The Stanford Psychiatry Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing is spearheading a new national vision for adolescent and young adult wellness through implementation of a groundbreaking international integrated youth mental health care model. The allcove model, inspired by international models like headspace in Australia and Foundry in British Columbia, creates stand-alone, “one-stop-shop” health centers for young people ages 12-25 to access support for mild-moderate mental health concerns, physical health services, employment and school support, and alcohol and drug counseling.

allcove approaches youth wellness in a comprehensive and youth-friendly way, led by members of an active local youth advisory group (YAG) to design the services and environment they most want to see in their community. Centers are reflective of the unique adolescent/young adult culture of each geographic community being served and become an independent space for mental/physical care and support services for youth.

- Reducing Stigma
- Increasing Access
- Early Intervention
- Youth Voice
- Community

Key Developments:

- Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services partnered with Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing to pilot the first two allcove sites in the United States in Santa Clara County. San Jose and Palo Alto locations are in development to open early 2021.
- Youth voice is instrumental and included in all touchpoints of allcove via an active youth advisory group at each center. Members are between the ages of 16-25, and are diverse across race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, lived experience, ability, and socio-economic status. The YAG was established to ensure that the youth voice is at the forefront of the allcove experience.
- With IDEO.org, developed a youth-focused brand, name and identity. The IDEO.org team closely collaborated with members of the YAG to gain insights into youth culture regarding media, space, and stigma surrounding mental health. The resulting brand principles inform all facilities design and communications.
- Through collaboration and investment from the State of California, five additional allcove centers will be developed over the next four years (2020-2024). The five lead agencies and locations are: Peninsula Health Care District (central San Mateo County), Wellnest (Los Angeles), Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services (Sacramento), Beach Cities Health Care District (Los Angeles), UC Irvine and Wellness & Prevention Center (Orange County).

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