

Grant Approval Memo



Grantee: All Alaska Pediatric Partnership
Request Amount: \$300,000.00
Project Title: Help Me Grow Alaska: Community Outreach, Care Coordination and Developmental Screening
Grant Term: 7/1/2026 to 6/30/2028
Fund Source: FY27 Trust Focus Area Strategy Implementation
Trust Staff: Tina Voelker-Ross

Requested Motion:

The Program and Planning Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve a \$300,000 authority grant to the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership for the Help Me Grow Alaska: Community Outreach, Care Coordination and Developmental Screening grant. These funds will come from the Trust Focus Area Strategy Implementation line of the FY27 budget.

Staff Analysis:

- What does this project do?
This project will support the All Alaska Pediatric Partnership (A2P2) in implementing Help Me Grow Alaska (HMG-AK) to connect families to care navigation, developmental and social-emotional screening and timely referrals to community providers through their Centralized Access Point. Trust funds are for personnel service costs, travel for outreach activities to strengthen statewide capacity, space/facilities costs, supplies, and other costs to include evaluation & consulting, data services, tele-language interpretation expenses, dues, conference & meeting expenses, and indirect expenses.
- Who is receiving the funds?
A2P2 is a non-profit organization established in 1995 with a mission to transform systems of care and increase access to healthcare and related services to ensure the children of Alaska reach their full potential. Through their Help Me Grow Alaska program they provide resources for families and providers statewide. A2P2 also hosts monthly statewide partnership meetings from September through May to facilitate cross collaboration within and between community providers, as well as the All Alaska Pediatric Symposium annually. While A2P2 is located in Anchorage, Alaska, they are a statewide resource for parents, families and providers.
- Why is staff recommending this project?
Help Me Grow Alaska (HMG-AK) continues to experience significant statewide growth, with more families seeking support for behavioral and mental health needs (see attachment for data related to growth and statewide impact). The program enhances early identification and coordinated access to developmental, behavioral, and mental health services for Alaska families, particularly for Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries experiencing developmental disabilities, mental illness, or cognitive impairments. HMG-AK strengthens early identification and intervention systems across the state by empowering caregivers and expanding outreach in rural and remote communities. The HMG-AK model bridges service gaps and reduces isolation for families who face barriers to care, ensuring equitable connection to supports regardless of geography or circumstance. Serving families prenatally through age 26, with a focus on children

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birth through age eight, Help Me Grow Alaska promotes early intervention as a critical protective factor, reducing long-term health and social costs while building stronger foundations for lifelong wellness and stability among Alaska's Trust beneficiaries and their caregivers. Finally, A2P2 not only provides direct services to families, it also utilizes the data gained from their work to make data informed decisions to improve Alaska's continuum of care for children and families.

- Will this be a multi-year project?
This proposal is for a two-year/24-month grant project.

Trust Five Year Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Final Expended</u>
FY26	Help Me Grow: Community Outreach, Care Coordination and Dev. Screening	\$150,000	Active	n/a
FY26	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Line Pilot Project	\$220,500	Active	n/a
FY25	Help Me Grow: Community Outreach, Care Coordination and Dev. Screening	\$150,000	Closed	\$150,000
FY25	Early Childhood Governance Outreach Coordination	\$50,000	Closed	\$50,000
FY25	Sponsorship of the 2024 All Alaska Pediatric Symposium	\$2,500	Closed	\$2,500
FY24	Help Me Grow: Early Childhood Community Outreach and Dev. Screening	\$150,000	Closed	\$150,000
FY24	Early Childhood Governance Outreach Coordination	\$50,000	Closed	\$50,000
FY24	Sponsorship of the 2023 All Alaska Pediatric Symposium	\$2,500	Closed	\$2,500
FY24	Early Childhood Development Monitoring Campaign: Early Identification and Intervention	\$140,000	Closed	\$140,000
FY23	Help Me Grow: Early Childhood Community Outreach and Dev. Screening	\$100,000	Closed	\$100,000
FY23	Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Systems Integration Analysis	\$70,000	Closed	\$70,000
FY23	All Alaska Pediatric Symposium Sponsorship	\$2,500	Closed	\$2,500
FY23	Alaska Early Childhood Network Retreat	\$18,700	Closed	\$18,700

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FY22	All Alaska Pediatric Symposium Sponsorship	\$2,500	Closed	\$2,500
FY22	Pediatric Sub-specialty - A Systems Approach for the State of Alaska - Year 2	\$50,000	Closed	\$50,000
FY22	Help Me Grow: Pediatric Behavioral Health Treatment Coordination	\$100,000	Closed	\$100,000
FY22	Early Childhood Governance Outreach Coordination	\$50,000	Closed	\$50,000

