

CRAIN'S
Health Pulse

NYP Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital to develop new mental health center

New York-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital will develop an outpatient crisis program to support youth in need of behavioral health care. It's doing so by becoming a founding nonprofit partner of the Morgan Stanley Alliance for Children's Mental Health, announced this week.

The hospital said its planned diagnostic evaluation stabilization center will focus on identifying and assessing young people with behavioral health needs earlier in an outpatient setting. It will offer psychiatric diagnostic evaluations, suicide assessments and social determinant screens, concentrating on care for children and adolescents from underserved communities.

The goal is to avoid costly and challenging treatment in the emergency department. Findings will be disseminated to the larger medical and mental health care communities.

Dr. Jeremy Veenstra-VanderWeele, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at the hospital and at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, will serve on the alliance's advisory board.

Morgan Stanley said the alliance will help to address concerns, such as stress, anxiety and depression, in children. One way of doing so will be through funding strategic nonprofit partners to scale proven methods of improving outcomes. It also will provide seed funding for ideas to do so.

"As mental health challenges amongst children and adolescents are rapidly becoming more pervasive and more urgent, we firmly believe there is not only an opportunity but an obligation for the private sector to play a critical role in improving children's mental health," Joan Steinberg, president of the Morgan Stanley Foundation, said in a statement.

Members of the hospital's leadership team declined to provide further comment.