



Montana Mental Health Access Fund for Indigenous Communities

Increasing access to mental health for Indigenous communities in Montana

The Montana Mental Health Access Fund was created to help increase access to mental health services across Montana, with a particular focus on tribal communities and indigenous individuals. The fund supports innovative ideas for improving mental health and well-being, including leveraging technology and other resources to provide mental health services in even the hardest to reach areas and populations.

Montana has one of the highest suicide rates in the Country, while accessing mental health services across the State remains a challenge for many. Historically, there has been a lack of mental health services, especially in tribal communities. Supporting a health system that focuses on mental health and provides access to prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery services is essential to improving the health of all Montanans.

Montana Mental Health Access Fund

The Montana Mental Health Access Fund will support organizations that expand access to mental health services for Indigenous individuals. This includes entities working directly with Tribal Nations and on reservations, as well as those serving urban Indian communities. The goal of the fund is to reduce barriers and ensure that culturally appropriate mental health services are available to those who might otherwise go without care.

Applicant Eligibility:

- 501C3 nonprofits, schools, government agencies, health clinics, mental health centers, and hospitals.
 - For profits entities may be eligible to apply. Applications from for-profit organizations must demonstrate considerable benefit to the community and how the funds will not solely benefit the business and its operations. Additionally, the program will not make grants for services already covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or other insurance.
- Entities working on the seven Reservations located in Montana, including Flathead Reservation, Blackfeet Reservation, Rocky Boy's Reservation, Fort Belknap Reservation, Fort Peck Reservation, and the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, as well as the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe.
- Entities working with urban Indian populations.
- If the applicant is providing mental health services, they must be working with a licensed provider.

Project Eligibility

- Projects that improve or increase access to mental health services, including leveraging technology (i.e. telehealth) and other resources.



- Reduce barriers to accessing mental health services including geographic, demographic, and economic barriers.
- Provide mental health services associated with the grant at no cost to the patient.
- Are long-term and sustainable solutions to increasing access to mental health.
- Projects must be evidence based and demonstrate measurable outcomes.
- Projects must fill a need that other available resources in the community cannot meet.
 - Organizations requesting funds for serving an existing client-base with a new type of mental health service (i.e. new technology serving an already served population/community) will not be ranked highly.
- We encourage projects that create or advance new and substantive partnerships that result in the more efficient and effective use of resources.

Grant Funding:

- Grants will typically range from \$5,000-\$10,000 and will be awarded based on the scope and merit of the proposed project.
- MCF may provide full or partial funding for selected projects.
- Grant funds may be allocated for project/program support or operating support.

Ineligible projects:

- Work to influence public policy is not allowed.
- Regranting
- Annual fundraisers and benefit events.
- Debt reduction.

Process:

Application

- The application cycle will open September 1, 2025, and close October 15, 2025.
- Qualified applicants can apply online at [MTCF.org](https://mtcf.org).
- Only online applications will be accepted. Please contact us if you have accessibility challenges with an online application process.
- Applications will be reviewed by an external committee of experts in the field.

Reporting

A project report will be due within one year of receiving funds.

For questions about the fund or application please contact Elisa Fiaschetti, Program Director, at elisa@mtcf.org.



MONTANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
all about Montana's future

Disclaimer: MCF reserves the right to modify or terminate the Montana Mental Health Fund Program at any time. Awarding of grants is at the sole discretion of MCF and is subject to the availability of funds. Receipt of a grant does not guarantee future funding.