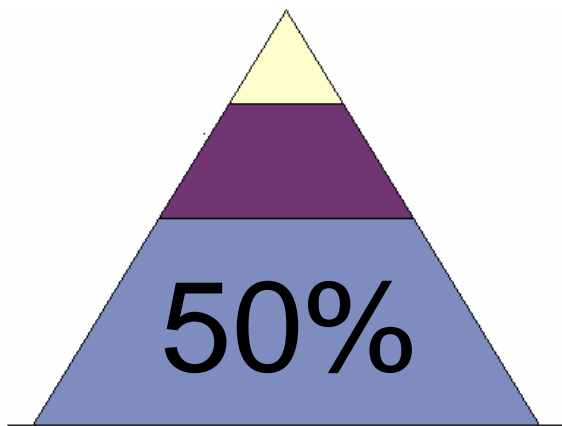


# Get the Facts!

## Older Adults Are Not Getting Help

- ◆ Older adults are the least likely of any age group to receive specialty mental health care
- ◆ Older people with an untreated mental illness use more expensive services like emergency rooms
- ◆ Untreated mental illness complicates inpatient care and drives up the cost
- ◆ More than 50% of persons in nursing homes and other residential care have a mental illness but few receive treatment
- ◆ Medicare pays for 80% of most health care services but only 50% of outpatient mental health care
- ◆ Low reimbursement rates keep providers from treating older adults with mental illnesses

**Treatment of Older Adults with Mental Illness**



- Treated by Mental Health Specialist
- Treated by Primary Care Physician
- Do **NOT** receive treatment !!

- ◆ There are effective ways to treat older adults with mental illness!





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**We're on the Web!**  
[www.ICMHA.org](http://www.ICMHA.org)

In 2005 the Iowa Coalition on Mental Health and Aging (ICMHA) initiated a process to expand and improve the delivery of specialty mental health services to older Iowans. The members of the coalition represent primary care, hospital, long-term care and specialty mental health providers; aging, health and mental health program administrators; policy leaders from the Legislature, the Governor's office and state departments such as Elder Affairs and Human Services; and researchers and analysts. The coalition membership also includes older consumers, their caregivers, and representatives from advocacy organizations.

Anyone who is interested in expanding and improving the care provided to older Iowans with mental illnesses is welcome to join.

## \* KEY POINTS \*

- Many older Iowans do not receive appropriate treatment for mental illness
- Untreated & mistreated mental illness has huge economic consequences
- Quality of life is lower for people who do not receive treatment
- Want to learn more? Contact us!

[www.ICMHA.org](http://www.ICMHA.org)