






Workforce Background Information for Panelists April 2024

The  indicates a recommended starting place for reading.
The  indicates recently added information.

 **Overview:** The 2023 Special Committee on Mental Health Report and the 2022 Special Committee on Mental Health Beds Report collectively address various facets of mental health in Sedgwick County and Kansas, focusing on intervention programs, community-based clinics, suicide prevention, workforce analysis, and the potential for Wichita to serve as a mental health services hub. Recommendations for the KDADS include workforce development, competency evaluation monitoring, and support for community programs. The reports also propose fund allocation for mental health facilities, collaboration with Sedgwick County, workforce enhancement strategies, and utilization of technology to improve mental health services. The Workforce Roundtable Discussion further explores certification accessibility, incentive programs, addressing barriers to reentry, and evaluating workforce programs. Additionally, legislative actions like HB 2484 aim to facilitate interstate practice privileges for social workers. Data presentations included in the extended notes provide further insights into the current state of the mental health workforce and contract staffing.

 [Staffing plan for the new hospital](#) (Created by KDADS on 4/23/24. List of employees needed for the new hospital.)

Extended Notes With Links on Workforce

-  [2023 Special Committee on Mental Health Report:](#)
 - Review Focus Areas: The committee examined several vital programs and topics pertinent to mental health in Sedgwick County and Kansas.
 - K-12 Mental Health Intervention Team Program: Evaluation and enhancement of programs addressing mental health issues among school-aged children.
 - Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics: Assessment of community-based mental health clinics and their effectiveness in providing accessible and quality care.
 - 988 and Suicide Prevention Programs: Examination of suicide prevention initiatives and the implementation of the 988 crisis hotline.
 - Behavioral Health Workforce: Analysis of the mental health workforce landscape, including recruitment, training, and retention strategies.
 - Wichita's Potential as a Behavioral Health Excellence Location: Consider Wichita's capacity to become a hub for mental health services, leveraging ongoing initiatives like the South Central Mental Health facility and potential mental health hubs across the state.
 - **Recommendations for KDADS:**
 - Workforce Development and Retention: KDADS is urged to proactively increase and retain the mental health workforce.
 - Actions Taken to Increase Workforce: KDADS should report to the [Bethell Committee](#) on initiatives to bolster the mental health workforce.
 - Monitoring and Reporting on Competency Evaluation and Restoration: Continuous monitoring and reporting on competency evaluation and restoration processes, including insights from other states.
 - Support for Community Support Waiver: Expressing support for the Community Support Waiver and urging expedited approval processes by KDHE and KDADS.
- [2022 Special Committee on Mental Health Beds Report:](#)
 - Release and Allocation of Funds: Recommendations were made regarding allocating funds for mental health facilities.
 - New State Hospital Development: Utilization of \$15.0 million to develop a new state hospital, including issuing requests for proposals.
 - Collaboration with Sedgwick County: Collaboration with Sedgwick County to establish a 50-bed facility within the regional area, potentially publicly or privately operated.

- Allocation of Federal Funds: \$40.0 million from federal American Rescue Plan Act funds for establishing the 50-bed facility.
- Workforce Enhancement Strategies: Recommendations aimed at enhancing the mental health workforce through various strategies.
- Pilot Program for Hospital Reimbursement: Establishment of a pilot program to reimburse hospitals for the supervision and transfer of individuals awaiting state hospital beds.
- Exploration of Waiver and Reimbursement Options: Research available waiver and reimbursement options to leverage additional federal funds for mental health services.
- Utilization of Technology: Investigation into the use of technology, such as apps, to reach individuals facing mental health challenges and those in crisis.
- Workforce Roundtable Discussion 2022: (links to testimony from experts from 5 different sessions/dates)
 - Exploring Further Topics within the testimony include: The subgroup discussed various topics related to the mental health workforce, indicating areas for further exploration.
 - Accessibility and Transferability of Certifications: Improving accessibility and transferability of mental health certifications to enhance workforce mobility and effectiveness.
 - Creation of Outreach and Incentive Programs: Developing programs to incentivize individuals to enter and remain in the mental health workforce, including scholarships and partnerships.
 - Addressing Barriers to Workforce Reentry: Identifying and addressing barriers preventing retired individuals from rejoining the mental health workforce.
 - Evaluation of Workforce Programs: Establishing methods to track and evaluate the effectiveness of programs promoting mental health workforce development.
 - Addressing Wage Disparities: Addressing wage disparities among mental health providers compared to similar professions to ensure fair compensation
- HB 2484 Social Workers Compact: Enacting the social work licensure compact to provide interstate practice privileges for social workers.
- State Hospital Positions and Contract Staffing 2024 (PowerPoint presented in April 2024 by Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary of Hospitals and Facilities. 22 slides of statistics)
- House Appropriations Subcommittee on Contract Nursing 2024 (34 pages of narrative and statistics)

- [Aviation KSDE CTE Program](#) (Page 25 starts the aviation program) There is no behavioral health pathway currently. Comments were submitted to KSDE by Brown and Brunner on March 27, 2024, via public comment.
- [KANSAS STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM 2019 FACT SHEET](#) The Kansas State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) offers eligible healthcare professionals an opportunity to receive assistance with the repayment of qualifying educational loans in exchange for a minimum two-year service commitment to provide healthcare services at an eligible practice site in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).
- [Testimony to House Appropriations Subcommittee on Contract Nursing](#) (3 pages from Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas, Inc. 2024)

○ New Information Added 4/23/2024

- Detailed information on the process of adding GME funds.
 - When you start a program, you have five years to establish a cap.
 - The cap is how many residents you will have in your program over four years. Psychiatry residency is four years long, so if you have two residents in each postgraduate year of the training, the program will have eight residents.
 - The federal government will fund/partially fund these residents through Graduate Medical Education (GME) funds, and money goes mostly from CMS (see article for details)
 - Once your cap is established, your finances are set, and it is impossible to get more money if you want to increase the number of residents.
 - You must get funding from different sources to increase the number of residents over your cap.
 - Alan Burgener helped me figure out how to start Child and Adolescent Fellowship in our program. Here is his contact: Alan Burgener alan-burgener@mchsi.com.
- [Establishing the First Residency Program in a New Sponsoring Institution: Addressing Regional Physician Workforce Needs](#) (a 5-page research article in 2016 outlines starting a GME program).
- [Starting a new residency program: a step-by-step guide for institutions, hospitals, and program directors](#) (short research article with step-by-step guidance with timeline)
- [GME Funding Brief](#) (short document starts with key takeaways - January 2024)