# ARGENTINA

#### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2024

01

Special Initiative for
Mental Health in Argentina
expanded to include
Buenos Aires and Río
Negro provinces, adding to
ongoing efforts in Santa
Fe, Chaco, and La Rioja.

02

The Ministry of Health integrated mhGAP monitoring into the national health information system using the REDCap platform, enhancing data collection on mental health service delivery.

03

La Rioja progressed in deinstitutionalization efforts by establishing a second-level day care center and reintegrating former inpatients into community settings.

04

Santa Fe launched its
COPRISMA
(Interministerial Body for
Mental Health) to improve
intersectoral coordination
for mental health
governance.

05

Despite political and economic challenges, mhGAP training scaled up nationally, with some provinces extending implementation to their entire territories.



#### **ADVOCACY**

- Successfully advised the legislative power on the proposed amendments to the national mental health law to protect international human rights standards
- Provided technical support for provincial mental health plans in La Rioja, Santa Fe, and Chaco.
- Engaged with legislators and international experts on gambling and online betting, advocating for policy measures to address its mental health impact.
- Supported Buenos Aires province's commitment to deinstitutionalization through its "Buenos Aires Libre de Manicomios" initiative.
- University of Lanús on the training of experts by lived experience, for them to become trainers at post grade courses for community mental health professionals.



## SCALING UP MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Argentina expanded the use of REDCap for monitoring mhGAP implementation in multiple provinces, standardizing mental health service evaluation.
- Santa Fe established regional mental health coordinators to oversee mhGAP implementation across the province.
- Jujuy targeted suicide prevention and alcohol use disorders among indigenous populations through its community mhGAP program.
- Tucumán initiated its second cohort of mhGAP trainers, reinforcing longterm sustainability of the program.
- Chaco resumed its rural mental health training program, adapting it to the province's revised priorities.



### CAPACITY BUILDING

- Santa Fe implemented mhGAP Community Tools training for newly recruited mental health agents, integrating community-based approaches into provincial mental health services.
- Jujuy and Tucumán launched mhGAP as provincial programs, institutionalizing mental health training within their healthcare systems.
- In Chaco, mhGAP training included indigenous leaders from Qom and Wichi communities to ensure culturally sensitive mental health care.
- Río Negro launched mhGAP, training 30 healthcare workers in remote areas to strengthen community-based mental health services, as part of a provincial plan still running, with the objective of covering all the province's health territories.
- Buenos Aires province established a new community-based mental health center, with equipment provided and training scheduled for 2025.

- Expand mhGAP training and reinforce monitoring and evaluation of mental health services at the primary healthcare level.
- Implement the mhGAP sentinel study in San Juan and Tucumán.
- Scale up deinstitutionalization efforts in Santa Fe, Buenos Aires, and La Rioja provinces.
- Strengthen technical support for the National Suicide Observatory and finalize its operational framework.
- Continue legislative advocacy on gambling regulations and online betting's mental health impact.
- Implement QualityRights pilot projects in 5 provinces.
- Launching of QualityRights at national level and implementing pilot projects in 5 provinces with the support of Escuela de Salud Pública Salvador Allende, WHO/PAHO Collaborating Center.





