



**Mental Health
Recovery Board**
Clark | Greene | Madison

Pathways for everybody, every family.

Request For Proposals (RFP): **Clark County, Ohio Mobile Crisis Unit**

Purpose

This project requires the creation of a Mobile Crisis Response model that partners trained behavioral health providers with law enforcement and fire services in Clark County, Ohio. The Mental Health Recovery Board of Clark, Greene, & Madison Counties (MHRB) is a governmental entity created and governed by Ohio Revised Code 340. At MHRB, we know that healthy people create healthy communities—and vice versa. The MHRB is responsible for planning, funding, monitoring and evaluation of behavioral health services in our three-county catchment area. This RFP seeks to expand access to mobile crisis services for adults in Clark County, Ohio who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. The MHRB is partnering with local law enforcement and fire services to increase access to crisis care.

MHRB was awarded a State Crisis Intervention Program grant to be utilized through September 30, 2026 for additional mobile crisis personnel to assist first responders. Restrictions and use of funds will be tied those of the Byrne Grant: [Unallowable Costs | Office of Criminal Justice Services](#). The ideal candidate(s) will possess licensure through the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board. The terms “contractor” and “selected vendor” may be used interchangeably in reference to a vendor selected by MHRB through this RFP for contract award.

Anticipated Selection Schedule:

- Release of RFP: Wednesday, January 15, 2025
- Deadline for submission of RFP: Friday, February 14, 2025
- All applicants will be notified of status of application by Friday, March 14, 2025
- Implementation: \$222,073.78 is available until 9/30/2026 and is tied to Byrne Federal Grant. Additional funding to sustain successful implementation may be provided.
- All proposals will be reviewed and scored by a team representing the project stakeholders. A scoring rubric will be used, with a maximum score of 100 points.

1055 E High St.
Springfield, OH 45505
(937) 322-0648
www.mhrb.org

Organizational Background:

MHRB and its community partners have identified a need for collaboration between first responder agencies and behavioral health professionals to better assist those in our community that find themselves in crisis. Because law enforcement and fire services are often the first to be called and to come into contact with someone in crisis, collaboration and trust with providers of behavioral health services is essential for successful implementation of a mobile crisis initiative. If someone is in crisis, having access to a trained behavioral health professional who can assist with de-escalation, referral, and care coordination could provide a better outcome.

Project Overview and Goals:

The MHRB seeks a credentialed provider and/or behavioral health clinician, experienced and certified in crisis intervention, to be embedded with a first responder agency in Clark County, Ohio. These clinicians will be designated as Mobile Crisis Responders (MCR). MCRs will be housed in and respond from the first responder agency they are assigned. The first responder agency may be involved in the evaluation and selection of the MCR.

Mobile crisis management involves support, services, and treatments necessary to provide integrated crisis response and stabilization interventions with a focus on hospital diversion. Mobile crisis management services are always available, 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week, 365 days-a-year. Crisis response is an immediate evaluation, triage and access to acute mental health, or substance use services, treatment, and supports to effect symptom reduction, harm reduction, or to safely transition persons in acute crises to appropriate crisis stabilization and detoxification supports or services.

While not required, the ability for MCR to become a Health Officer and safely transport clients could be beneficial. The main goal of this project is *not* to have position *only* respond to persons that need an emergency application for admission (pink slip), but more involved in the on-scene de-escalation of crisis calls for service as well as provision of mental health screening, follow up with known clients, problem identification and referral for appropriate services and supports.

MCRs could be utilized for ancillary duties, such as wellness talks or programs for the first responder agency employees and support of co-victims on scenes (i.e. suicide survivors, witnesses of traffic crashes, etc.).

MCR and vendor should be prepared to build strong relationships with first responder agencies and show the benefit of using MCR in certain first responder situations. MCR should be aware that crisis calls for service may involve response to traumatic scenes and vendor shall provide support should the MCR need assistance with secondary traumatic stress. MCR will be responsible for all necessary safety attire needed for this position such as closed toe shoes, identification vest/jacket, etc. and professional liability insurance coverage.

Although a 24/7/365 model would be ideal, current available funding may prohibit this. In that case, MCR should be prepared to work days, nights, weekends, and/or holidays. The MCR schedule could change depending on the project needs.

Scope of Services

- Trained staff embedded with first responder agencies in Clark County, Ohio
- Flexible on how the assigned agency would utilize them in a crisis response.
 - Including, but is not limited to, a fire station, police station, responding in their own vehicle, responding in an emergency vehicle with an assigned first responder, etc.
 - The agency and manner in which the clinician will respond could change based on the needs of the project. If the clinician is not independently licensed, a vendor or provider agency would provide supervision as needed by the MCR's licensing.

Submission of Proposals:

In developing their proposals, vendors must fully and appropriately plan and price their proposed projects, including all necessary preparatory and intervening steps, regardless of whether those steps are delineated in this RFP. Each proposal will be scored accordingly and must contain the following components, at minimum. Finalists may be invited for an interview and required to provide references.

- a. The vendor is required to provide information and certifications of eligibility to receive State and Federal money.
- b. Cost proposal / budget.
- c. Vendor experience and qualifications.
- d. Describe in detail how the vendor proposes to successfully achieve each of the following deliverables:
 - i. Achieve rapid response times to reach individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.
 - ii. De-escalate individuals in crisis and successfully connect to continuum of care.
 - iii. Initiate post-crisis follow up services.
 - iv. Explain the record keeping and reporting of use of MCR to MHRB and other stakeholders.
 - v. Serve people in the community settings and decrease reliance on emergency departments, jails, and hospitals.
 - vi. Build relationships with first responder agencies and local hospital systems.
 - vii. Any experience in this type of collaboration/response.

Proposals and questions should be sent to Adam Kempf, Director of Operations adam@mhrb.org. Mental Health Recovery Board of Clark, Greene, & Madison Counties (MHRB) is a governmental entity created and governed by Ohio Revised Code 340. Please review our mission, vision, and core values for more information: [About – Mental Health Recovery Board](#)

Caveats:

MHRB is under no obligation to issue a contract as a result of this or any solicitation if, in the opinion of MHRB, none of the proposals are responsive to the objectives and needs. MHRB reserves the right to not select any vendor should MHRB decide not to proceed. After issuance of an award letter, MHRB reserves the right to rescind the award and choose the next most responsive and responsible vendor, if MHRB and the recommended vendor are unable to come to a mutually acceptable contractual agreement.

Avoiding the perception and real conflicts of interest when soliciting and selecting applicants to receive and manage public funds are of utmost importance to MHRB. Ohio

Revised Code 340.02 specifically prohibits governing Board members and MHRB employees from engaging in dual roles to avoid conflicts of interest with vendors and contract care providers. In addition, Ohio's ethics laws must also be considered when determining whether a potential conflict exists. For more information, see the *Ohio Ethics Law* heading in the *Public Officials and Employees* section.