

July 29, 2026

**Department of Health
Behavioral Health Administration
Adult Mental Health Division**

**Request For Information (RFI)
RFI Number AMHD 420-1-27**

Rural Health Transformation Plan-Rural Infrastructure for Care Access (RICA)

I. Purpose of the RFI

The Department of Health (DOH), Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) is seeking comments and feedback in the development of its Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Rural Health Transformation Plan, specifically, Rural Infrastructure for Care Access (RICA). The RFP may result in multiple contracts awarded for services on the island of Hawai'i.

II. Service Population

To support rural communities across Hawai'i Island in integrating behavioral health services-including both mental health and substance use-and in expanding mobile mental-health outreach capacity.

III. Recommendation and comment on the service

AMHD requests information specific to the following questions:

1. What are the most significant gaps in the current continuum of mental health and substance use disorder services in rural communities on Hawaii Island?
2. Which geographic areas and populations experience the greatest barriers to accessing behavioral health services, and what are the primary barriers?
3. What specific behavioral health services should be prioritized to address identified gaps, including prevention, outreach, screening, assessment, crisis intervention, treatment, care coordination, peer support, recovery support, and transitions of care?
4. What mobile behavioral health services are most needed, and what service delivery model would be most effective for rural Hawaii Island?
5. What geographic coverage, days and hours of operation, response times, and frequency of mobile outreach would be appropriate?
6. What staffing disciplines and staffing levels would be necessary to operate an effective mobile and community-based behavioral health service model?
7. What workforce recruitment and retention barriers should AMHD consider when developing the RFP, and what strategies could mitigate those barriers?

8. What organizations, provider types, or community partners should be included in an integrated rural behavioral health network, and what roles should they perform?
9. What approaches would best integrate mental health and substance use disorder services for individuals with co-occurring conditions using a mobile service?
10. How would a mobile medical program address substance use treatment, Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) initiation, and retention in care for patients living in rural Hawai'i Island?
11. What benefits would Peer Navigators provide for a mobile medical program serving rural Hawai'i Island? What would be the challenges of employing peers in this setting?
12. What barriers could prevent qualified organizations from responding to or successfully implementing an RFP for these services?
13. What contract structure would best support service delivery (e.g., geographic contracts, lead-agency models, or multiple specialized contracts)?
14. What would constitute a reasonable implementation period following contract award?
15. What performance measures and outcomes should AMHD use to evaluate improvements in rural behavioral health access, service utilization, continuity of care, and consumer outcomes?
16. Please identify any additional recommendations AMHD should consider in developing the scope of services, minimum qualifications, payment methodology, performance requirements, or other provisions of a future RFP.
17. Please provide feedback on key considerations for vehicle-based clinic operations, including connectivity needs, methods to ensure client privacy, recommended telehealth workflows, and any suggested floorplans or layouts that would support an optimal model of care.
18. What recommendations do you have for integrating community partners—such as Hawaii CARES, YouthLine, EMS, churches, primary care providers, and other local organizations—to strengthen coordination and improve continuity of care within a rural behavioral health service model?

IV. Submission of Information

Potential applicants, public agencies, and interested stakeholders are encouraged to submit written comments and suggestions.

Feedback via e-mail or postmark is appreciated by 4:30 p.m., Friday, August 28, 2026.

There will be an RFI discussion held via Zoom on August 19 at 3:30 p.m.

Zoom link:

<https://hawaii-gov.zoom.us/j/83547244105?pwd=WVT8NmYbHebKBx2Sq50azUCqTb5KfP.1>

Meeting: 835 4724 4105

Passcode: 282944

One tap mobile

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+12532050468,,83547244105#,,,,,0#,,282944# US

Dial by your location

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+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 360 209 5623 US

Meeting: 835 4724 4105

Passcode: 282944

Find your local number: <https://hawaii-gov.zoom.us/u/kdwQglce9A>

Please submit all comments to:

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Hilo, Hawaii 96720

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***Please use the subject line “**RFI No. AMHD-420-7-26 RICA RESPONSE**”**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Participation in the RFI is **optional** and is not required to respond to any subsequent procurement action a purchasing agency may take. Neither the purchasing agency nor interested parties responding have any obligation under the request for information.
- Neither the Department of Health, AMHD nor any interested party responding to the RFI has any obligation under this process.
- The purchasing agency reserves the right to adopt or not adopt any recommendations presented in response to the request for information.
- This RFI does not commit the AMHD to solicit or award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the information submitted. The AMHD reserves the right to accept, reject, or utilize without obligation, any information submitted in response to this request.
- Some of the questions are reposted to the website due to the short turn-around time to respond to the initial RFI.