Almost 20% of Louisiana citizens are currently living with mental illness.

1 IN 5 ADULTS IN AMERICA EXPERIENCE A MENTAL ILLNESS.

103,000 adults in Louisiana suffer from a SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS.

17.5% of adults in Louisiana suffer from DEPRESSION.

14.7% of adults in Louisiana suffer from ANXIETY DISORDERS.

LOUISIANA IS AMONG STATES WITH THE HIGHEST PREVALENCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS AND LOWEST RATES OF ACCESS TO CARE.

LSU research works to improve lives.

Easing mental illness in the wake of local disasters:

- LSU Health New Orleans has developed mental health intervention and prevention strategies, and enhanced accessibility to care for children and families who continue to struggle with the effects of Hurricane Katrina.
- By embedding psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and telemedicine resources into primary care clinics in the communities still impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Gulf Oil Spill, LSU Health New Orleans developed a new standard of care that reduced both mental health and general medical symptoms in people affected by the tragedy.
- The LSU AgCenter has been working to identify behavioral health needs of Orleans Parish residents, share data, and develop and promote best practices for improving community behavioral health.

Improving diagnoses and developing new treatment methods:

- LSU Health Shreveport is investigating whether a medication used to treat alcoholism could also help control manic symptoms in individuals with both bipolar disorder and alcohol dependency.
- LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center studies confirmed high-fat diets can lead to an uptick in anxiety, depression, impaired memory, and repetitive behaviors.

ADULT DEPRESSION IN ORLEANS PARISH DECREASED FROM 19.4% IN 2008 TO 15.4% IN 2012.

For more information, call the LSU Division of Strategic Communications at 225-578-8654.

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