



Healthy Minds Network established to help mental health consumers

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By WSFA 12 News Staff - [email](#)

MONTGOMERY, AL (WSFA) - Envision 2020 has collaborated with AUM Outreach to announce the establishment of the Healthy Minds Network, which will help consumers achieve wellness through awareness, prevention and appropriate care.

Officials with the organization say this network will be a coordinated mental healthcare system where all stakeholders work together to provide effective, efficient and reliable services for consumers in the River Region.

According to a press release, mental illness costs the U.S. \$113 billion annually and the U.S. jails and prisons are the largest providers of mental health care in the country. The River Region houses no child or adolescent beds which forces families to hospitalize their children miles from home.

In order to correct these issues, the Healthy Minds Network Leadership Council will focus on four initiatives:

1. Increase the quantity and quality of mental healthcare providers for adults, children and youth
2. Improve access to and quality of care for adults, children and youth
3. Develop trust and collaboration among stakeholders
4. Implement special programs to meet the needs of mental health consumers involved in the legal system

By doing these four things the network officials say they hope to move every consumer toward his or her best outcome, change the public attitude about mental illness, reduce stigma and decrease caseloads in probate court and the occurrence of relapse.

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