

2024 NAMI WA Budget Priorities

Maintain \$500K funding for peer-led community-based programs for NAMI Washington

- NAMI programs are an integral part of prevention and early intervention.
- Investing in community supports reduces the use of more costly higher-level services
- These programs are not duplicated within the behavioral health system

Medicaid Rate Increase for Behavioral Healthcare Providers (\$44.9 million)

- Increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates will help increase and maintain community behavioral health workforce.
- Community behavioral healthcare staff work in high-stress environments for low pay, leading to burnout and high turnover rates

Increase State-run In-patient Bed Capacity (72 beds at Western State, 38 beds at Eastern State, 72 beds at Olympic Heritage BH)

- The national average for in-patient beds is 26.1 per 100,000 residents. Washington averages 8.3 beds
- A lack of beds makes in-patient services difficult to access and people with severe mental illness are unable to get treatment

Youth Behavioral Health (\$11.1 million)

- 58% of WA youth experience one or more symptoms of anxiety or depression.
- Investments in prevention and early intervention will decrease mental health crisis and suicide rates
- Funding expands supports for youth and young adults at their initial psychotic episode.

Contact

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