

BENEFICIARY DIRECTED/PEER-BASED RECOVERY MODELS IN ALASKA

Introduction:

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (the Trust) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to solicit information from community partners regarding peer-based services in Alaska.

Peer-based services connect people who share similar experiences and diagnoses related to mental health conditions, substance use disorders, developmental disabilities, and/or traumatic brain injuries. Examples include: (1) peer respite programs offering voluntary, short-term, overnight non-clinical crisis support outside of a crisis environment; (2) warmlines providing non-emergency emotional support offered by peers; (3) drop-in centers, mutual support groups, and specialized services such as psychosocial education programs, Club House models, and peer wrap-around services with navigation and rehabilitation support.

Background Information:

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority is a state corporation established to improve the lives of Alaskans who experience mental illness, substance use disorders, intellectual and developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, or Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

The contribution of people with lived experience ("peers") have been instrumental in the design, implementation and operation of successful peer-based programs. The Trust has supported programs to build up the capacity of peers and peer-based programs since the early 2000s.

This request is intended to build capacity within peer-based networks so that services are responsive to beneficiary needs. Peer-based services delivered by recovery community organizations positively affect individual recovery outcomes and participants engaged in peer services report low frequency of negative health events (e.g., recurrent of use, emergency room visits) while engaged¹.

Anticipated Scope of Work:

The Trust is seeking information from community partners in Alaska who are currently delivering, or are interested in developing, peer-led recovery support services, peer self-advocacy programs, recovery community centers, and rehabilitative services. The purpose of this RFI is to:

1. Identify organizations currently delivering these services or interested in expanding into this space.
2. Understand the scope, scale and geographic reach of existing or proposed services.
3. Assess the level of interest and potential competition for future funding opportunities.

1. Ashford, R.D., Brown, A., Canode, B., Sledd, A., Potter, J.S., & Bergman, B.G. (2021). Peer-based recovery support services delivered at recovery community organizations: Predictors of improvements in individual recovery capital. *Addictive Behaviors*, 119, 106945. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306460321001301>

4. Share innovative, evidence-based, and cost-effective service models that support the recovery process of Trust beneficiaries and are adapted to the needs, geography and demographics of local and regional communities.

Who Should Respond:

Organizations that:

- Are currently providing peer-led recovery support or rehabilitative services.
- Are currently providing peer self-advocacy programs.
- Are interested in developing or expanding such services.
- Represent or partner with Recovery Community Organizations, peer-led services/center, or similar grassroots recovery initiatives.

Requested Information:

Please provide the following information in your Letter of Interest.

1. Organizational Overview

- Organization name, address, and primary contact.
- Type of organization (non-profit, tribal entity, faith-based etc.)
- Mission and history related to beneficiary led - recovery support or rehabilitative services.

2. Population Served

- Target population(s) (e.g. adults, youth, veterans, rural, justice-involved)
- Estimated number of individuals served annually.
- Special populations or culturally specific services, if applicable.

3. Geographic Coverage

- Areas currently served (cities, boroughs, regions).
- Areas you are interested in serving if new, or if expanding.

4. Services Provided or Proposed

- Description of current services (e.g., peer support, recovery coaching, housing support, employment assistance, harm reduction, crisis stabilization).
- Any new or expanded services you are planning or would like to develop.
- Delivery model (in person, virtual, mobile, hybrid)

5. Staffing & Peer Involvement

- Number of staff and peer support specialists.
- Certification or training standards used for staff.
- Role of individuals with lived experience in service delivery and leadership.

6. Partnerships and Collaborations

- Key partners (e.g., treatment providers, behavioral health agencies, criminal justice, housing, employment, healthcare, crisis providers etc.).
- Role of partners in service delivery or referrals.

7. Budget and Funding

- Current or proposed annual budget for services.
- Primary sources of funding (grants, Medicaid, private donations etc.).
- Capacity to manage state or federal grant funding.

8. Interest in Future Funding

- Would your organization be interested in applying for future funding opportunities to support or expand recovery services?

- What types of support or technical assistance would help you prepare for such opportunities?

Response deadline:

Interested parties must submit a written response by 4:30 P.M. Alaska Prevailing Time on January 2, 2026. Responses may be sent by mail, courier, or e-mail to the procurement officer listed below.

All questions must be directed to the procurement officer via email.

Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Valette Keller, Procurement Officer
3745 Community Park Loop, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99508
valette.keller@alaska.gov
907-269-6039

It is the responsibility of the interested party to follow up with the procurement officer shown above to ensure that response was received prior to the time and date specified at the top of this RFI.

BIDDERS/OFFERORS WITH DISABILITIES: The State of Alaska complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to submit a Letter of Interest should contact the Procurement Officer named above, no later than December 5, 2025.

Important Notice:

This Request for Interest does not constitute a formal solicitation. The Trust is not responsible for any costs associated with the preparation of responses. The issuance of the RFI provides no guarantee that the Trust will proceed with a formal solicitation. However, the information obtained from this request may be used to prepare a purchase, contract, or solicitation in the future.