Mental Health
There is a shortage of mental health professionals and people are unaware or unable to access services.
Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster Counties are designated Federal and State mental health professions shortage areas.

What do the South Heartland numbers say?

9-12th GRADERS

- 28% were depressed in the past year
- 19% considered suicide
- 13% attempted suicide

43% of adolescents with depression receive the treatment they need

ADULTS

- 20% reported depression
- 9% reported frequent mental distress

47% of adults with mental illness receive the treatment they need

“Our community needs to be more vocal about the issues leading up to suicide. I know more teens that have died from suicide in the past year than I have in my whole life – and they all have happened in Hastings.”

“Ileana Arias, Ph.D., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For more information about the South Heartland Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and how you or your organization can get involved, go to www.southheartlandhealth.org or follow the QR code ▶
Mental Health is one of the top 5 Health Priorities as rated by South Heartland’s Communities

Our goal is to improve mental health through prevention and by ensuring access to appropriate, quality mental health services. We are working together to connect people to timely and appropriate mental health services.

### STRATEGIES/OBJECTIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Setting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promote screening and assessment to facilitate referral.</td>
<td>Providers, schools, community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Train professionals and community members.</td>
<td>Providers, community, public health department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create a local Behavioral Health Advocacy Group.</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td>Expand use of proven technologies for mental health services</td>
<td>Health care, behavioral health care and community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create a health services resource guide</td>
<td>Libraries, schools, clinics, hospitals, community, public health department</td>
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</tbody>
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### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Fewer youth feel sad or hopeless
- Fewer youth attempt suicide
- More people receive timely mental health services
- Fewer adults have depression
- Fewer adults have frequent mental distress
- Fewer adults have frequent mental distress

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