

**State of Alaska  
Department of Health  
Division of Behavioral Health**



**Request for Information  
Crisis Counseling Program - Regular Services Program  
For FY2027  
Grants and Contracts**

NOTICE: Proposals will ONLY be accepted through GEMS. Applicants are responsible for reviewing the [State of Alaska GEMS Welcome Page](#) for details regarding agency registration and availability of technical assistance. Log into GEMS through [myAlaska](#) to begin the application process. Once you are logged into GEMS, guidance and instruction are available in the Documents tab and from the film strip icon. Applicants are responsible for monitoring GEMS or the State Online Public Notices site for any changes or amendments that may be issued regarding this solicitation.

Relay Alaska provides assisted communication services at 711 or 1-800-770-8973 from a TTY phone, and at 1-800-770-8255 from a voice phone.

CONTACT PERSON: Katlyn Felkl, Grants Administrator

PHONE: (907)465-8657

E-MAIL: [katlyn.felkl@alaska.gov](mailto:katlyn.felkl@alaska.gov)

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: June 22, 2026, 3:59 PM

PROJECT PERIOD BEGINS: August 1, 2026

## Table of Contents

### **Section 1 Request for Information**

1.01 Notice

### **Section 2 Grant Program Information**

2.01 Introduction and Program Description

2.02 Program Funding

### **Section 3 Submission Requirements/ Criteria for Response**

3.01 Eligibility

3.02 Evaluation Criteria

## Section 1 Request for Information

### 1.01 Notice

This Request for Information (RFI) will evaluate the level of interest in providing grant program services. If responses from eligible applicants do not exceed the available program resources, the division may issue a Non-Competitive Request for Proposals to eligible respondent(s). If responses exceed the available program resources, a competitive Request for Proposals may be issued. This RFI may be withdrawn and any further solicitation for services cancelled at the discretion of the Division of Behavioral Health.

## Section 2 Grant Program Information

### 2.01 Introduction and Program Description

The Department of Health, Behavioral Health, is requesting information from eligible applicants who are interested in providing Crisis Counseling Program services for the State of Alaska. On October 22, 2025, the state of Alaska received a Presidential disaster declaration for individual assistance for severe storms, flooding and remnants of Typhoon Halong for the Lower Kuskokwim Regional Educational Attendance Area, Lower Yukon Regional Educational Attendance Area and the Northwest Arctic Borough. The state applied for a Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training grant to help meet the behavioral health needs of disaster survivors. Disaster survivors commonly present with a spectrum of psychological and social difficulties resulting from exposure to traumatic events, loss, and upheaval of social supports. The Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) assists individuals and communities in recovering from the challenging effects of natural and human-caused disasters through the provision of community-based outreach and psychoeducational services. The CCP is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered through an interagency partnership between FEMA and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). For additional information, visit the [SAMHSA website](#).

This project will use a hub and spoke model to provide a coordinated continuum of care for disaster survivors. Because many survivors have relocated to Anchorage, the Anchorage region will serve as the project's central hub and will host multiple teams. Anchorage-based teams will support and coordinate with rural teams and assist disaster survivors who wish to return to their home communities. The intent is to fund up to six (6) awards, one (1) in each of the rural regions and up to three (3) in Anchorage.

**Program Services:** The applicant will deliver an outreach oriented, community-based continuum of supportive services for up to eight (8) months (with the possibility of a three-month no-cost extension), to address ongoing disaster-related behavioral health needs. In accordance with CCP program parameters, core activities will include:

- Individual Crisis Counseling: non-clinical encounters that help disaster survivors understand their reactions, review their options, and connect with other individuals and agencies that may assist them in improving their situations.
- Group Crisis Counseling: non-clinical encounters that are supportive or psychoeducational in nature, offering skills to help group members cope with their situations and reactions.
- Brief Educational/Supportive Contacts: non-clinical encounters that provide basic educational or emotional support to individuals or groups related to disaster reactions.
- Public Education/Outreach: provides general information and education to survivors on disaster services available and key concepts of disaster behavioral health; may include speaking at community forums, professional in-service meetings, and other local meetings.

- Assessment, Referral and Resource Linkage: provides assessment of an individual or family's need for referral to additional disaster relief services, and mental health or substance use treatment.
- Community Networking and Support: attending community events to provide a compassionate presence and to be available to provide crisis counseling services when needed.