Comp Plan Identification

Area of Focus	Objective	Comments
Area of Focus 1: Early Childhood & Youth	1.1 Promote practice-informed comprehensive developmental screening efforts and early intervention services	

Trust Focus Area Connection

Budget Area	Strategy	Comments
Early Childhood & Youth	Early Childhood - Promote practice-informed, universal screening efforts and early intervention services	
Early Childhood & Youth	Early Childhood - Ensure accurate identification and treatment of social-emotional needs for children, youth, and their caregivers	

Project Description (from grant application)

Help Me Grow Alaska (HMG-AK) continues to experience significant statewide growth, with more families seeking support for behavioral and mental health needs. The program enhances early identification and coordinated access to developmental, behavioral, and mental health services for Alaska families, particularly for Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries experiencing developmental disabilities, mental illness, or cognitive impairments. Through its Centralized Access Point (CAP), HMG-AK offers the only centralized intake and referral system (CRIS) in the state, connecting families to individualized care navigation, developmental and social-emotional screening, and timely referrals to community-based providers.

Aligned with Alaska's Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan, HMG-AK strengthens early identification and intervention systems across the state by empowering caregivers and expanding outreach in rural and remote communities. The HMG-AK model bridges service gaps and reduces

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isolation for families who face barriers to care, ensuring equitable connection to supports regardless of geography or circumstance. Serving families prenatally through age 26, with a focus on children birth through age eight, Help Me Grow Alaska promotes early intervention as a critical protective factor, reducing long-term health and social costs while building stronger foundations for lifelong wellness and stability among Alaska's Trust beneficiaries and their caregivers.

In addition to the direct service HMG-AK provides to families, the system is unique in its collection of data that is used to support a better understanding of the statewide system of care. HMG-AK is designed to help families in need today and use what is learned through its administration to create a better system for families in the future.

Performance Measures

Indicators of The Centralized Access Point (Served Metrics)

- a. Impact Indicator 1: Number of unique interactions
 - i. Measurable Objective: Total Number (#) of unique interactions over the past 12 months.
- b. Impact Indicator 2: Needs Met
 - i. Measurable Objective: Proportion of families reporting that their needs were met over the past 12 months.

Indicators of Child Health Provider Outreach (Bridged Metrics)

- a. Impact Indicator 3: Number of Trainings on Referral and Linkage Through Help Me Grow
 - i. Measurable Objective: Total number (#) of trainings provided by HMG to medical staff (physicians, nurse practitioners, medical social workers, etc.) on the topic of referral and linkage through HMG over the past 12 months.

Indicators of Community Outreach (Linked Metrics)

- a. Impact Indicator 4: Number of Partners Trained
 - i. Measurable Objective: Total number (#) of non-medical professionals trained on developmental screening and/or referral and linkage through HMG over the past 12 months.

Indicators of Family Outreach (Engaged Metrics)

- a. Impact Indicator 5: Number of Families Reached
 - i. Measurable Objective: Total number (#) of individuals (parents, caregivers, other family members) reached through events led or coordinated by HMG to promote awareness of child development and/or HMG over the past 12 months.

Sustainability (from grant application)

To ensure the long-term sustainability and continued growth of the Help Me Grow Alaska (HMG-AK) program, All Alaska Pediatric Partnership (A2P2) is implementing a comprehensive and diversified funding strategy. While ongoing support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust remains a cornerstone of this work helping to strengthen early intervention and care navigation for Trust beneficiaries and

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those at risk of becoming beneficiaries, A2P2 is actively pursuing additional funding opportunities to ensure program stability and maintain its statewide reach.

This multi-year effort includes leveraging a combination of federal, state, and private foundation grants, as well as community partnerships. A2P2 continues to collaborate with state agencies, healthcare systems, and regional organizations to align HMG-AK with broader early childhood and behavioral health initiatives, ensuring that the program complements rather than duplicates existing resources.

With the growing interest in Alaska's HIE, healthEconnect, and the department's increased prioritization of centralized online tools to support access to services and supports, we strongly believe there are real opportunities for innovative partnership with HMG-AK, as other states have already pursued. A2P2 has submitted to DOH its proposed projects for the Rural Health Transformation Act and is preparing to submit proposals once the application period opens. The projects we identified are directly tied and utilize the services provided by Help Me Grow Alaska, and align with recommendations from the department's Behavioral Health Roadmap for Alaska Youth and to the priorities in the Trust's Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan.

