

FACT SHEET

January 2007

**REQUEST: \$2.7 million
ongoing for Mental Health
Treatment for the Uninsured**

Mental Health Treatment for the Uninsured

In FY 2005 the federal Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services changed its payment policy. Previously, Medicaid paid mental health centers at a set rate for each Medicaid eligible person in the area they serve. Mental health centers were then free to serve their clients in the most efficient way possible and use the money saved through efficiency for the treatment of uninsured non-Medicaid patients. When the system changed in 2005, the Utah's centers lost savings of \$7.7 million for reinvestment into these programs and services, thus leaving 4300 clients without treatment.

KEY FACTS

- The Legislature has appropriated some one-time funding for mental health treatment totaling \$2 million in FY 2006 and \$1 million in FY 2007.
- The number of mental health cases presented at emergency rooms since this funding was cut has increased significantly from 21,525 cases in 2004, 30,767 in 2005.
- The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) has a statutory obligation to serve mentally ill individuals in the state. If this funding is granted DSAMH is proposing to use the funding to develop programs that are creative and innovative such as the Telemedicine Program utilized by the Veterans Administration and Southwest Behavioral Health and the Family Advocate Program used in several rural counties.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many people will this appropriation help?

An appropriation of \$2,715,200 will provide services to approximately 2,900 indigent uninsured mental health patients.

Who provides the mental health services funded by DSAMH?

There are eleven mental health centers in the State:

- Bear River Mental Health (Box Elder, Cache, & Rich)
- Davis Behavioral Health (Davis)
- Weber Human Services (Weber & Morgan)
- Valley Mental Health (Salt Lake, Summit & Tooele)
- Northeast Counseling Center (Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah)
- Four Corners Mental Health (Carbon, Emery & Grand)
- Wasatch Mental Health (Utah)
- Heber Valley Counseling (Wasatch)
- San Juan Mental Health (San Juan)
- Southwest Center (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane & Washington)
- Central Utah Mental Health (Piute, Sevier, Juab, Wayne, Millard & Sanpete)

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