



STATE *of the* UNION ★

"Our country faces an unprecedented mental health crisis... Our youth have been particularly impacted as losses from COVID and disruptions in routines and relationships have led to increased social isolation, anxiety, and learning."

-White House Press Release, March 1, 2022

In his recent State of the Union Address, President Biden discussed the "unprecedented" national mental health crisis and announced new efforts to strengthen the system of care.

Acknowledging children's unique vulnerability, these efforts give special attention to youth mental health. Proposed measures include:

- **Expanding early childhood and school-based intervention services and supports.** The President's proposed 2023 budget will invest more than \$70 million in infant and early childhood mental health programs.
- **Doubling the number of school-based mental health professionals.** The

President will add \$1 billion to his proposed 2023 budget to help schools hire additional counselors, school psychologists, and other health professionals.

- **Instituting stronger online protections for young people**, including prioritizing safety by design standards and practices for online platforms, products, and services.
- **Calling on Congress to ban excessive data collection on and targeted advertising online for children and young people.**
- **Expanding the supply, diversity, and cultural competency of the behavioral health workforce** by investing \$700 million in training programs, scholarships, minority fellowships, and loan repayment programs.
- **Investing \$135 million over three years into training health care providers on suicide prevention and behavioral health.**
- **Continuing grant programs to support health systems** in preventing burnout, relieving workplace stressors, administering stress first aid, and increasing access to high-quality mental health care for the frontline health care workforce.

Interested to dive deeper into these strategies for strengthening mental health across the nation?

Read the White House's [Fact Sheet](#), released on March 1, 2022.

[Access the White House's March 1, 2022 Fact Sheet >](#)

Want to learn more about helping children and families thrive?

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