Skagit County Public Health

Monica Negrila, Director
Howard Leibrand, M.D., Health Officer

2027 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT AND SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

Skagit County is accepting proposals from qualified parties to provide behavioral health services for individuals with behavioral health needs. The funding term will be January 1-December 31, 2027.

Proposals will be sought in the following program categories:

- Behavioral health prevention services
- Behavioral health treatment services
- Peer support services
- Recovery services

Skagit County intends for these services to align with the North Star initiative, which seeks to ensure individuals receive the services they need when they need them. This RFP's priorities, evaluation criteria, and selection process have been informed by the work of North Star.

Completed proposals should be emailed to the designed staff below no later than **4:30pm Thursday, November 12, 2026.**

A pre-proposal conference to provide an overview of this RFP and answer questions will be held on Wednesday, October 28, from 11:30am-12:30pm, via Microsoft Teams. Attendance by potential applicants is strongly encouraged. The meeting link can be found on the final page of this RFP.

Applicants are encouraged to submit questions to the designated staff below. Responses will be added to Skagit County's Behavioral Health webpage weekly during the RFP period. Questions should be emailed with "Behavioral Health RFP Question" as the subject line.

Designated Staff:

Christi Brua Weaver
Behavioral Health Coordinator
christibw@skagitcountywa.gov

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants:

- Include licensed behavioral health agency, community- or neighborhood-based organization, federally recognized Indian tribe in the state of Washington, or regional or statewide nonprofit organization that operates in Skagit County
- Must be able to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws
- Must have qualified management and staffing, including required licensing and insurance, as well as sound financial systems and sufficient capacity to operate programs on a reimbursement basis
- Must have the experience, knowledge, and capacity to operate the proposed project or program and be able to comply with all contract requirements of Skagit County

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Funding sources for this RFP include mental health millage and alcohol tax. Alcohol tax funding may only be allocated to a licensed behavioral health agency to provide substance use disorder services. Millage funding may be used to support behavioral health programming more generally. Skagit County anticipates making available $189,187.00 for eligible projects. The total funding available is subject to Board of County Commissioner adoption of the 2027 budget.

Skagit County also contracts with behavioral health providers using Skagit County 1/10% Behavioral Health Sales Tax funds. Those funds are not impacted by this RFP. If you are unsure what funding source your currently funded project uses, reach out to the designated staff. If your project is currently funded by Skagit County 1/10% Behavioral Health Sales Tax and you would like to apply for the funds under this RFP, you will be expected to expand your provided services.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

The funding available through this RFP is insufficient to address the behavioral health needs of our community. Recognizing its inability to fund all worthy programs and services, Skagit County has prioritized addressing the following unmet needs based on priorities identified through the North Star initiative. Programs do not need to meet all three criteria for consideration.

1. Priority populations: Program is designed to service one of the following populations
    a. Individuals who are chronically homeless with a behavioral health condition
    b. Families with children with at least one family member who has behavioral health needs
    c. Other vulnerable populations (e.g. domestic violence survivors, veterans, youth, elderly adults) who have behavioral health needs
2. Opportunities for other funding: No or few other funding opportunities are available for this service for the proposed population
    a. Applicants are encouraged to pursue other funding sources; explain efforts taken in the project proposal
    b. County funding should not supplant other funding, such as Medicaid/insurance reimbursement
3. Cost effectiveness: Cost per person is reasonable for the service provided
4. System-level priorities:
    a. Grantees are expected to coordinate with other organizations that serve the same or similar populations to the greatest extent possible to ensure continuity of service and warm hand-offs.
    b. Geographic Reach: Skagit County seeks to ensure that all residents have access to behavioral health services.

c. Financial Leverage: Applicants are encouraged to pursue multiple funding sources to support services whenever possible. While Skagit County funds may be the sole funding source in some cases, efforts to secure complementary funding should be clearly described in the proposal.

RFP EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applicants will be evaluated based on:

1. Demonstrated organizational capacity
    a. Past performance, considering numbers served, cost-effectiveness of services, and successful outcomes
    b. Professional expertise and track record of executive leadership and key program managers
    c. Record of compliance with local, state, and federal rules associated with public funding
2. Credibility and appropriateness of proposed budget, approach, partnerships, and outcomes
3. Efforts to pursue and leverage other funding sources
4. Demonstrated willingness and ability to coordinate services with other relevant organizations essential to the health and well-being of individuals served

EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

After proposals are received, Skagit County will follow this process for evaluation and selection:

1. Skagit County Public Health staff will conduct the first level of review.
    a. Determination of eligibility
    b. Evaluation of the degree to which the proposal—including supporting financial statements, budgets, and performance data—meet the Evaluation Criteria outlined above.
2. A panel of subject matter experts comprised of individuals with relevant professional experience not currently affiliated with any applicant will be convened by Skagit County.
3. Recommendations from the panel of subject matter experts will be shared with the North Star Leadership Team for input and endorsement.
4. The Public Health director may accept the recommendations in whole or in part. The director will then provide final recommendations to the Board of Skagit County Commissioners.
5. Approval by the Board of Skagit County Commissioners.

Skagit County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; to negotiate contract terms with selected applicants; and to require funded projects to operate as specified in the submitted proposal, including coordination with designed programs, services, or resources. All awards are contingent upon the availability of funds.

All proposals are public information and subject to public disclosure.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants requesting funding for multiple programs should submit a separate proposal for each request. Proposals, including all required attachments, must be emailed to Christi Brua Weaver (christibw@skagitcountywa.gov) no later than Wednesday, November 12, at 4:30pm.

1. Applicant & Project Information and Project Proposal
2. Project Budget
3. Data backing up expected outcomes, if available
4. Existing policies and procedures
    - Should address equity and inclusion, language access, eligibility criteria, intake and screening, termination from the program, and filing a grievance/complaint
5. Most recent financial audit
6. Most recent Federal Single Audit, if applicable (for applicants that receive $1,000,000 or more of federal funds in a single fiscal year)

Applicants may be asked to provide additional information as part of the evaluation process.

TIMELINE

In administering this RFP, Skagit County will seek to adhere to the following timeline:

RFP Release	Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026
Pre-Proposal Conference (Microsoft Teams) https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/261649913715013?p=FJpwDcWVinRfVV8tzl Meeting ID: 261 649 913 715 013 Passcode: SY73Gw3v	Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026 11:30am-12:30pm
Proposals Due	Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026 4:30pm
Tentative Awards Announcement	Mid-December 2026
Contracts Begin	Friday, Jan. 1, 2027