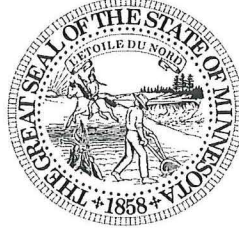


STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR

Executive Order 16-02

Establishing the Governor's Task Force on Mental Health

I, Mark Dayton, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

Whereas, more than 200,000 adults and 75,000 children in Minnesota live with a mental illness;

Whereas, people wait an average of ten years between first experiencing mental health symptoms and accessing treatment;

Whereas, over 50 percent of children and adults in Minnesota who experience homelessness live with a mental illness;

Whereas, Minnesotans who seek mental health services experience gaps in the current mental health system, leading to inappropriate placement in mental health services, or to not receiving care altogether;

Whereas, adults with a serious and persistent mental illness are dying, on average, 25 years earlier than the general public due to heart disease, lung disease, diabetes and cancer;

Whereas, numerous reports have highlighted the cross-sector challenges faced by Minnesotans in need of mental health care, and recommended developing and implementing a more comprehensive continuum of mental health services; and

Whereas, Minnesotans who live with serious mental illnesses can live healthy and productive lives when high-quality and effective mental health services are available to them.

Now, Therefore, I hereby order that:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Mental Health is created to advise the Governor and Legislature on mental health system improvements within the State of Minnesota.
2. The purpose of the Task Force is to develop comprehensive recommendations to design, implement, and sustain a full continuum of mental health services throughout Minnesota.
3. In addition, the Task Force will make recommendations on:
 - a. Developing and sustaining a comprehensive and sustainable continuum of care for children and adults with mental illnesses in Minnesota, including policies, legislative changes, and funding;
 - b. Clear definition for the roles and responsibilities for the state, counties, hospitals, community mental health service providers, and other responsible entities in designing, developing, delivering, and sustaining Minnesota's continuum of mental health care;
 - c. Reforms needed to support timely and successful transition between levels of care, including early intervention services and substance abuse services; and
 - d. Expanding the capacity of Minnesota's mental health system to responsively serve people of diverse cultures and backgrounds.
4. The task force shall consist of members appointed by the Governor, including:
 - a. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services;
 - b. 4 individuals or family members of individuals with lived experience of mental health issues;
 - c. 2 mental health advocates;
 - d. 2 representatives of community mental health services;
 - e. 2 representatives of hospital systems;
 - f. 2 representatives from law enforcement;
 - g. A representative from the counties; and
 - h. A representative from the judicial branch.
5. The task force shall include four ex-officio leaders from state agencies, who shall be appointed by the Governor:
 - a. The Commissioner of the Department of Health;
 - b. The Commissioner of the Department of Corrections;
 - c. The State Director to Prevent and End Homelessness; and
 - d. The Ombudsperson for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.
6. The task force shall include four ex-officio legislative members, who shall be appointed by caucus leadership:
 - a. A Member of the Majority Party in the Senate;
 - b. A Member of the Minority Party in the Senate;
 - c. A Member of the Majority Party in the House of Representatives; and
 - d. A Member of the Minority Party in the House of Representatives.
7. The chair of the Task Force will be the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services.

8. The Task Force will report to the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and the public by November 15, 2016.
9. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services will provide general administrative and technical support to the Task Force.
10. The Task Force will make its meetings open to the public and provide opportunities for public comment.

This Executive Order is effective fifteen days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or until it expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 3.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on this 27th day of April, 2016.



Mark Dayton
Governor

Filed According to Law:



Steve Simon
Secretary of State