Data-driven evaluation remains central to this sustainability plan. Annual performance metrics, outcomes, and impact reports are used to demonstrate the program's effectiveness in improving early identification, strengthening family navigation, and reducing system-level barriers. This data not only guides continuous quality improvement but also serves as compelling evidence for future program development and partnership opportunities.

By combining the Trust's strategic investment with a diversified portfolio of funding sources and strong statewide partnerships, A2P2 aims to secure the long-term stability of Help Me Grow Alaska. This approach will ensure that families, particularly those with children experiencing developmental, behavioral, or mental health challenges, continue to have equitable access to coordinated care and early intervention supports well into the future.

Who We Serve (from grant application)

HMG-AK does not directly collect data on the beneficiary status of those served. However, the program can estimate the number of individuals (primarily children and adolescents) and households who received support from HMG-AK for developmental disabilities and mental illness in FY25.

- Developmental disabilities (includes HMG-AK reasons for call of cognitive or learning difficulty, communication, or developmental concern) – 396 individuals, 382 households
- Mental illness (includes HMG-AK reasons for call of mental health or neuropsychological evaluation referral) – 1126 individuals, 1072 households

Beyond the calls that fall into the above Trust beneficiary categories, in FY25 there were 1081 additional parents or family members that called Help Me Grow Alaska for support. Having Family Support Specialists that offer navigation services available as a resource for these families likely also serves as a prevention strategy to reduce the risk of becoming a Trust beneficiary.

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Estimated Numbers of Beneficiaries Served Experiencing (from grant application)

Mental Illness:	1,126
Developmental Disabilities:	396
Secondary Beneficiaries (family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries):	2,603
Number of people to be trained	50

Project Budget (from grant application)

Personnel Services Costs	\$172,840.00
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Personnel Services Narrative	The Trust grant will fund the personnel costs for the following positions related to the program: 0.80 FTE Family Support Specialist 0.04 FTE Family Support Specialist II 0.05 FTE HMG-AK Program Lead 0.04 FTE A2P2 Director of Programs 0.02 FTE A2P2 Executive Director
Travel Costs	\$20,000.00
Travel Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Travel Costs Narrative	Travel and outreach expenses will support and enable HMG-AK staff to conduct outreach activities and strengthen statewide capacity for virtual meetings.
Space or Facilities Costs	\$15,000.00
Space or Facilities Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Space or Facilities Narrative	Space/Facilities expenses will cover a portion of the rent allocated to the HMG-AK program.
Supplies Costs	\$550.00
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$550.00
Supplies Narrative	Misc. supplies related to the operation of Help Me Grow Alaska.
Other Costs	\$91,610.00
Other Costs (Other Sources)	\$0.00
Other Costs Narrative	Other costs to be funded by the Trust: Evaluation & Consulting - \$30,000 Data Services - \$3,500 Tele-language Interpretation Expenses - \$300

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Dues - \$10,000
Conference & Meeting Expenses \$2,810
Indirect Expense - \$45,000
Total Other Costs Funded by the Trust: \$91,610.00

Other costs including consulting fees for the annual HMG-AK Evaluation, which enables A2P2 to analyze critical data on partner and family needs, satisfaction with HMG-AK services, and progress toward advancing better health outcomes in state and local communities, including among Trust beneficiaries; Data Services include technical support for the HMG-AK Salesforce database; Dues expenses include the annual HMG National affiliate fees; Conference and meeting expenses include registration for the HMG National forum and misc. meeting expenses (for events held in communities); and indirect expense (15%).

A2P2 is submitting this application for FY27–28 funding during the November 2025 grant cycle to align with the Trust’s review and approval process scheduled for February 2026. Receiving a funding decision early in 2026 will enable A2P2 staff to develop a realistic and balanced organizational budget for approval by the A2P2 Board in advance of the FY27 fiscal year.

While HMG-AK is supported through multiple funding sources, many of these are currently under review or pending confirmation due to uncertainties within the broader funding landscape. A2P2 continues to engage actively with other funders to gather timely information and ensure responsible fiscal planning.

