

## Health Care

Lack of funding for mental health services causes unintended consequences that increase other health care costs. When adults living with mental illnesses cannot get mental health services, they often end up using more health care resources, such as emergency rooms.

One out of every five community hospital stays today involve a principal or secondary diagnosis of mental illness. As a nation, we lose one life to suicide every 15 minutes. The vast majority of those who die by suicide live with mental illness – often undiagnosed or untreated.

Protection and strengthening of mental health services are needed to save lives. For people living with mental illnesses, life expectancy is 25 years less than that of other Americans. People diagnosed with schizophrenia die from heart disease, diabetes and other medical conditions at a rate two to three times greater than the rest of the population. Help provide health and wellness services for people in your community!

