Mental Health Innovation Grant Program

The Mental Health Innovation Grant Program supports both proven and innovative approaches to community-based, outpatient mental health services in order to help reduce the need for care at regional treatment centers and community behavioral health hospitals.

These grants support Minnesota’s mental health system by creating or adding more:
- Short-term and critical access centers
- Collaborative efforts between crisis teams, hospitals and other services
- Transition services and care coordination

Grants

Part of Minnesota’s 2017 legislative package, funds for this grant program come from revenue captured from the county share of treatment costs for people receiving care at Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center and the Community Behavioral Health Hospitals.

A competitive Request for Proposal process was published in early 2018, and $2.171 million was made available.

Grants were awarded and contracts completed in July 2018. All grants are for 18 months but with an option to be extended to 6 months.
Grantees

**Adult Mental Health Initiative Region V+: Transition Services**

- Serving Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.
- $260,958

Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative will assess individuals and coordinate services to divert some individuals from needing inpatient mental health care. For those that do need inpatient psychiatric care, discharge planning will start at admission so that the right level of supports will be developed and in place.

This regional service will coordinate between mobile crisis teams, hospitals, law enforcement and the counties and/or tribes, as well as state treatment facilities such as Anoka Regional Treatment Center, Community Behavioral Health Hospitals, and the Competency Restoration Program at St. Peter.

**American Indian Family Center: Healing Journey**

- Serving the American Indian community in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties
- 24 mos.: $218,425

The American Indian Family Center is enhancing their multidisciplinary team of mental health staff and community consultants to bring culturally-specific and responsive services to the Urban Indian population.

Services will support the American Indian community in navigating complex medical organizations. Services include community health worker/family empowerment coaching that is designed around healing and connecting families with community and elders, while focusing on traditional cultural life ways, resiliency and strengths for healing and growth. These programs will increase care coordination and minimize the potential for future trauma within the American Indian community.

**Hennepin County Adult Behavioral Health: Behavioral Health Care Center**

- Serving Hennepin County
- 24 mos. $867,074

Hennepin County will pilot the final component of its new Behavioral Health Care Center: a collaborative triage, urgent care, and care coordination unit. The County is currently transforming their 50-bed detoxification program at 1800 Chicago Avenue in Minneapolis into a 65-bed Withdrawal Management program (run by American Indian Community Development Corporation) and has developed a 16-bed Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Unit (run by ReEntry House) on site.

The new first-floor triage, urgent care, and care coordination unit will be the point of entry for the entire Center. When completed, the Center will provide a full array of community mental health services. Additionally, Hennepin County is partnering with the Minneapolis Police Department, Hennepin Healthcare and Mental Health Resources, so that 1800 Chicago becomes another option for residents with known or suspected serious mental illness who are picked up on low-level offenses or found to have urgent mental health needs.
Human Development Center: Emergency Department Case Management

- Serving Duluth
- 24 mos. $348,442

The Human Development Center in Duluth will partner with the emergency departments of both St. Luke’s and Essentia Hospitals to develop discharge and follow up plans, including linkages to community services.

By closing the loop between discharge and services in the community, the Human Development Center will reduce hospital admissions and emergency room stays, reduce diversions to outlying hospitals and greatly improve access to community based support services. This will further support the success and stability for individuals with mental illness and co-occurring disorders.

Kanabec County: Care Connector/Navigator Model

- Serving Kanabec County
- 24 mos. $195,512

Kanabec County Community Health and its grant partners are developing a Care Connector/Navigator program that will assist residents with serious mental health issues who are transitioning from one setting (Emergency Department, hospital, treatment center, jail) to another setting within the community.

The Care Connector/Navigator will work with the people to create a plan of care, determine gaps/barriers to needed services, and assist in overcoming the barriers. As a result of the Care Coordinators work, there will be greater participation in services and follow through on the part of the individual, as well as a reduction of hospitalizations and readmissions, visits to the emergency department, treatment relapse, jail recidivism, and increase the quality of life for the individuals.

White Earth Mental Health Program: Holistic Health Practitioners

- Serving the White Earth Nation
- 24 mos. $280,558

White Earth Mental Health Program will add certified and licensed Holistic Health Practitioners to support the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual needs of people in their healing and recovering from mental illness.

The practitioners will become part of White Earth Tribal Mental Health’s overall multi-disciplinary services, providing connections to cultural and holistic healing and recovery services for people in a large rural tribal area. Holistic Health Practitioners will work in conjunction with medical, nursing, substance abuse, and mental health clinical teams to provide prevention and post-vention services that are beneficial to people experiencing crisis, detoxifying or recovering from substance dependency.