

down to \$147,000 because Dale Johnson, at Institutions, have worked...has worked with the people here in Lincoln at the mental health...Community Mental Health Centers, to see where he could move other funds around to help their shortfall. And so we have finally gotten it down to \$147,000 for the southeast Nebraska counties served by Region V Mental Health Services. Appropriations of these monies would ensure that 200 severely and persistent mentally ill people, residing in southeast Nebraska, continue to receive mental health services. It's gotten down to the point where it's really an emergency for Lincoln. And I know...you know, we just absolutely don't have 20 cents in our budget right now that's sitting there that anybody could have. But you get to the point where, with programs like this where you at least have to bring it to the whole Legislature and see if we can't figure out some way to work it out for them. Failure to obtain an increase in this aid would necessitate reduction in services, the Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County would have to eliminate four full-time and equivalent positions in service coordination, which would result in the discontinuation of services to approximately 120 severe and persistent mentally ill clients. The Child Guidance Center would have to cut one full-time equivalent outpatient therapist. The Blue Valley Mental Health Center and Pioneer Mental Health Center will have to cut another full-time equivalent therapy position at each agency. So, I think when you listen to those statistics and realize how urgent it is that they get this \$147,000, I hope that you will give it some consideration. And I will allow now...I would ask Senator Robak to give her part of it, and then if there are any more questions, I'd be glad to answer what I can. And if anyone else would like to speak on it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Ma...Thank you, Madam Speaker and members of the body. This plan enables the...excuse me. This amendment provides \$100,000 for Region IV's emergency psychiatric services for fiscal year 1992 and 1993. This has been a long process for Region IV's mental health services, because we have worked with Region IV and DPI for over a year. We have a crisis right now in Region IV's responsibility to treat those people in emergency protective custody. And the money in this amendment would implement a plan to handle that crisis. Region IV's emergency psychiatric center has evolved out of a process that involved my office, Region IV, DPI, law