Addressing Nevada's BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS Using Evidence-Based Solutions

The number of people admitted to prison with a mental health need has increased 35% since 2008.

Percent of women admitted to prison in Nevada that have an identified mental health need: 52%

Share of failures on probation or parole that involved substance abuse, from a treatment or program failure to a positive drug test: 44%

Percent of probation and parole violators who indicated a substance abuse problem, mental health need or both: 72%

Average share of Nevada adults from 2010 to 2014 with a mental illness who did not receive any mental health treatment or counseling in prior year: 67%

Limited Resources, Rising Costs

Without a comprehensive legislative solution, Nevada taxpayers will be billed an additional $770 million over the next decade, crowding out the state’s ability to fund drug treatment and address a growing population with behavioral health needs.

A Better Way Forward

Assembly Bill 236 will not only avert $640 million in spending over the next decade that can be redirected to programming and treatment to address behavioral health needs. AB 236 will also:

- Increase law enforcement training and expand available options for encounters with individuals with behavioral health needs.
- Require the DOC to provide a 30-day supply of medication upon an individual’s release from prison.
- Require the development of a case plan to address an individual’s treatment needs in prison, in preparation for release, and in the community.