

Network Statement

Our community, like many others, has vulnerable residents with mental health and substance abuse issues who, too often, fall through the cracks. The likely outcome in Jefferson County for patients with a mental health or substance use disorder crisis is transportation to hospital or jail, neither of which provides the definitive services they need and deserve.

We are a Network of community leaders who carry a deep understanding of, and personal relationship with, the issues and people connected to mental health and substance abuse disorder. We believe this County can do better for our affected residents and are determined to harness our community's energy and enthusiasm to address this crisis.

The path we have outlined is to provide an in-county crisis stabilization facility where vulnerable residents can start their recovery journey. In order to build and sustain this facility, we will work with the community to identify need, research options, stabilize funding streams, implement strategy, and facilitate ongoing engagement. This approach offers another advantage in that, upon successful execution, it will significantly lessen the consuming toll that the mental health and substance use disorder crisis currently exerts on local resources, including our healthcare system, law enforcement, criminal justice, and first responders.

Together, our Network is committed to building a foundation from which this County provides affected residents with supports to move toward stability and the recovery of their health and wellness.