MICHIGAN’S LARGE BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE SHORTAGE

More than 650,000 Michiganders with a mental illness and over 500,000 with a substance use disorder do not receive any treatment for their conditions, according to a new study from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and Altarum. That means 8 out of 10 residents with a substance use disorder are not receiving treatment, whether due to lack of providers, cost of care, or reluctance to seek it out. Read more: www.mihealthfund.org/access

Key statistics

- Of the 1.76 million Michiganders experiencing a mental illness, about 62% receive treatment, leaving 38%, more than 666,000 people, with unmet need.
- Of the 638,000 Michiganders experiencing a substance use disorder, only 20% receive treatment, leaving more than half a million people untreated.
- About one-half of Medicaid enrollees, one-third of the privately-insured, and one-fifth of Medicare enrollees with a mental illness do not receive care.
- About 87% of the privately-insured and 60% of Medicare enrollees with a substance use disorder do not receive care.
- Behavioral health provider capacity is especially low in the northern half of the lower peninsula, where seven counties have neither a psychiatrist nor a psychologist and no substance use disorder treatment facility.

Key strategies

1. Increase retention
2. Promote lay providers
3. Use telemedicine
4. Expand school-based care
5. Integrate care

Sample social media posts

Over a million Michigan residents have a mental illness or substance use disorder. A new study from Altarum and Michigan Health Endowment Fund reveals that far too many of them are not receiving the care they need: mihealthfund.org/access

Improving behavioral healthcare begins with improving #healthaccess. This new study identifies the biggest gaps in access in Michigan and outlines some key ways we can begin to fill those gaps: mihealthfund.org/access