

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY CHI POLL

The Adelphi University Center for Health Innovation (CHI) Poll is a proprietary survey of Adelphi's Center for Health Innovation. This survey focused on mental health issues and the results were released at the February 12, 2013 CHI Inaugural Symposium, "Assuring the Continuum of Care in Emergency Situations." The results reflect the responses to an online survey of a national sample of 100 mental health professionals, defined as psychologists, psychiatrists, LICSWs, LISWs and CSW-Cs.

Key Takeaways from the Adelphi University CHI Poll Results

A community disaster refers to both man-made (such as a school shooting) and natural (such as a hurricane) events—and can strike at any moment. Yet **nearly half of mental health professionals in the Northeast (48 percent), South (48 percent) and West (46 percent) feel their community's mental health system is unprepared for a community disaster, compared to 41 percent of the country overall.** Midwesterners feel differently—only 21 percent say their community's system is unprepared.

Emergency Preparedness Lacking: When a disaster or emergency hits a community, mental health treatment is often disrupted. To avoid this, mental health professionals should plan ahead, but many do not. **Ninety-two percent of these professionals don't have a clinical will in place in case of an emergency. Further, 82 percent haven't discussed a contingency plan with their clients and 65 percent haven't discussed alternative ways for clients to reach them.** The list continues: More than half (52 percent) don't have referrals available in case they're unreachable and nearly half (46 percent) haven't backed up their files digitally.

Adelphi University CHI Poll Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement: There is a public stigma in my community associated with being treated for mental illness.

Response	Percent
Agree strongly	27%
Agree somewhat	63%
Disagree somewhat	9%
Disagree strongly	1%

Quick Facts±	
Agree (net)	90%
Disagree (net)	10%

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Currently, how prepared or unprepared is your community's mental health system for a community disaster?

Response	Percent
Very prepared	3%
Somewhat prepared	56%
Not very prepared	35%
Not at all prepared	6%

Quick Facts±	
Prepared (net)	59%
Unprepared (net)	41%

Which of the following measures, if any, do you currently have in place in case of an emergency?

Response	Percent
All of my files are backed up digitally.	54%
I have referrals available in case I am unreachable.	48%
All of my files are backed up on paper.	37%
I have discussed alternative ways for my clients to reach me.	35%
I have discussed a contingency plan with my clients.	18%
I have prepared a clinical will.	8%
Other	8%
None of these	10%

About the Adelphi University Center for Health Innovation: The Center for Health Innovation (CHI) brings together many professional and academic backgrounds to create and foster practitioner-focused, interdisciplinary academic programming, healthcare research, community partnerships and leadership—all with the goal of meeting current and emergent healthcare needs. CHI is a progressive collaboration of schools and disciplines within Adelphi University. It establishes a single point of reference for all healthcare programs and services, thereby creating a collective identity, increasing efficiency and expanding Adelphi's regional influence in healthcare. Interdisciplinary groups monitor our programs, and their work is supported through consultation with the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee. For more information about CHI, visit chi.adelphi.edu.

About Adelphi University: Adelphi is a world-class, modern university with excellent and highly relevant programs where students prepare for lives of active citizenship and professional careers. Through its schools and programs—the College of Arts and Sciences, Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Honors College, Robert B. Willumstad School of Business, Ruth S. Ammon School of Education, University College and the Schools of Nursing and Social Work—the coeducational university offers undergraduate and graduate degrees as well as professional and educational programs for adults. Adelphi University currently enrolls nearly 8,000 students from 43 states and 45 foreign countries. With its main campus in Garden City and its centers in Manhattan, Hauppauge and Poughkeepsie, the University, chartered in 1896, maintains a commitment to liberal studies, in tandem with rigorous professional preparation and active citizenship.

Poll Methodology: The Adelphi University CHI Poll was conducted by Wakefield Research (wakefieldresearch.com) among 100 mental health professionals, defined as psychologists, psychiatrists, LICSWs, LISWs and CSW-Cs, between January 25 and February 4, 2013, using an email invitation and an online survey.