

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to crisis care coordination; amending  
 3           s. 394.4573, F.S.; requiring, subject to an  
 4           appropriation, the Department of Children and Families  
 5           to implement a Crisis Care Coordination Pilot Program,  
 6           with a specific emphasis, in specified counties for  
 7           certain purposes; providing requirements for the pilot  
 8           program; requiring the pilot program to engage a third  
 9           party for certain purposes; providing an effective  
 10          date.

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 12   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14           **Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 394.4573,**  
 15   **Florida Statutes, to read:**

16           394.4573   Coordinated system of care; annual assessment;  
 17   essential elements; measures of performance; system improvement  
 18   grants; reports.—On or before December 1 of each year, the  
 19   department shall submit to the Governor, the President of the  
 20   Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives an  
 21   assessment of the behavioral health services in this state. The  
 22   assessment shall consider, at a minimum, the extent to which  
 23   designated receiving systems function as no-wrong-door models,  
 24   the availability of treatment and recovery services that use  
 25   recovery-oriented and peer-involved approaches, the availability

26 | of less-restrictive services, and the use of evidence-informed  
27 | practices. The assessment shall also consider the availability  
28 | of and access to coordinated specialty care programs and  
29 | identify any gaps in the availability of and access to such  
30 | programs in the state. The department's assessment shall  
31 | consider, at a minimum, the needs assessments conducted by the  
32 | managing entities pursuant to s. 394.9082(5). The department  
33 | shall compile and include in the report all plans submitted by  
34 | managing entities pursuant to s. 394.9082(8) and the  
35 | department's evaluation of each plan.

36 | (4) As part of a coordinated system of care and subject to  
37 | a specific appropriation by the Legislature, the department,  
38 | through the managing entities, shall implement a Crisis Care  
39 | Coordination Pilot Program with an emphasis on a coordinated  
40 | system of care in Polk and Volusia Counties to be implemented by  
41 | nationally accredited community mental health centers in  
42 | partnership with local law enforcement.

43 | (a) The pilot program must provide community-based care  
44 | coordination and support for children, adolescents, and adults  
45 | after contact with law enforcement during a mental health crisis  
46 | event, including involuntary examinations initiated by a law  
47 | enforcement officer.

48 | (b) Services provided by the pilot program shall include  
49 | assessment, safety planning, assistance in accessing recommended  
50 | services, supportive counseling, and other supports needed

51 following a mental health crisis event.

52 (c) The pilot program must coordinate with community  
53 partners, including development of referral agreements and  
54 information exchange procedures. Referral agreements must be  
55 developed with behavioral health service providers in the pilot  
56 program's service area to facilitate timely access to community-  
57 based behavioral health services and other local systems and  
58 entities as outlined in the individual's discharge plan.

59 (d) The goal of the pilot program is to reduce repeat  
60 involuntary examinations initiated by law enforcement, reduce  
61 the time burden of law enforcement working with individuals  
62 after an involuntary examination, provide post-crisis  
63 intervention services, assist individuals with engagement in  
64 mental health care, and provide individuals an option for crisis  
65 intervention other than the use of law enforcement.

66 (e) The pilot program must engage a third-party evaluator  
67 to assess the pilot program's efficacy and return on investment  
68 and provide a written report of the findings within 2 years  
69 after implementation of the pilot program.

70 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.