These services will be delivered in non-traditional settings via mobile outreach to reach survivors where they live and gather. These are not exclusive office-based services, rather most services are community based. Program services are more practical than psychological in nature and are designed to prevent or mitigate adverse repercussions of disasters rather than to treat them. Crisis counselors help survivors to develop a plan to address self-identified needs and suggest connections with other individuals or organizations that can assist them. The CCP does not provide mental health or substance use treatment, or critical incident stress debriefing.

Applicants will incorporate culturally aware, strength-based approaches that promote resilience and adaptive coping. Applicants will incorporate cultural health practices like talking circles, storytelling, and land-based activities. Program staffing will include a mix of behavioral health professionals and paraprofessionals trained in CCP service delivery.

### **Program Requirements:**

#### Staffing Requirements

- 1 full-time Program Manager that will be responsible for the following:
  - Oversight of day-to-day operations, including ongoing review of service activities and outreach strategies.
  - Provide staff supervision through routine individual and group supervision meetings.
  - Provide ongoing staff coaching to ensure adherence to CCP crisis counseling principles.
  - Coordination with the State CCP Project Director.
- 3 full-time Outreach Workers that will be responsible for the following:
  - Serve as the primary point of contact for disaster survivors and provide education on typical stress reactions, emotional support, and linkage to local recovery resources.
  - Conduct field outreach, home visits, and community engagement activities.
  - Document all contacts in accordance with CCP data collection protocols.
- 1 full-time Behavioral Health Specialists that will be responsible for the following:
  - Support and consult with Outreach Workers, Child Specialists, and Senior Specialists, while also providing crisis counseling, individual and group interventions, and referrals for individuals showing more severe emotional distress.
  - Serve as a resource for connecting individuals in crisis or who need a higher level of care with local behavioral health agencies.
  - Document all contacts in accordance with CCP data collection protocols.
- 1 full-time Child Specialist that will be responsible for the following:
  - Deliver age-appropriate crisis counseling and resilience-building activities for children and families.
  - Work closely with schools, shelters, and family resource centers to identify children requiring additional support and ensure continuity of care for young survivors.
  - Document all contacts in accordance with CCP data collection protocols.
- 1 Full-time Senior Specialist that will be responsible for the following:
  - Provide supportive counseling, emotional stabilization, and resource navigation to the elderly population.

- Coordinate with senior centers, long-term care facilities, and medical providers to address the specific psychosocial needs of older adults affected by the disaster.
- Document all contacts in accordance with CCP data collection protocols.
- 1 Full-time Administrative/Finance/Data Specialist that will be responsible for the following:
  - Provide logistical, financial, and data management support for the CCP team.
  - Track expenditures, maintain required documentation, and ensure the accuracy of service and encounter data submitted for federal reporting.
  - Collaborate closely with the state to ensure consistent quality and timely report submissions.

#### Accessibility

Applicants will ensure services are accessible by:

- Using in-person, telephonic, and mobile outreach to engage individuals, including those in rural villages and urban displacement centers
- Tailoring engagement for high-risk groups through school-based services, elder visits, and responder peer support
- Providing interpretation, large-print materials, childcare, and ADA-compliant meeting spaces

#### Training Requirements

All CCP staff will be required to attend multiple standardized CCP trainings to ensure staff are implementing CCP with fidelity to the model.

#### Data Collection

Data collection on service delivery will be collected utilizing standardized service logs, weekly tally sheets, and assessment/referral logs. Applicants will be required to submit regular programmatic and data reports identifying service encounters, outreach activities, staffing levels, and geographic coverage. Service encounter and outreach data will be submitted to DBH on a weekly basis.

#### Quality Assurance

Applicant will maintain structured supervision, data collection, and quality assurance systems consistent with CCP guidance, including regular evaluation of service trends and adjustments to service delivery strategies based on emerging needs. Applicant will maintain compliance with FEMA/SAMHSA CCP standards for service delivery, data collection, and fiscal accountability. Applicant will be required to participate in regularly scheduled meetings with the state of Alaska CCP Project Director and other statewide providers.

#### Site Monitoring

Applicant will engage in a DBH site visit which will serve as a quality-control tool to assess grantee fidelity to CCP standards, identify areas for improvement, and an opportunity to receive targeted technical assistance.

