



# NEWS

1345 River Bend Drive  
Dallas, TX 75247  
[www.metrocareservices.org](http://www.metrocareservices.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
August 14, 2018

**For more information contact:**  
Calley McGehee Herth  
(214) 743-6138  
[Calley.Herth@metrocareservices.org](mailto:Calley.Herth@metrocareservices.org)

## **Mental Health Advocate Patrick J. Kennedy to Keynote 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meal for the Minds**

*Former congressman and author highlights ending discrimination against mental illness*

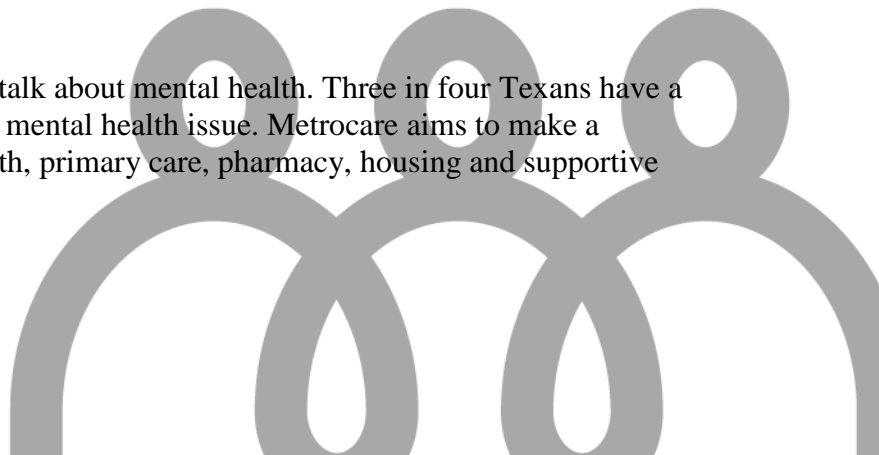
**DALLAS, TX** – Metrocare Services announced the Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy as keynote speaker for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meal for the Minds luncheon on Oct. 17. Kennedy will address his efforts to end discrimination against mental illness, addiction, and other brain diseases. Tickets and sponsorships are available now at [metrocareservices.org](http://metrocareservices.org).

Kennedy is best known as the lead sponsor of the groundbreaking Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), which was signed into law by President George W. Bush on Oct. 3, 2008. He co-authored New York Times Bestseller *A Common Struggle*, where he shared a detailed roadmap to achieve health equity in the U.S. Kennedy is also co-founder of the non-profit One Mind (formerly One Mind for Research), which has helped spark a global revolution in how scientists collaborate to study, diagnose, and treat brain diseases.

Metrocare is celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Meal for the Minds. The first Meal for the Minds was held on Sept. 21, 2009 and featured speaker Jonah Lehrer. Since that date, over \$100,000 has been raised through Metrocare's signature fundraising event to continue providing behavioral health services in North Texas and raise awareness of the fight against mental health stigma.

“The goal for Dallas must be complete elimination of this stigma. It’s an honor to have Mr. Kennedy further that goal by speaking at Metrocare’s Meal for the Minds on how we can each play a role in ‘breaking the silence, fighting the stigma and changing minds,’” said John W. Burruss, M.D., CEO of Metrocare Services.

There has never been a more important time to talk about mental health. Three in four Texans have a friend or family member that has experienced a mental health issue. Metrocare aims to make a difference in lives by providing behavioral health, primary care, pharmacy, housing and supportive services.





# NEWS

The Meal for the Minds luncheon is sponsored by Deedie Rose, Mary Frances Burlison, The Rosewood Corporation, Disability Action Center, Jane R. Burruss, Ph.D., J.D., Vincent Serafino Geary Waddell Jenevein, P.C., Tammi Abney, Fred and Shannon Cerise, Children's Health, The Geisler Family, Patti & Greg Schaub, Jill & Robert Martinez/Judith Shure & James Mattingly, Morgan & Weisbrod, LLP, Southern Area Behavioral Healthcare, Sundance Behavioral Healthcare Systems, UT Southwestern Medical Center/Southwestern Medical Foundation.

###

### **About Metrocare Services**

Metrocare is the largest provider of mental health services in North Texas, serving more than 57,000 adults and children annually. For over 50 years, Metrocare has provided a broad array of services to people with mental health challenges and developmental disabilities. In addition to behavioral health care, Metrocare provides primary care centers for adults and children, services for veterans and their families, accessible pharmacies, housing and supportive social services. Alongside the clinical care, researchers and teachers from Metrocare's Altshuler Center for Education & Research are advancing mental health beyond Dallas County while providing critical workforce to the state. For more information, visit [metrocareservices.org](http://metrocareservices.org) or call 214-743-1200. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

