

# Support the Proposed Funding Increase to the Department of Mental Health

## Governor Baker's Budget Recommendation House 2 (H.2) for Fiscal Year 2019

We strongly support the Governor's **\$869,988,290 recommendation for the Department of Mental Health (DMH)**, a **12% increase** over FY18 spending. The proposed funding increase for DMH represents a historic opportunity to restore more comprehensive mental health services, as well as advance the use of evidence-based services. These investments will improve clinical outcomes and overall wellness for people with mental health conditions across the Commonwealth.

**House 2 includes an increase of \$94.5M over FY18 spending** in Account 5046-0000: Adult Mental Health and Support Services. This includes a significant investment in funding for **Adult Community Clinical Services (ACCS)**, a redesigned community-based service model for adults with serious mental illness.

**Support for ACCS is critical as it offers many improvements over the existing system, including:**



### Care Integration

To ensure individuals receive the full array of behavioral health, physical health and social supports to achieve optimal health and wellness.



### Clinically-Focused, Evidence-Based Model

To deliver a standard, integrated, team-based clinical staffing model to all individuals.



### Treatment for Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Conditions

To fully engage clients by including licensed substance abuse counselors and recovery coaches in the integrated care delivery team.



### Access to Stable, Affordable Housing

To provide an additional 87 units of affordable housing by expanding the existing rental voucher program with the Department of Housing and Community Development.



### Emphasis on Peer Specialists and Recovery Coaches

To increase staffing by including peer specialists and recovery coaches as critical members of an integrated care team.



### Access to Employment Resources

To provide access to Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) services, Clubhouse and other employment resources. Services include assessment, counseling, guidance, job placement, training and employment supports.



### Measurement and Accountability

To ensure high-quality provision of care through monitoring both person-level and system-level quality measures.

**The time for transition to the Adult Community Clinical Services model of care is now.** DMH, MassHealth and MRC are working together in unprecedented ways. Please support the full funding amount proposed by Governor Baker for line item 5046-0000. Your active support is critical!

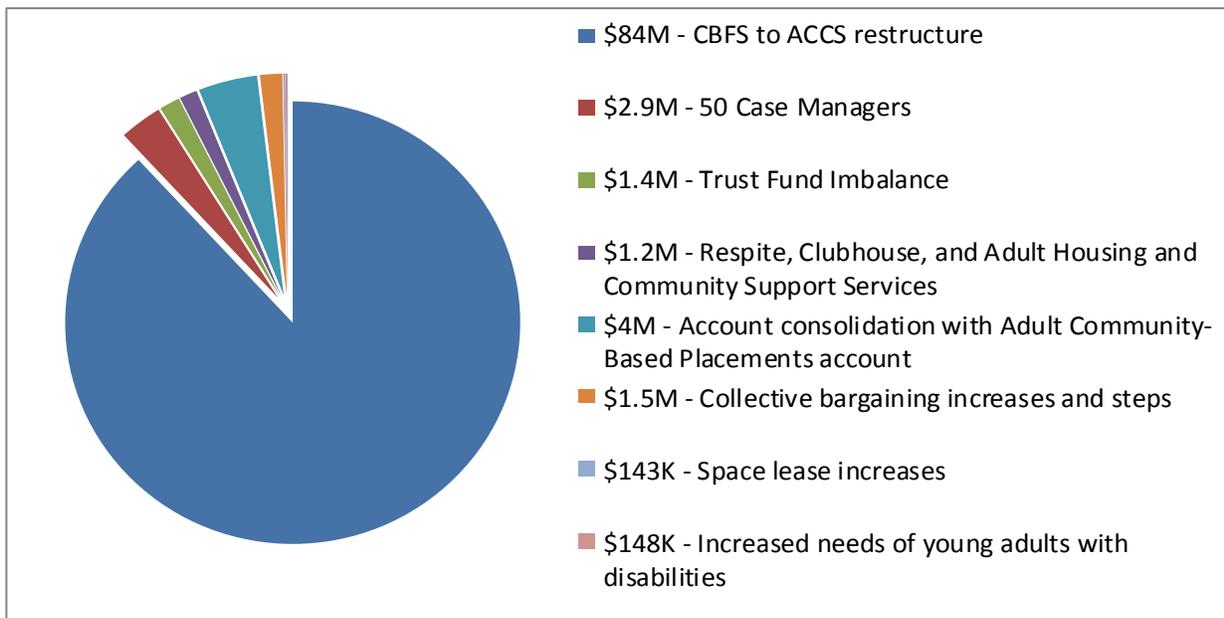


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## H. 2 Proposed Budget—Breakdown

House 2 includes an increase of **\$94.5M\*** over FY18 spending in Account 5046-0000: Adult Mental Health and Support Services.

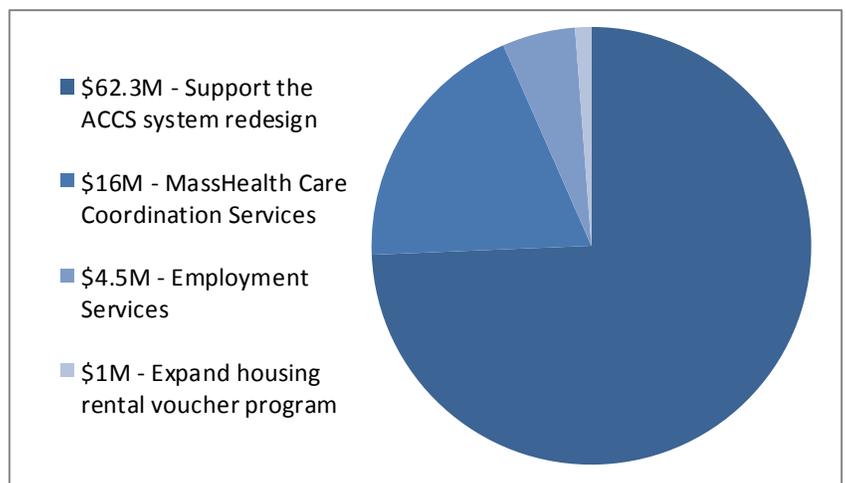


*\*The above numbers don't exactly total \$94.5M; the numbers are rounded for this summary.*

The largest piece of the above chart is the \$84M, which represents a significant investment in funding for Adult Community Clinical Services (ACCS), a redesigned community-based service model for adults with serious mental illness. This item is broken down further in the chart below.

Support for ACCS is critical as it offers many improvements over the existing CBFS program. This new model includes investments in an integrated, team-based model of care. Changes include:

- ⇒ Chapter 257 rate adjustments to providers to address the Commonwealth's behavioral health workforce shortage
- ⇒ Intensifying the client to staff ratio to 1 : 28
- ⇒ Adding licensed clinical supervision
- ⇒ Requiring licensed personnel with certified competencies to deliver evidence-based practices, such as:
  - Motivational Interviewing;
  - Harm Reduction;
  - Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT);
  - Housing First; and
  - Stages of Change



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