



AN ACT CREATING A MOBILE CRISIS UNIT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS; PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Definitions. As used in [sections 1 through 3], the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Department" means the department of public health and human services provided for in 2-15-2201.
- (2) "Mental health crisis" means a mental health condition that manifests in symptoms of sufficient severity that it is reasonable to expect the absence of immediate attention or intervention to result in:
 - (a) serious jeopardy to the individual's health or well-being; or
 - (b) a danger to others.
- (3) "Mobile crisis intervention services" means mental health services provided by a mobile crisis unit at the location where a person is having a mental health crisis, as determined through screening by dispatch. Services are intended to:
 - (a) stabilize acute psychiatric or behavioral symptoms;
 - (b) evaluate treatment needs;
 - (c) develop a plan to meet the ongoing needs of the person having a mental health crisis; and
 - (d) transport the person to a more appropriate facility for care if applicable.
- (4) "Mobile crisis unit" means a team consisting of one mobile crisis unit professional and one or more support persons who provide mobile crisis intervention services and coordinate with dispatch, local law enforcement, emergency medical services personnel, and other appropriate local or state resources.
- (5) "Mobile crisis unit professional" means:
 - (a) a mental health professional, as defined in 37-38-102;
 - (b) a social worker licensure candidate as defined in 37-22-102;
 - (c) a professional counselor licensure candidate as defined in 37-23-102; or

(d) a marriage and family therapist licensure candidate as defined in 37-37-102.

(6) "Support person" means:

(a) a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or registered nurse licensed under Title 37;

(b) an emergency care provider as defined in 37-3-102; or

(c) a behavioral health peer support specialist as provided for in 37-38-101, who has completed additional training and certification requirements developed by the department.

Section 2. Department duties -- rulemaking authority. (1) The department shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of [sections 1 through 3].

(2) The rules may include but are not limited to:

(a) training and licensure requirements for mobile crisis unit personnel; and

(b) reporting requirements for the grant recipients.

Section 3. Grants -- reporting requirements. (1) Subject to appropriation by the legislature, the department shall award competitive grants to local communities for establishing mobile crisis units.

(2) A grant award under this section may not exceed \$125,000 and must be matched in the amount of \$1 in local government matching funds for each \$1 in grant money awarded.

(3) (a) At least one grant awarded under this section must be awarded to a rural community, unless no rural community applies for a grant under this section. Two or more rural communities located in close proximity to each other may apply jointly for a grant under this section.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection (3), "rural community" means a city, town, consolidated city-county, or unincorporated area with a population of no more than 15,000 inhabitants.

(4) A grant application must include, at a minimum, the following elements:

(a) a proposal containing information that is sufficient for the department to obtain an adequate understanding of how the program will operate, including the:

(i) days and hours proposed to be staffed;

(ii) criteria for hiring mobile crisis unit personnel;

(iii) plan for training and certification of mobile crisis unit professionals, which must include first aid,

cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and nonviolent crisis resolution; and

(iv) plan for transporting mobile crisis units;

(b) the proposed budget;

(c) proof of available local government matching funds in the amount of \$1 for each \$1 applied for in grant money;

(d) written confirmation from the local law enforcement agency that the local law enforcement agency is amenable to coordinating with the mobile crisis unit and the proposed coordination protocol; and

(e) the name of the consulting company that will be utilized, if applicable.

(5) Grant recipients shall collect data and information on emergency room and jail diversion, crisis intervention, and connection with followup services and present the data and information in the form and manner prescribed by the department to support program evaluation, measure progress on performance goals, and allow for a state plan amendment establishing the reimbursement rate for mobile crisis services to be drafted and sent to the centers for medicare and medicaid services for approval.

(6) The department shall present a report containing the information received and processed in subsection (5) to the children, families, health, and human services interim committee by June 15, 2020.

Section 4. Appropriation. (1) There is appropriated \$500,000 from the state general fund to the department of public health and human services for use during the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, for the purposes of [section 3].

(2) The appropriation is intended to be a one-time-only appropriation.

Section 5. Coordination with existing programs -- legislative intent. The legislature intends that the department of public health and human services coordinate the provisions of [this act] with current suicide and mental health crisis response programs as recommended in the 2016 Montana suicide mortality review team report.

Section 6. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

Section 7. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 3] are intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 53, chapter 21, part 12, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 21, part 12, apply to [sections 1 through 3].

Section 8. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2019.

Section 9. Termination. [This act] terminates June 30, 2021.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
HB 0660, originated in the House.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2019.

Chief Clerk of the House

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2019.

HOUSE BILL NO. 660

INTRODUCED BY J. KRAUTTER, F. ANDERSON, D. BARRETT, B. BENNETT, C. BOLAND, G. CUSTER,
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