



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CCRB Grants \$19.2 Million for Youth Mental Health Services**

In December 2021, the CCRB granted \$19.2 million for youth mental health and substance use treatment services in St. Charles County for the 2022 and 2023 fiscal years. This is the largest amount of money granted in the CCRB history, which comes at a time when mental health concerns are rising among youth. Beginning in 2022, current agency partners will receive a two-year grant contract for services. New partners will receive a one year contract with the option for renewal in 2023.

Providers and local educators report an increasing number of students who are experiencing anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation. Demands for counseling, prevention services, and psychological assessments has been steadily increasing over the years, leading to longer wait times for youth seeking help. With the increased funding, providers can support more than 70,000 youth annually with direct and prevention-based services.

The CCRB added four new programs and one new service partner, Resolutions for People/Good Days Journey Mental Health Service. New programs include a transitional living program for teens, self-defense, a video project to prevent human trafficking, and additional counseling, psychological assessments, and psychiatry services. In total, the CCRB will provide funding for 33 non-profit partners with 54 programs geared to improving mental health stability, abuse prevention, and mental health awareness in our community.

Services are available to youth age 18 and under, along with their families, and professionals who serve youth in the community. A local 1/8 cent sales tax is the source for the Children's Services Fund. The CCRB funds ten youth mental health service categories: counseling, crisis intervention, home and community-based services, outpatient psychiatric, outpatient substance use treatment, respite, school-based prevention, teen parents, temporary shelter for runaway youth, and transitional living services. Programs are generally free of cost to residents, regardless of income or insurance status. For a complete list of funded services and a printable brochure, visit [www.stcharlescountykids.org](http://www.stcharlescountykids.org).

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