

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

2018-19 Budget - Mental Health Investments

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to improving the response and services provided to individuals in need of mental health services, wherever they live in the province. Currently, over 5% of Saskatchewan's 2018-19 Health Budget (\$284M) is spent on mental health services and supports, our goal is to increase that investment to 7% in future years.

There are also other government-wide expenditures (\$83M) that are targeted to providing mental health services and supports that are most appropriately housed in other government departments.

In total, the Government of Saskatchewan will spend \$367M in 2018-19 on mental health services and supports.

The 10-year Mental Health and Addiction Action Plan guides and helps set the priority areas for mental health and addictions investments in Saskatchewan. A cross-sector approach to address the action plan recommendations is underway, with ministries across government (including Health, Social Services, Education, Justice, Corrections and Policing) working together to ensure improved responses for people requiring mental health and addictions services.

In 2018-19, \$11.4M of federal and provincial funding in new targeted investments in mental health services is provided below:

Improved mental health and addiction services for children and youth - \$4.67M

- Funding for new child and adolescent specialist positions to reduce wait times, increase capacity for diagnosis and treatment, and improve services and supports for children, youth and families.
- Implement a pilot project modeled after the Mental Health Capacity Building (MHCB) initiative currently operating in Alberta to better engage high-risk youth in prevention and intervention programming, as recommended by Saskatchewan's Advocate for Children and Youth.
- Implementation of a targeted physician training program to improve the capacity to assess and treat child and youth mental health conditions in Saskatchewan; will assist in reducing wait times for child and youth psychiatry services.
- Continue expansion of suicide prevention efforts through implementation of the Mental Health Commission of Canada's suicide prevention demonstration project.

Enhanced access to community mental health and addictions supports - \$5.24M

- Hire approximately 40 FTES for the development of multi-disciplinary Community Recovery Teams in eight communities to provide client-centered support to individuals with complex and persistent mental illness.

- Improve the response to individuals with crisis mental health needs through the expansion of Police and Crisis Teams (PACT) into the communities of North Battleford, Moose Jaw and Yorkton.
- Expand addiction medicine services to address service pressures in Prince Albert and northern Saskatchewan, and provide specialist consultation services to physicians and other allied service professionals.
- Increase access to Mental Health First Aid courses in communities across Saskatchewan, and better equip human service sector staff to recognize and respond to mental health crises.

Improved mental health service delivery - \$1.51M

- Expansion of online mental health services across the province through dedicated clinical positions and development of new online supports.
- Improve outcomes through the implementation of a provincial mental health and addictions client record and clinical planning tool.
- Provincial implementation of outcome management tools to improve client outcomes and support clinical supervision and community needs planning.

Government-Wide 2018-19 Mental Health Investments

Description	2018-19 Budget (\$M)
HEALTH	
Mental Health Services Provided by Saskatchewan Health Authority	189.44
Physician & Psychiatrist Billings, Drug Plan Benefits	80.53
Awareness, Education and Other Expenses	2.76
2018-19 Targeted Mental Health Funding	11.42
MINISTRY OF HEALTH – TOTAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES	284.14
MINISTRY OF HEALTH BUDGET TOTAL	5360.00
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES AS % OF HEALTH BUDGET	5.30%
SOCIAL SERVICES	
Supportive living and rental development program	31.22
SCHOOL DIVISIONS	
K-12 mental health resources	30.88
CENTRAL SERVICES	
Accommodations for SK Hospital North Battleford	12.82
INTEGRATED JUSTICE SERVICES	
Family Violence Outreach, Sexual Assault Services and Victim Services	4.41
CORRECTIONS AND POLICING	
Police and Crisis Teams, Violent Offenders and Mental Health Custody Services	2.43
JUSTICE	
The Listen Project and Juror Assistance	0.76
EDUCATION	
Mental health and anti-bullying initiatives	0.55
AGRICULTURE	
Farm Stress Line	0.03
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS	
Embracing Life Initiative	0.03
TOTAL	367.25