



(Promote & Protect)

DSHS Legislative Appropriations Request Talking Points

When considering the DSHS Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) for the 82nd Legislative Session, we urge state leadership to consider the following:

1. Smart investments have been made by the legislature in the past two (2) legislative sessions
2. Funding strategies must acknowledge the interplay between community-based services capacity and demand for inpatient care
3. Support funding for community-based alternatives for people that have been in state hospitals for an extended period of time

This alternative would focus on people no longer in need of hospitalization but who require a more structured alternative than currently available. Funding alternatives will reduce the cost of care for these people and exponentially increase access to civil hospital beds.

These state hospital beds, in turn, can be used for the 300 - 400 inmates in county and city jails who are awaiting competency restoration on any given day.

4. Support funding for community-based residential services as a less costly alternative to incarceration

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