

# HOW POLICYMAKERS CAN SUPPORT PATIENTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

The United States faces a full-scale mental health crisis, with many Americans in need of proper care and support.



To improve the lives of patients, decision makers at every level must **prioritize consistent access to care.**

Barriers to proper care for patients with serious mental illness are often **unintended consequences** of outdated public policy.

Policymakers can **support people** living with serious mental illness by:



- Reducing utilization management practices
- Enforcing mental health parity laws
- Investing in wraparound support services
- Strengthening Medicaid coverage and continuity

**Better mental health support starts with better policy.**

**AfPA** | Alliance for Patient Access