



FY23 House Ways and Means State Budget Please Co-Sponsor Amendments #457 and #731

PLEASE CO-SPONSOR TWO AMENDMENTS TO SUPPORT A "FRONT DOOR" TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT - A NEW, CENTRALIZED SERVICE TO HELP PEOPLE ACCESS SERVICES

Amendment #457: Network of Care (Representative Lawn)

\$750K increase in 4000-0300 EOHHS and MassHealth Operations

Enables the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH) not only to manage Network of Care Massachusetts, but also to serve as a robust and reliable resource for the EOHHS Roadmap's new Behavioral Health Help Line (scheduled to launch in January 2023).

What is Network of Care Massachusetts?

Network of Care Massachusetts is an online tool (massachusetts.networkofcare.org) that helps users find information about resources in their communities for people of all ages with mental health and substance use needs.

Since the site's launch in March 2020, there have been over 200,000 unique visits to Network of Care Massachusetts. Visitors have searched for services in every single county in the Commonwealth, and the top keywords users entered to search the service directory were "therapist," "therapy," "psychiatrist," "mental health," and "psychologist."

Amendment #731: Behavioral Health Trust Fund and Payor Surcharge (Representative Decker)

Creates an outside section of the budget that would establish a trust fund to collect outside sources of funding and payor surcharges to support a statewide, payor-agnostic community behavioral health crisis system.

What will the Behavioral Health Trust Fund support?

- A Behavioral Health Help Line to connect individuals to behavioral health services, including clinical assessment and triage.
- A statewide system to deliver behavioral health crisis intervention services 24/7 in mobile and community-based settings, available to all residents without regard to insurance.

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