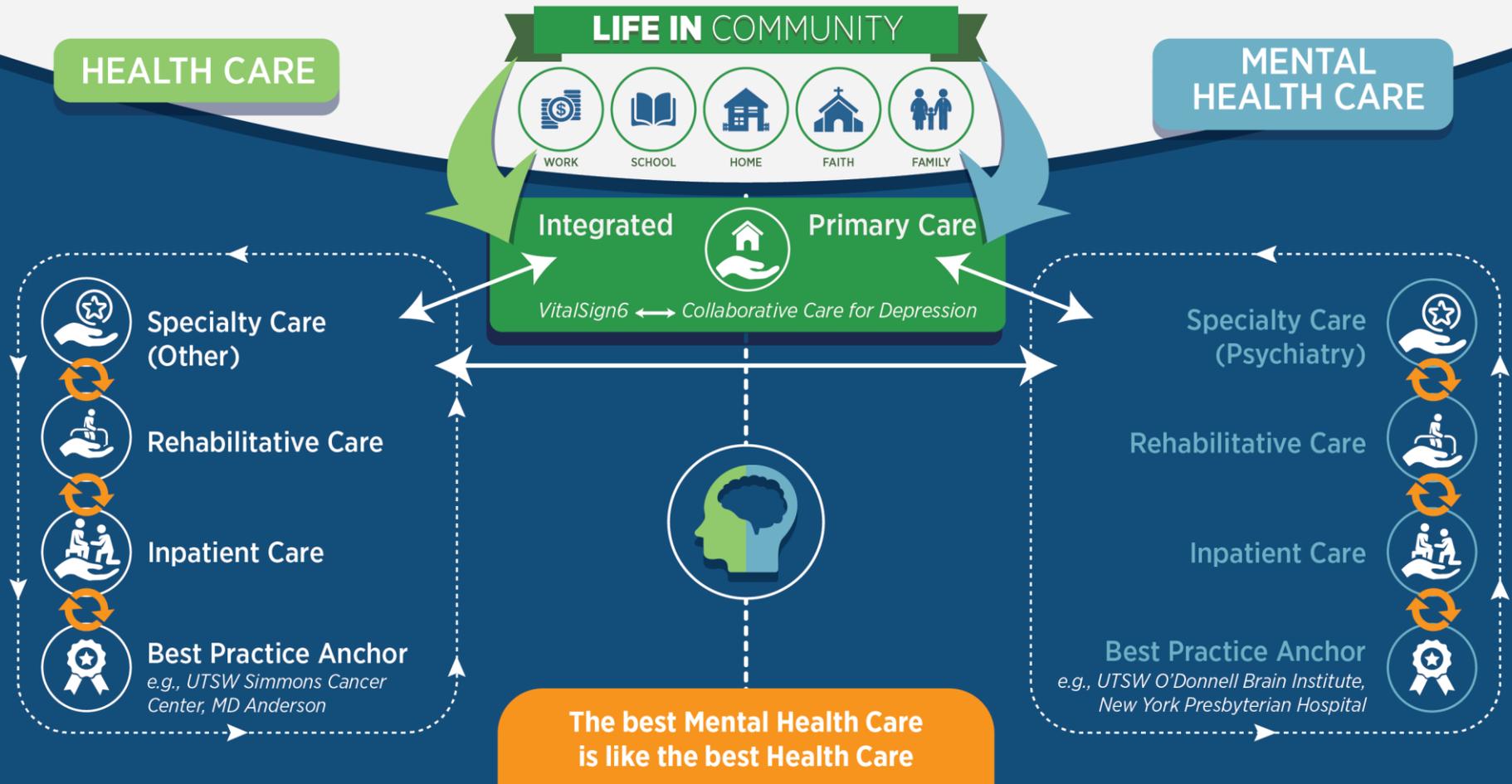
THE CHALLENGE:[1] In the City of Dallas, in recent years, there has been an increasing number of 911 calls from people who require mental health assistance. Traditionally, the response has been to transport these people to local emergency departments or, if medically stable, arrest and book them in the Dallas County Jail where they can receive psychiatric services. Between 2012 and 2015, the number of 911 mental health calls requiring an ambulance response increased by 59% (from 2,176 to 3,452 calls). The South Central Dallas Patrol District saw the bulk of that increase during 2012 and 2015 – from 382 to 706 calls, the equivalent of an 85% spike.

THE APPROACH:[2] In response to the growing need of assistance for 911 mental health calls, the W.W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation at the Communities Foundation of Texas partnered with the Meadows Mental Health Policy

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THE IDEAL MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

LIFE IN COMMUNITY

WORK · SCHOOL · HOME · FAITH · FAMILY

HEALTH CARE

MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Integrated — Primary Care

VitalSign6 ⟷ Collaborative Care for Depression

Specialty Care (Other)

Rehabilitative Care

Inpatient Care

Best Practice Anchor
e.g., UTSW Simmons Cancer Center, MD Anderson

Specialty Care (Psychiatry)

Rehabilitative Care

Inpatient Care

Best Practice Anchor
e.g., UTSW O'Donnell Brain Institute, New York Presbyterian Hospital

The best Mental Health Care is like the best Health Care

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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

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