mental health
CONNECTICUT

MHC 2023 Legislative Priorities

Prevention & Intervention

Equity

Safe Environments

Enforce private health insurance parity for Mental Health and Substance Use.

After the passage of the CT Parity law (www.ctparitycoalition.org) in 2019, and 15 years after the federal law, compliance is still unknown and unconfirmed in many cases, yet consumer experiences of inequity in health care are prevalent and increasing. We ask that the legislature hold the private health insurance industry accountable through their lack of compliance with existing laws.

Ensure peer support is an essential part of Connecticut's mental health workforce.

Peer support is an evidence-based practice of incorporating certified individuals with lived experience into clinical and non-clinical settings to support individuals on their path to recovery. In 2021, MHC supported the creation of a task force (which, to date, has not convened) to study reimbursement models.

Ensure CT permanently funds the 988 Crisis Response System.

Connecticut's ability to support a system for responding to a mental health crisis through 988 must have long-term funding allocated so residents are supported by someone trained in experiencing mental health and substance use situations, and includes staff who are certified in peer support.
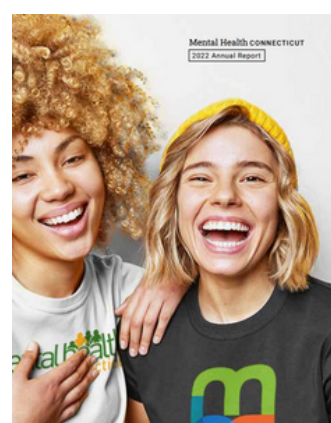
Codify telehealth as a permanent part of health care delivery.

For individuals and families in rural areas, as well as elderly populations and individuals living with disabilities and receiving in-home care, telehealth has become essential.

Invest in Supportive Housing and Housing First.

Housing First policies expedite access to permanent supportive housing for people with mental health and substance use conditions with an effective safety net that includes safe and affordable housing, without requiring treatment as a precondition.

Check out MHC's 2022 Annual Report

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