

Mental Health Professional Shortage Area Program
A Report to the Governor and the General Assembly

Fiscal Year 2012

Contact:

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Introduction:

This report has been prepared in response to the 2007 legislative mandate detailed in Iowa Code Section 135.180. The Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems is the state entity responsible for administering the initiative as outlined in the section noted. The section reads:

135.180 Mental health professional shortage area program.

1. For the purposes of this section, "*mental health professional shortage areas*" means geographic areas in this state that have been designated by the United States department of health and human services, health resources and services administration, bureau of health professionals, as having a shortage of mental health professionals.
2. The department shall establish and administer a mental health professional shortage area program in accordance with this section. Implementation of the program shall be limited to the extent of the funding appropriated or otherwise made available for the program.
3. The program shall provide stipends to support psychiatrist positions with an emphasis on securing and retaining medical directors at community mental health centers, providers of mental health services to county residents pursuant to a waiver approved under section 225C.7, subsection 3, and hospital psychiatric units that are located in mental health professional shortage areas.
4. The department shall apply the rules in determining the number and amounts of stipends within the amount of funding available for the program for a fiscal year.
5. For each fiscal year in which funding is allocated by the program, the department shall report to the governor and general assembly summarizing the program's activities and the impact made to address the shortage of mental health professionals.

In state fiscal year 2012, the Iowa Department of Public Health (the Department) released a Request for Proposal 58811034 to solicit proposals that would enable the Department to meet Iowa Code requirements.

Four proposals were received, and four contracts were awarded.

1. Capstone Behavioral Healthcare, Newton, Iowa was awarded \$25,911. This contractor was not able to use the funds due to resignation of the psychiatrist.
2. Hillcrest Family Services, Dubuque, Iowa was awarded \$22,378. This contractor used \$2,394 of the funds and did not use \$19,984.
3. Southern Iowa Mental Health Center, Ottumwa, Iowa was awarded and used \$25,840.
4. Southwest Iowa Mental Health Center, Atlantic, Iowa was awarded and used \$25,911.

If additional information is needed or questions remain, please contact: Bob Russell, Bureau Chief Oral and Health Delivery Systems, Iowa Department of Public Health, 321 East 12th Street, Lucas State Office Building, 4th Floor SW, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 or call 515-242-6383.