

## Crisis Resources Available in Montana

### Required for Licensure

Each licensed mental health center (currently numbered at 15) must provide crisis telephone services to its clients as a requirement of licensure. (ARM 37.106.1906)

### Required by Contract

Beginning in October 2003, and continuing to the present, AMDD has contracted with four licensed mental health centers to provide eligibility determination, medically necessary treatment, support and case management for adults who have an income below 150% of the Federal poverty level and who have severe disabling mental illness. The combined total of the MHSP contracts in FY 2005 is \$3.4 million to serve approximately 5000 individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid. (average \$57/person/month).

Included in that contract is the requirement to provide toll-free emergency telephone services throughout an assigned area. Although each licensed mental health center is required to provide crisis telephone services to its own clients under the licensure rule, the toll free lines required in this contract are available for any caller in the area.

The contract for MHSP services includes a requirement to "screen potential admissions to Montana State Hospital and identify alternatives to institutional care whenever appropriate." Clarification was provided during the RFP process that the screening process referred to is that described in the involuntary commitment law (53.21.126 MCA).

### Reimbursed by Medicaid

The Department reimburses for medically necessary mental health services through Medicaid. These services include psychiatric diagnosis and assessment, individual, family, and group psychotherapy, psychological testing, crisis intervention facility services, inpatient psychiatric care, and numerous community-based rehabilitation services. Mental health centers are not required to provide all of these services.

Currently, there is not a statewide response system in place to meet the needs of individuals in crisis. Individually, the community mental health centers have developed plans for meeting crisis needs within the geographic area served by their agency. Typically services are provided without consideration of reimbursement, although Medicaid

covered services provided to eligible individuals. Some mental health centers have entered into agreements with county governments or local hospitals to provide crisis response services. It is estimated that more than 50% of the individuals seen in a crisis are not eligible for Medicaid or MHSP at the time the service was delivered.

Mobile crisis response teams are available in Kalispell, Missoula, Butte, and Bozeman/Livingston. Crisis stabilization facilities are located in Kalispell, Missoula, Butte, Bozeman, and Billings. Inpatient psychiatric beds are available in Glendive, Billings, Great Falls, Missoula, and Kalispell.