



CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE NEWS

ATLANTA, GA: [Atlanta 311 line now takes non-emergency mental health, drug calls:](#) The program that offers an alternative to calling the police for non-emergency situations now allows residents to reach the service by simply dialing 311. The [Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative](#), known as “PAD,” is partnering with the city services hotline to accept calls in Atlanta Police Department [zones 5 and 6](#), which include downtown, Midtown and much of the Eastside. The 311 line is typically used for reporting non-emergency issues like potholes or a missed trash pickup. As of last week, residents can now call 311 (or 404-546-0311 if outside the city limits) to report community concerns related to mental health, substance use or extreme poverty, the city announced.

MAPLEWOOD, MN: [Mental health worker to partner with Maplewood police:](#) A Ramsey County mental health worker will be embedded with Maplewood police and other first responders in an effort to "decriminalize mental illness." The Ramsey County Board approved the move Tuesday, assigning one of its mental health professionals to work full time with the suburb's police, fire and ambulance service. "We need to decriminalize mental health issues and this is the way to do it," said Maplewood Mayor Marylee Abrams. "If we can get early intervention with health and human services resources, hopefully we can make a lasting change in peoples' lives and help them avoid going into full-blown crisis."

SALT LAKE CITY, UT: [Need a mental health day? It would be an excused school absence if this bill passes](#) Mental health days would be excused absences from Utah schools under a bill endorsed by a legislative committee Friday. The House Education Committee voted unanimously to send [HB81](#) to the House of Representatives for further consideration. Other states that have made this allowance have experienced a reduction in youth suicide, according to HB81's sponsor, Rep. Mike Winder, R-West Valley City.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA: [Mayor London Breed expands mental health services for students as schools remain closed:](#) San Francisco [Mayor London Breed](#) announced Friday that the city is providing new mental health resources for students and their families as [schools remain closed](#) due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#). The city is expanding its Mobile Response Team, which provides mental health and wellness services to young people, to serve San Francisco Unified School District students. "The lack of in-person learning is having a major impact on our students," tweeted Mayor Breed. "We need to safely reopen our schools -- until then we'll keep doing everything we can to help." The expansion of the MRT will help the district reach those who would benefit from in-person mental health support. When a child is referred to the

program, the MRT staff can respond with a range of services, including crisis prevention, counseling and coordinating the young person's mental health care.

NATIONAL

[Consulting Giant McKinsey To Settle States' Opioid Claims For \\$573 Million](#)

McKinsey & Company has reached a \$573 million settlement with nearly 50 state governments as well as the District of Columbia and territories, over its role helping to market and boost sales of high-risk opioids including OxyContin. Most of the funds will be devoted to paying for treatment and rehabilitation programs in communities devastated by the addiction crisis. As part of the settlement, McKinsey admits to no wrongdoing. The settlement follows a rare apology issued by the consulting powerhouse in December, when McKinsey acknowledged its behind-the-scenes work for the opioid industry.

[Rep. David Trone Wants 10B for Mental Health, Addiction](#)

Rep. David Trone (D-Md.) wants lawmakers to sign onto a letter urging congressional leadership to include \$10 billion for behavioral health funding in the next coronavirus relief package. December stimulus included \$4.25 billion for federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, but Trone argues more funding needed.

- \$5 billion for a grant to boost addiction treatment
- \$5 billion to bolster community mental health services

WEEKEND READING

[NPR:](#) [How To Fight The Opioid Crisis In The Middle Of A Pandemic](#)

[NPR:](#) [Opioids, COVID-19 And Racism: A Deadly Trifecta](#)

[USA TODAY:](#) [Your body is trying to tell you something](#)

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