Our Investment

in mental health care

Our current mental health system is broken.

After years of reductions, mental health services have reached a crisis point. The Washington Supreme Court has been clear: enough is enough. We need to serve people in crisis. Letting them languish in hospital emergency rooms and jails is wrong — constitutionally and morally.

We will invest \$100 million to repair our broken system, including:

\$35.1 million — Community Mental Health Beds

By funding more beds in community mental health facilities, we can deliver timely treatment to those in need.

\$23.1 million — Competency Restoration Ward

This adds additional beds at state hospitals to address the increasing demand for court-ordered competency restoration and forensic services.

\$5.1 million - Joel's Law

This important law will give family members the tools they need to get help for family members they see going through a mental health crisis.

\$700,000 — Guardian Training for Law Enforcement

This innovative program will help law enforcement respond to situations involving persons with mental health issues, which will help reduce the use of deadly force and increase safety for persons in crisis and law enforcement officers.

Additional investment include:

\$1.8 million — Suicide Threat Response

\$3.5 million — Competency Evaluation Staff

\$3.6 million — Psychiatrist Pay Increase

\$8.2 million — Assisted Outpatient Treatment

\$3.8 million — Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit

\$3.5 million — Psychiatric Emergency Response Team

\$4.3 million — Enhanced Training for Hospital Staff



Building a Washington that works for everyone.

Our Investment

in the Safety Net

Budget cuts have hammered working families.

To balance the budget without revenue, that state made years of budget cuts to programs that children, families and seniors depend on. It's time to restore these services. No matter the work we do to fully fund education, hungry kids can't learn and homeless kids can't do homework.

This budget helps the working poor, hungry families and homeless kids:

\$9.6 million — State Food Assistance Program

This will restore previous budget cuts in the State Food Assistance program that feeds hungry children, families and seniors in Washington state.

\$1.6 million — Emergency Food Assistance Program

This investment will boost state funds to local food banks, which are struggling to meet demand from more hungry families.

\$8.6 million — Child support

Our budget reinstates the child support pass through, giving some families at least an additional \$100 per month in child support collections.

\$8.4 million — Rewarding work

We are increasing the earned income disregard so working families can be rewarded with more income and not lose assistance. Let's reward struggling families who are working to get back on the path to success, not punish them.