**The anticipated start date for this project is August 1, 2026. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to start service delivery no later than August 31, 2026.**

Interested applicants must upload a document that provides the following information:

1. The service area applicant intends to provide services.
2. An attestation of the following:

- Applicant can begin providing services by August 31, 2026, and can meet the required staffing for the project (including both behavioral health professionals and paraprofessionals).
- Applicant can incorporate cultural health practices into services.
- Applicant has the capacity and operational readiness to provide mobile, community-based outreach, education, crisis counseling, and related services in locations where disaster survivors are residing or congregating. Applicant acknowledges that program services are not intended to be delivered solely from office-based settings and that grant funding is provided to support outreach and service delivery in the field.
- Applicant understands the CCP model and has the capacity to fully implement all required services and activities in compliance with FEMA and SAMHSA guidance. The applicant further attests that it has, or can rapidly deploy, the staffing, supervision, training, partnerships, operational systems, and administrative infrastructure necessary to successfully deliver all required services, achieve program objectives, and meet all fiscal, reporting, monitoring, and performance requirements associated with the award.

**Duration of Grant Program:** 8/1/2026 through 3/21/2027 (with the possibility of a three month no-cost extension)

**Target Population:** The target population for the solicited services is individuals impacted by Typhoon Halong.

**Service Areas and Communities:** The service areas and communities requested for the services solicited are:

- Lower Kuskokwim Regional Educational Attendance Area
- Lower Yukon Regional Educational Attendance Area
- Northwest Arctic Borough
- Anchorage/Statewide, with a specific target population of those sheltering in the urban setting of Anchorage and surrounding areas.

For additional detail regarding communities served, see Attachment A. Regional Educational Attendance Area Map.

## 2.02 Program Funding

**Anticipated Total Funding Available:** Funding is for up to eight (8) months (with the possibility of a three-month no-cost extension), as follows:

- Lower Kuskokwim Regional Educational Attendance Area: \$867,774.24 for one (1) team
- Lower Yukon Regional Educational Attendance Area: \$867,774.24 for one (1) team
- Northwest Arctic Borough: \$867,774.24 for one (1) team
- Anchorage/Statewide: \$2,496,540.73 for up to three (3) teams

An applicant in the Anchorage region may request funding to operate more than one team.

**Methodology for Allocation of Funds:** Allocation of resources is based on population and need as identified in federal application.

## Section 3 Submission Requirements/ Criteria for Response

### 3.01 Eligibility

Applicants must be eligible to apply under 7 AAC 78.030 (Eligible Applicants). Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations; municipalities, and other political subdivisions of the state; other State agencies; and Alaska Native entities.

Applicants that fail to meet the minimum responsiveness requirements below will be eliminated from consideration per 7 AAC 78.090(b)(2).

**3.02 Evaluation Criteria**

**1 Applicant is eligible per 7 AAC 78.030**

Evaluation/Review Criteria		Review	Points
a	Applicant is eligible per 7 AAC 78.030.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

**2 If applying as a non-profit organization, confirm non-profit status is documented.**

Evaluation/Review Criteria		Review	Points
a	The agency is listed as a non-profit in good standing on the State’s corporation database, confirmed at <a href="#">State Corporation Database</a> and/or	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b	The agency’s current 501(c)3 status is confirmed on the Exempt Organization’s page, accessible at <a href="#">IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c	If a non-profit subsidiary of a non-profit corporation, a verifying letter from the parent non-profit agency is uploaded to the applicant's agency GEMS record (under General in the Agency Administration tab). The parent corporation must meet criteria a and/or b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

**3 If applying as a Federally recognized tribal entity, confirm the following criteria are met.**

Evaluation/Review Criteria		Review	Points
a	The applicant is a recognized Alaska Native entity as verified by the <a href="#">Federal Register</a> . If a tribal consortium, all members are recognized Alaska Native entities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

**4 In the text box below, provide the estimated annual cost to your agency for providing the services identified in Section 2.01. Identify the targeted population and area to be served. Upload a document that identifies the service area the applicant intends to provide services, as well as an attestation as outlined in section 2.01 of this Request for Information (RFI).**

Evaluation/Review Criteria		Review	Points

---

	<b>a</b> Estimated annual cost to provide services is given and the targeted population is identified.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>b</b> The applicant has uploaded an attestation of the required information provided in section 2.01.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	