



# BREAKING POINT:



## AMERICA'S MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

America is in the grips of a mental health crisis. Giving weight to what the experts have known for years, Mental Health America's latest report provides a snapshot into a very real situation, a situation in which the nation's mental health is descending to dangerous levels with no easy way out. According to the recent data, more than 43 million US citizens suffer from a mental health condition, and the figure is ever increasing. Nearly half were shown to have a co-occurring substance abuse disorder and some 9.6 million Americans have been found to experience suicidal ideation. Worryingly, more than half of the population with mental health needs have not received treatment, some don't even have access to the services they need.

Among our nation's youth, the situation is even worse; rates of severe youth depression have increased from 5.9 percent to 8.2 percent in just five years, while almost 12 percent of young people have suffered at least one major depressive episode in the last year. Of these, 1.7 million did not receive treatment. Beginning with Columbine in 1999, more than 187,000 students attending at least 193 primary or secondary schools have experienced a shooting on campus during school hours, according to a year-long Washington Post analysis. Millions of American students suffer from mental health problems, and only a fraction are receiving necessary treatment, warns a brief from the American Institutes for Research. More alarming still, hospitalizations for mood disorders among children ages 17 and under leaped by 68 percent between 1997 and 2011.

The national government has effectively put an end to the expansion of Medicaid, bringing concerns about the country's mental health provisions to the fore. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) said that the move would see \$800 billion cut from Medicaid in the next decade, causing mental health services to be slashed. According to the organization, one in three people covered by Medicaid suffers from a mental health or substance abuse disorder.

The good news is that our sickest aren't warehoused in asylums or hospitals anymore. The bad news is that today they're locked up in prisons and are homeless in our cities. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Channel 2 Action News and the Georgia News Lab (May 18th, 2018) conducted one of the most comprehensive reviews of jail deaths ever undertaken in Georgia, reviewing the deaths of more than 500 inmates and detainees in the state's local jails in the past decade. The investigation found: one in six deaths attributable to something other than natural causes involved inmates who exhibited signs of mental illness. The deaths were often preventable. Jail staff routinely didn't recognize threats and warning signs until it was too late, ignored or expressed indifference to an inmate's crisis or failed to keep troubled inmates under close observation; thirty of the 168 jail suicides examined by reporters involved inmates where signs of mental illness were noted in public records or press accounts.

Daily, in communities across America, we witness the use of deadly police force, particularly, against men and women of color; we see African American youths and young adults use of anger and rage and lethal gun violence; nationwide, there is an alarming increase in murder-suicide against women and in particular, women of color.

Hosanna Ministries Inc. since 1984, and its brother organization, Family360 Inc., since 2011, have provided office, home-based, school-based, court/prison, telehealth mental health services to children, youth, veterans, adults, and families.

To mitigate this crisis in mental health in Georgia, we have launched a five-year capital campaign designed to raise

\$25,000,000 to \$40,000,000 to provide the following services to the mentally ill, developed mentally disabled, at-risk children, youth, veterans, families, and adults: 1), we signed an agreement of sale on 50 acres of land in Rockdale County, Georgia, to build the Hosanna Ministries Transitional and Health Services Campus and we need to raise \$1.2 million by closing on January 31, 2019; 2), erect a revenue-generating multi-purpose in-door and out-door consumer friendly sports and entertainment center to service our Special Needs consumers and for the community at large; 3), erect 12-15 office buildings and housing units for outpatient, inpatient, residential and job training programs; 4), provide PTSD residential and outpatient day programs; 5), transitional apartment housing; 6), housing, counseling, and safety for victims of domestic violence; 7), a specialized treatment center for child and juvenile sex offenders; 8); a school of autism for children, young adults, and adults and their caregivers; 9), an Endowment to support current and future services; 10), Oasis Worship Center; 11) strategically placed mobile sprint hubs provide mental, medical, dental, and social services to urban, rural, and suburban communities; and finally, 12), we began discussion with Rockdale County School District regarding a 67,000 sf school building slated to close by 2021 as our job training site.

Here are some ways you can Help:

- **Make a donation online at [www.Family360Center.com](http://www.Family360Center.com) or [www.HosannaMinistriesInc.org](http://www.HosannaMinistriesInc.org)**
- **Text to give by texting "Mental Health" to 1-844-544-7171**
- **GoFundMe: [Gofundme.com/Family360AndHosannaMinistries](http://Gofundme.com/Family360AndHosannaMinistries)**
- **Call us at 770-679-0586 to make a donation or pledge**
- **Send a check (no cash by mail, please!)**
- **Sponsor a project, service program, or fundraising party event on our behalf**
- **Advocate for mental health parity and services with national, state, and regional representatives**
- **Encourage family members, friends, co-workers, employer, or church to partner with us**
- **Include this project in your Will**
- **Unleash the Internet: Shout Out loud about this project on Social Media**
- **Auction unwanted gifts on our behalf**
- **Make a donation of stocks, art, land, money, etc., today**
- **Volunteer**

Your tax-deductible donation will help us effectively mitigate the crisis in mental health. Every donation, no matter what size, is greatly appreciated and will be put to excellent use. **We Can Do It!**

Sincerely,

*Rev. Dr. Desmond Maul*

CEO & Chair, National Capital Campaign

**Hosanna Ministries, Inc. / Family 360, Inc.**

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