



Behavioral Health Service Delivery Transformation

Department of Social Services

Overview

Governor Noem's budget proposal includes \$15,000,000 in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support the development and expansion of regional behavioral health centers. South Dakota's current publicly funded behavioral health service model includes 11 community mental health centers and over 40 accredited substance use disorder providers serving geographic catchment areas. The current system provides a variety of treatment and prevention services but does not include a comprehensive crisis response model.

South Dakotans who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis are often met with law enforcement or Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response instead of stabilization services. Without comprehensive regional mental health supports in place, individuals in mental health crises are often involuntarily committed to inpatient psychiatric hospitals when they could be served in a less restrictive setting closer to their home and community.

Project Description

This project will further expand Appropriate Regional Facilities (ARF) as well as other behavioral health service capacities statewide. Recent investments in ARF in Yankton, Watertown, and Pennington County have created regional behavioral health centers that could integrate crisis stabilization, residential substance use treatment services, and transitional housing. This project includes funding for construction of new facilities or expanding/renovating existing facilities across the state.

Funding

Over the next four years, the state will commit a total of \$15,000,000 in ARPA funding to support this infrastructure development. To meet the needs of all regions, an estimated \$3,750,000 in ARPA funds will be spent each year for the construction and expansion of facilities across the state. In combination with the \$15,000,000 in federal funding, local funding will be needed to complete these service delivery changes.