



## **CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE NEWS**

**\*notes member of the Cities Thrive Coalition**

**ARAPAHOE COUNTY, CO:** [Arpahoe County Sheriff's Office hires mental health specialist to respond to 911 calls:](#) In just three weeks, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office co-responders, also known as licensed mental health clinicians, responded to 118 calls of service with deputies involving a mental health situation. Three co-responders were sworn in at the end of May and became county employees after the sheriff's office terminated their contract with a community mental health agency. Two more clinicians are in the hiring process.

**\*BURLINGTON, VT:** [Burlington airport exhibit takes aim at stigma of mental illness:](#) A new exhibit at Burlington International Airport is taking aim at the stigma surrounding mental health. The display, Deconstructing Stigma, is located on the second floor of the airport. Travelers passing by can read stories from Vermont and beyond who struggle with mental health challenges. "On April 9th, 2016, my only sibling and dearest friend Ian Prout ended his life," said Vermont advocate Ashley McAvey. After seeing a mental health exhibit in Boston's Logan Airport, McAvey contacted the Burlington International Airport to implement a similar display. Her call was met with overwhelming support.

**\*KANSAS CITY, MO:** [Kansas City Mayor Tours Burrell Behavioral Crisis Center In Springfield:](#) Kansas City's mayor has some new ideas for addressing his city's mental health needs after a visit to Springfield on Friday. Quinton Lucas toured Burrell Behavioral Crisis Center with Springfield Mayor Ken McClure. Lucas said after the tour, "I like that we're getting to root causes here. What we are seeing at Burrell. What we are seeing in the collaboration of the people of Springfield and Greene County and mental health services and long term investment is the sort of thing that makes a difference, as (Mayor McClure) noted, not just in Springfield, Greene County and southwest Missouri, it makes a difference in Kansas City. It makes a difference in St. Louis."

**\*SUFFOLK COUNTY, NY:** [Suffolk To Host Mental Health Summit In Wake Of Coronavirus:](#) A summit to discuss mental health and substance use disorders in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic is in the works for fall, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone announced. The conference, which will be presented in partnership with Wellbridge Addiction Treatment and Research, will cover behavioral health responses to the events and consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak.

**NM:** [Indigenous Youth Take on Mental Health, Wellness Challenge:](#) New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Friday told a virtual gathering of Indigenous youth that there are no excuses for government not do whatever it can to improve their quality of life and to bolster



programs aimed at preventing youth suicide. She made the remarks during a summit organized by the state, other partners and the Indigenous Youth Council, which is a panel of young people from Native American communities around New Mexico. Lujan Grisham said conversations about wellness and mental health shouldn't focus on how expensive or difficult it might be address the issues if there's a chance that lives can be saved by making more programs and services available to youth in their own communities.

## **NATIONAL**

### **[HRSA awards total of \\$66 million to support behavioral health workforce](#)**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) last week awarded \$22 million to 56 recipients across the country as part of its Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program for Professionals. The program, which provides grant money to professional training programs and institutes of higher education, aims to increase access to behavioral health services by supporting the growth and quality of the behavioral health workforce. This latest round of funding brings the total BHWET awards to nearly \$66 million for FY 2021.

### **[Democrats Reintroduce Legislation to Address Growing Childhood Trauma Crisis](#)**

Congresswomen Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) and Carolyn B. Maloney (NY-12), the Chairwoman of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, announced the reintroduction of a pair of bills that take a holistic and community-based approach to addressing the growing crisis of childhood trauma. The lawmakers' bills would provide critical resources for children, families, and communities to promote healing and resilience from the unprecedented trauma caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, white supremacy-fueled violence, and regulatory assaults on children by the Trump administration.

## **READING FROM THE WEEK**

**Forbes:** Health Insurance For Mental Health Is Terrible. This \$4.6 Billion Startup Is Shaking Up The Status Quo

**Ms. News:** Women Carry An Undue Mental Health Burden. They Shouldn't Have To

**The Daily Mining Gazette:** COVID-induced isolation has impacted mental health and substance use disorder

**Time:** Teletherapy Aimed to Make Mental Health Care More Inclusive. The Data Show a Different Story

**\*\*The information compiled in this email originated from the following news sources: WVNY, The Denver Channel, City & State, Patch, KSMU, State of Reform, U.S. News, Black Star News,\*\***