



# Education and Advocacy

## Fast Facts

### Why does Pathway Homes care about advocacy?

Because we care deeply about those we serve, and the others who are waiting for help.

Did you know that the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) reports:

- 1 in 4 Americans will be diagnosed with mental illness in their lifetime.
- 1 in 17 will be diagnosed with a severe mental illness.
- 50% of individuals with severe mental illnesses also have a co-occurring substance use disorder.
- Nearly 341,773 Virginia adults have had a serious mental illness during the past year,
- between 117,592 and 143,724 Virginia children and adolescents have a serious emotional disturbance, and
- 65,329 to 91,461 of those children and adolescents exhibit extreme impairment.<sup>1</sup>
- In FY 2013 Virginia's community services boards served nearly 178,174 people in need of mental health services.<sup>2</sup>
- An estimated 77,000 Virginians suffer from a mental illness and do not have health care coverage,
- And about 40,000 of them have a serious illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.<sup>3</sup>
- Additionally, nearly six in ten adults with a serious mental illness went without care in the past year, largely because they don't have insurance.<sup>4</sup>
- The average daily cost of a stay in a state psychiatric hospital is \$835.
- The average daily cost of a person in permanent supportive housing is \$67.
- Permanent supportive housing is the most significant indicator for recovery.

---

<sup>1</sup> Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, (2013). Comprehensive state plan 2014-2020. Retrieved from website: <http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/documents/reports/opd-StatePlan2014thru2020.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (n.d.) Enrollment under the Medicaid Expansion and Health Insurance Exchanges. A Focus on Those with Behavioral Health Conditions in each State. <http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform/enrollment.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> Medicaid Expansion and Mental Health Care, National Alliance on Mental Illness, May 2013