

**Mobile Crisis and Stand-Alone Crisis Services Assistance,
Maryland Department of Health**
\$15 Million (M00L01.02)

Recovery for the Economy, Livelihoods, Industries, Entrepreneurs, and Families (RELIEF) Act provides support to providers who are essential to behavioral health provider networks to have the support, resources and opportunity to be sustained through the global pandemic and continue the vital work of assisting those individuals who are in need during this time.

Purpose: Recovery Now Funding

Community Services, Maryland Department of Health, shall provide \$15 million in grants for mobile crisis and stand-alone walk-in crisis services for the treatment of community mental health and substance use disorders. The purpose of this funding is to provide relief support to providers who have incurred financial hardship as a result of COVID-19 and health restrictions. The impact has placed many of these critical providers in financial jeopardy and caused them to be at risk of closing or restricting the services they can provide. These funds are a one-time award and must be expended by June 2022.

March 24 - Program Highlights and Plans to Allocate Remaining Balance:

- The Maryland Department of Health will develop a request for proposal (RFP) to have the providers identify the areas of necessity.
- Eligible providers:
 1. **Mobile Crisis:** Mobile Crisis Teams are a community-based service that provides face-to-face professional and peer intervention, deployed in real time to the location of a person in crisis. The mobile crisis team may work with law enforcement when needed and with appropriate protocols intervening as the crisis is occurring in any community setting. These providers service members that are in the Maryland public behavioral health space.
 2. **Walk in:** A free standing (non-hospital based) walk-in/urgent care center that provides intensive crisis services to individuals who otherwise would be brought to emergency rooms and provides up to 23 hours of immediate care and linkage to community-based solutions. There are a variety of ways to access services, and rapid, same-day access is available. Eligible Centers are those with screening, assessment, brief intervention and prescribing capabilities that accept walk-in visits with no appointment needed for immediate mental health and substance use support during day hours and limited weekends. These providers service members that are in the Maryland public behavioral health space.
- Request for proposals will be finalized by MDH the week of March 22, 2021.
- The Stakeholder engagement meeting will be held on March 26, 2021.
- Application deadline will be due April 2, 2021 8pm (EST).

March 24 - Programmatic and/or Implementation Issues:

- Provider eligibility is based on those who are currently grant funded by the Behavioral Health Administration (MDH) for mobile crisis and walk-in services and have received an award in FY 2020.
- Allocation of awards will be based on statement of need and explanation of revenue losses.
- Allocation will be equitably distributed based upon funding capacity.
- Awards are to provide fiscal relief based on loss and not for expansion of services as this time.
- A final report is due at the completion of award by **June 2022**.

March 24 - Distribution of Funds:

- Funds are expected to be released by the week of April 12, 2021.