

Kansas COVID-19 Response proposes to meet the needs of people with SMI, SMI/SUD cooccurring issues, and people with less severe mental health issues including healthcare practitioners resulting from the current COVID-19 crisis through the creation of crisis response infrastructure which includes expansion of telehealth, expanded crisis response services, and enhanced recovery support services. We anticipate serving a total of 10,365 individuals during the grant period.

The intent of the Kansas COVID-19 Response is to create/enhance the crisis response infrastructure through the Kansas Department on Aging and Disability Services in partnership with the Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) located in COVID-19 'hot spots' in Kansas and the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas (Association) and a group of peer support and peer recovery organizations (Collective). The Collective will assist with outreach through peer recovery activities and includes but not limited to Recovery Mentoring, Heartland Consumer Network, and the National Latino Behavioral Health Association (NLBHA). The COVID-19 Emergency Grant funds from SAMHSA will be utilized as a financial last resort to support services to individuals who are:

- Not covered by public or commercial health insurance programs
- Not able to afford insurance coverage
- Not covered sufficiently by their health insurance plan

All individuals served through the Kansas COVID-19 Response will meet with a SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Benefits Specialist to discover eligibility for other resources and services. In addition to applying for these potential resources and services, individuals will also apply for health insurance when appropriate.

Goal 1: Create a crisis response infrastructure to support the Community Mental Health Center's (CMHC) respond to the needs of individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Goal 2: Develop a Community of Practice for the CMHCs COVID-19 Response