

# Needed Now More Than Ever

## Investments Already Made

**Over \$745M**  
approved during 85th and 86th Legislatures to **improve the state hospital system and serve the mental health care needs of Texans**

**\$180.5M**  
invested by law makers in the last two sessions on the ASH Redesign to **plan and begin construction**

## Future Investment

87th Legislative Session: [HHSC](#) requesting remaining **\$124M** of the \$304.6M project cost to **complete the new Austin State Hospital construction**



\$124M invested to complete ASH will create a present value of **\$126.2M** in total added income for Texas

**EMPLOYMENT IMPACT**

- ↑ **25 jobs** in project planning
- ↑ **800-900 jobs** for tradespersons
- ↑ **125 jobs** for design team and design sub-consultants

The new Austin State Hospital alone will not decrease the waitlist for a bed at ASH. To use the new ASH investment optimally ASH must continue to work with stakeholders to improve the continuum of care to increase functional hospital capacity.

## Brain (Mental) Health Needs (Pre-COVID)

**1 in 5 people**  
will experience a **mental health illness**

*On a rolling average...*

**95 people** are waiting for a bed at the Austin State Hospital and of the rolling average **1,000 people** waiting for a state hospital bed in Texas

Brain health needs are expected to **increase post the pandemic**

Strategies to Increase the Functional Bed Capacity of new ASH were developed to optimize the use of the new hospital and care for people in the right place and right time:

- 1 Increase discharge and alternative care options by increasing housing options
- 2 Reduce forensic hospitalizations by creating a roadmap that provides alternatives for competency restoration
- 3 Engage experts to create the highest quality evidence-based care

**A world-class hospital design:**  
Designed to facilitate a path toward recovery and return to the community.

- ✓ 240 individual patient rooms
- ✓ Porch and courtyard access
- ✓ Abundant light



Take a virtual tour



People waiting for state hospital beds are waiting in **jails, private psychiatric hospitals, ERs and outpatient care**