

# Vote **NO** on Amendment 3 to save our mental health services.

The Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition urges you to vote NO on the proposed constitutional amendment because it would decrease funding for essential mental health care services in Florida.

Cities and counties are primary supporters of crisis support centers, drug treatment programs, hospital districts and court diversion programs. These services help individuals with mental health and substance use disorders find a safe path to recovery.

But cities and counties are the target of Amendment 3. The proposal to increase the homestead exemption to \$250,000 over two years would reduce the tax revenue that pays for these essential services for Florida adults and children needing mental health care. We cannot afford to lose this safety net of behavioral health support.

## How will Amendment 3 affect my community?

Overall, the amendment is expected to cut nearly \$5 billion in its first year and nearly \$12 billion in the second year from city, county and special district budgets statewide. Local officials will either have to raise taxes and fees or cut spending.

Cities and counties may also be forced to cut budgets for homeless shelters, libraries, police departments, fire rescue, elderly services, food pantries, garbage pickup, street maintenance, parks and recreation, animal welfare, mental health diversion courts and 211 call centers.



## Hospitals and children's services are estimated to lose millions:\*

- ★ Jackson Health, Miami-Dade County: \$64 million
- ★ Indian River County Hospital District: \$8.9 million
- ★ North Lake County Hospital District: \$8.1 million
- ★ Palm Beach County Health Care District: \$66.5 million
- ★ Sarasota Public Hospital District: \$43.4 million
- ★ The Children's Trust in Miami-Dade: \$18.7 million in year one, \$33.5 million in year two.
- ★ Escambia Children's Trust: \$3 million.

**We urge you to vote **NO** on Amendment 3.**

The Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition joins the Florida Sheriffs Association, Florida State Fraternal Order of Police, Florida Fire Chiefs' Association, Florida Professional Firefighters, Florida Economic Council, Florida Library Association, League of Women Voters, 1000 Friends of Florida, and Sierra Club, in opposing Amendment 3.

\*Florida Policy Institute hospital-district analysis, *Miami Herald*

The Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition is a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)4 organization | [www.flmhac.org](http://www.flmhac.org)



**FLORIDA MENTAL HEALTH  
ADVOCACY COALITION**

Family and Peer Voices for Better Behavioral Health