

## Behavioral Health Capacity Building



### Emergency rooms are often not the best place for people experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Crisis House.** In Montgomery County, hospitals have historically housed patients who are experiencing a mental health crisis, because there were no other safe options. In August 2017, Nexus Montgomery partnered with Cornerstone Montgomery to open the Layhill Crisis House, which serves patients in a more appropriate setting. While in a crisis house, patients are stabilized, evaluated, and connected to other medical and social services.



Layhill Crisis House

**Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team.** ACT teams support people with severe mental illness. The ACT model provides multidisciplinary, flexible treatment and is well suited for people who are vulnerable to hospitalization. Nexus Montgomery and Cornerstone Montgomery worked together to establish a new ACT team that will provide ongoing care and support for patients in the community, and coordinate services across a broad range of needs, such as housing and employment services.

**Behavioral Health Integration.** Interagency efforts to reduce hospital use by patients with severe mental illness have been piloted but not sustained due to lack of facilitation and coordination. Nexus Montgomery is providing the necessary staffing to continue these innovative efforts to address vital community needs.

THE IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION FOR THIS PROGRAM IS:

