



Requests for Information

UPDATED

Behavioral Health System for Future
Generations Commission
July 20, 2023



In support of the Behavioral Health System for Future Generations Commission as established by HB 872, the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is soliciting information to assist in developing near-term and long-term strategies to strengthen the continuum of behavioral health and developmental disability services to Montanans. Feedback from patients, family members, advocates, and/or providers is critical to better understand challenges and opportunities, and to develop strategies to improve service delivery systems.

Formal RFI – [Closes August 11, 2023](#)

One option is to participate in the “Improvements to Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Services in Montana Request for Information (RFI)”, the RFI number is DPHHS-RFI-2024-0480.

The RFI can be found on the [Montana Acquisition & Contracting System \(eMACS\)](#). In the keyword search function, use the word *“improvements”* to locate this particular RFI. If additional assistance is needed, please reach out to the Department of Administration at 406-444-2575.

This RFI contains the following questions to encourage the provision of in-depth and detailed discussion of opportunities and challenges.

Tell us who you are. Check all that apply:

- Behavioral health service provider
- Developmental disability service provider
- Consumer/client
- Advocate
- Behavioral health or developmental disability association
- Hospital organization
- Other interested party

Please answer the following questions that are applicable to your situation regarding behavioral health services, developmental disabilities services, workforce, and access.

Where possible, please include examples such as infrastructure investments, workflow and practice improvement support strategies, service expansion (or re-instatement) grants, or other innovations that the department should consider implementing in the next three years to promote comprehensive, integrated behavioral health and developmental disabilities services. Where possible, please provide relevant examples of evidence-based models and/or promising state and local approaches.

Please answer the following questions regarding behavioral healthcare services:

- 1) What are the top three challenges with outpatient (including intensive outpatient) behavioral health service delivery in Montana today?
- 2) What are the top three challenges with inpatient behavioral health service delivery in Montana today?
- 3) In addition to Medicaid provider rate increases currently being implemented by DPHHS, what do you see as the greatest opportunity to rapidly impact behavioral health services in Montana?
- 4) How can investments in the following play a role in improving behavioral health in Montana:
 - a. peer support specialists,
 - b. community health workers, and
 - c. direct care workers
- 5) Provide any additional comments about what is needed to benefit behavioral health service delivery in Montana.

Please answer the following questions regarding services for individuals with developmental disabilities:

- 1) What are the top three challenges with developmental disabilities service delivery in Montana today?
- 2) In addition to the provider rate increases currently being implemented by DPHHS, what do you see as the greatest opportunities to rapidly impact developmental disabilities services in Montana?
- 3) How can investments in the following play a role in improving developmental disabilities services in Montana:
 - a. peer support specialists.
 - b. community health workers.
 - c. direct care workers.
- 4) Provide any additional comments about what is needed to benefit developmental disabilities service delivery in Montana.

Please answer the following questions regarding workforce and consumer/client access:

- 1) What policies or process changes would encourage greater behavioral health and/or developmental disabilities service provider participation in Medicaid and CHIP?
- 2) What policies would best incentivize behavioral health and/or developmental disabilities service providers to train and practice in rural and other underserved areas?
- 3) What policies could improve and ensure equitable access to and quality of care in behavioral health and/or developmental disabilities services for minority populations and geographically underserved communities?
- 4) Provide any additional comments about what is needed to improve workforce and access in the behavioral health and/or developmental disabilities service system in Montana.

Comment and Suggestion Submissions (“Informal RFI”) – [Closes August 11, 2023](#)

A second option to submit comment or suggestions is to fill out an online form which can be found at futuregenerations.mt.gov. This approach includes fewer questions while still providing an avenue outside of eMACS to communicate with DPHHS.

Questions include:

What do you see as the greatest opportunity to rapidly impact behavioral health services in Montana?

What do you see as top challenges with behavioral health service delivery in Montana today?

What do you see as the greatest opportunity to rapidly impact the developmental disabilities service system in Montana?

What do you see as top challenges with developmental disabilities service system in Montana today?