

**RESOLUTION R-19-012**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATE FUNDING  
FOR CENTERSTONE PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENCY**

**WHEREAS**, Centerstone is the community behavioral health provider in Manatee County providing psychiatric services to citizens in need for over 60 years; and

**WHEREAS**, psychiatric residency programs assist to reduce the shortage of psychiatrists locally and state-wide that persists, as, according to Florida’s 2017 Physician Work Force Annual Report, seventeen (17) Florida counties have no licensed psychiatrists and five (5) additional counties have only one licensed psychiatrist; and

**WHEREAS**, fewer than 1,800 psychiatrists are licensed to practice in Florida, comprising less than 4% of the total physician workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) estimated a shortage of 800 to 1,000 psychiatrists in Florida compared to the estimated need (HRSA, 2018); and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) reports 48% of licensed psychiatrists in Florida are over the age of 60, another 25.2% are over age 50, which will lead to a greater shortage over the next decade, as an estimated 59% of the psychiatry workforce retires. HRSA estimates a shortage of 1250-1480 psychiatrist by 2030 (HRSA, 2018); and

**WHEREAS**, to address present and future shortages, the Physician Workforce Advisory Council describes the importance of graduate medical education and residency programs as a component of Florida’s physician workforce; two-thirds of physicians remain within 70 miles of where they complete their residency; and

**WHEREAS**, behavioral health hospitals, such as Centerstone, are ineligible for General Medical Education (GME) requiring a special appropriation to continue program operation; and

**WHEREAS**, Centerstone of Florida, Inc. operates a psychiatric residency in partnership with the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, First Step of Sarasota, and Manatee Memorial Hospital to train 16 psychiatric residents annually; and

**WHEREAS**, 100% of Centerstone’s psychiatric residency graduates are practicing psychiatry within Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners understands that there is an important public purpose for appropriating public state funds to the Centerstone of Florida Psychiatric Residency program to increase and retain a greater number of psychiatrists working locally and to ensure the on-going availability of psychiatric, addictions, and integrated medical care for citizens in need of such services.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that:

1. The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners understands that there is an important public purpose for appropriating public state funds to the Centerstone of Florida Psychiatric Residency program to increase the number of psychiatrists working locally and to ensure the ongoing availability of psychiatric, addictions, and integrated medical care for citizens in need of such services.
2. The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners hereby supports the funding requests made by Centerstone of Florida, Inc. to the Florida Legislature and requests that the Legislature provide funds in the state budget for the Centerstone Psychiatric Residency in the amount of \$1,000,000 so that more citizens can benefit from the psychiatric, addiction, and integrated medical care.
3. The Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption by the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners.

**ADOPTED** in open session, with a quorum present and voting, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen R. Jonsson, Chairman

ATTEST: Angelina Colonnese  
Clerk of Circuit Court and Controller

By: \_\_\_\_\_