



Email template

Email Subject: Thank you for meeting about mental health priorities in FY24

Email Body:

Dear [Staff name],

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me this week to discuss mental health needs in our state, including prevention related FY 24 appropriations requests and coverage of providers of peer support in Medicare.

As we discussed in the meeting, I would like [Congressman/Congresswoman or Senator Name] to support:

- \$1.25 billion for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, with up to 5% allowed for prevention,
- A \$5 million increase for a Behavioral Health Coordinating Unit in CDC's ACES program,
- Legislation authorizing full coverage of providers of peer support in Medicare, and
- \$756.9 million for network operations and \$225.0 million for an education campaign for 988 and Behavioral Health Crisis Services.

Support of these priorities would bolster a long-term federal strategy to address the mental health crisis from a national perspective, support states in moving upstream to mitigate severe mental health conditions, and support Medicare beneficiaries by working to close the behavioral health coverage gaps.

I urge you to submit these requests to the Appropriations Committee for FY24 and to support the authorization changes to the MHBG and Medicare. You can find more information and data on local mental health needs in [Mental Health America's Dashboard](#) which breaks down screens by state and county and by reviewing the [2022 State of Mental Health in America](#).

Again, thank you for meeting with me and for your consideration of these requests. I welcome the opportunity to be a resource for you on mental health issues going forward. You may contact me if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
Phone
Email