



# PASS THE KEEP THE DOOR OPEN ACT

(SB497/HB595)

## Increase access to behavioral health care by passing the Keep the Door Open Act.

Vulnerable Marylanders depend on dedicated health care providers to receive the mental health and substance use treatment they need. Years of stagnant funding have resulted in Marylanders losing critical access to behavioral health care.

- Community behavioral health providers administer traditional outpatient services, mobile treatment, crisis services, withdrawal management, rehabilitation, residential treatment, partial hospitalization programs and housing.
- They divert hospital and emergency room admissions, detention center admissions, help people experiencing homelessness get permanent housing and unemployed people get jobs.



## THE FACTS:

177,000

Maryland children and adults use and depend on the public behavioral health system.

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Number of rate increases over the last 20 years

1,000,000+

Marylanders live with a mental health or substance use disorder

65%

Increase in demand for use of public behavioral health system since 2008

## THE KEEP THE DOOR OPEN ACT WILL:



Support our dedicated clinicians and direct care workers who provide treatment to Marylanders.



Index reimbursement rates to medical inflation, so our providers don't get left behind.



Strengthen the corps of dedicated providers serving Maryland's children with behavioral health disorders.



Ensure stability for community-based clinics, so they can keep their doors open rather than closing up shop.