

Mental health providers need support across our state. I want to call attention to these providers and the huge burnout rates that follow this line of work. We have mental health providers who also significantly struggle with their own barriers around some of the following burnout drivers like, stress, high turnovers, feeling under paid, depression, high workload and their work being emotionally taxing. These burnout rates have only increased further through the Covid19 Pandemic. A focus around this crisis is crucial and something to be addressed immediately. Our communities are largely affected on several levels leading to individual barriers, which also effects the community and well being of all members involved such as the providers and the clients receiving mental health support.

In my research I was not able to find a policy in our area that specifically focused on providing mental health providers with the emotional and financial support needed to avoid burnouts. This I believe, is more of a reason to pay closer attention and move to implement a policy that will improve the issue at hand and provide employers with some clear expectations around what that additional support should look like.

Additional data collection in our area is necessary and a driver to help us further understand the severity of this issue. Implementing better mental health support at no cost to the mental health providers is crucial. Mandatory pay increases and retention bonus's should be implemented, close monitoring and support as needed should be individualized to best support everyone's individual needs.