Other Funding Sources (from grant application)

State of Alaska, DPH, <i>PAL-PAK Continuation Grant, FFY26</i> , (secured)	At least \$395,858
State of Alaska, DPH, <i>Home Visitors Alliance Contract, FFY27-28</i> (secured)	\$34,500
Alaska Community Foundation, <i>A2P2 Agency Fund</i> (secured)	\$250,000
Mat-Su Health Foundation, <i>Healthy Impacts Grant, FY27</i> (anticipated application)	Unknown

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State of Alaska, DOH, <i>Preschool Development Grant</i> , FY27 (anticipated application)	Unknown
State of Alaska, DOH, <i>Rural Health Transformation Project</i> , FY27 (anticipated application)	Unknown
Total Leveraged Funds	\$680,358

**HMG-AK Supplemental Data
FY26 Trust Partnership Grant Program
November 15, 2025 Partnership Deadline**

Figure 1 – Case counts by fiscal year, FY18 – FY25

Figure 2 – Case counts by reason for call, all time

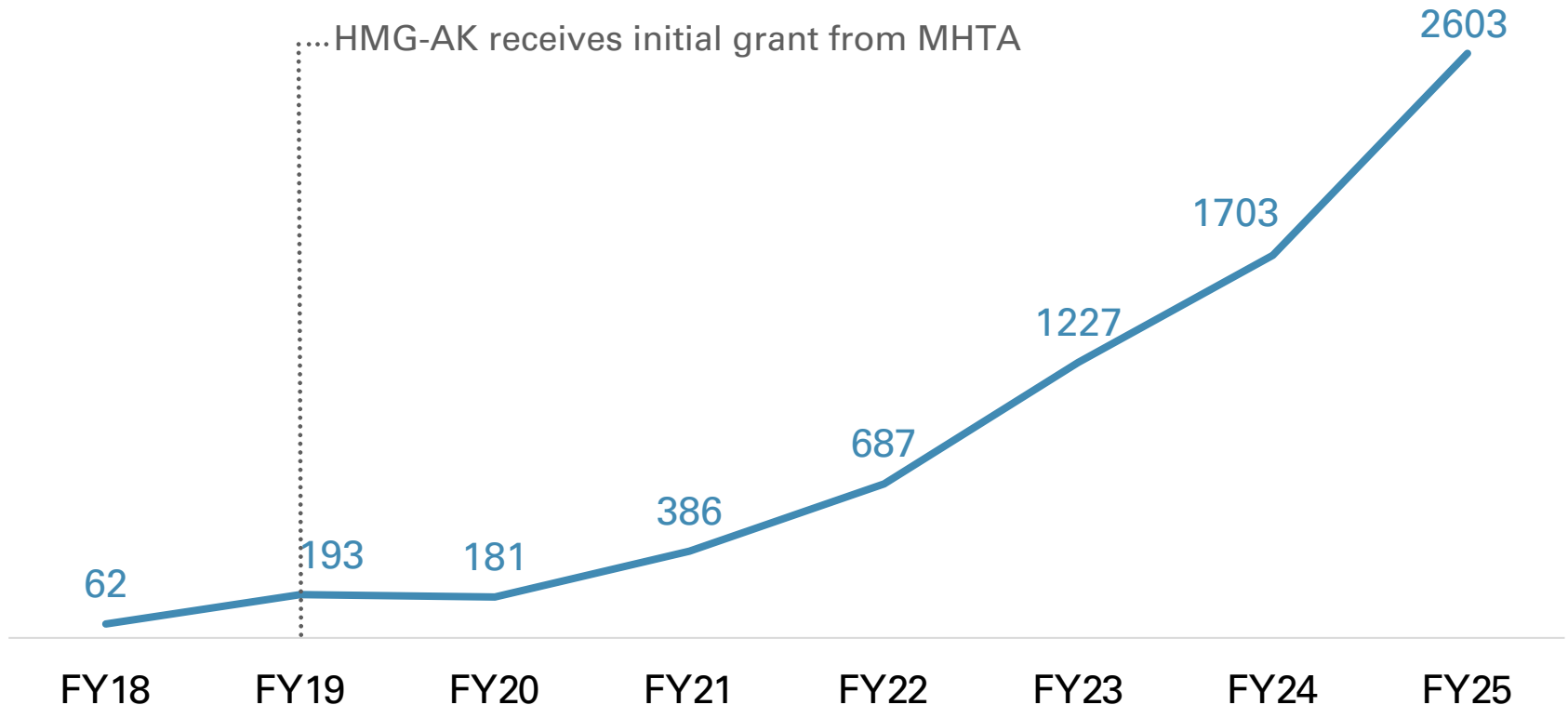
Figure 3 – Cases by borough and census area,
FY19 and FY25

Figure 4 – Cases by borough and census area, all
time

Figure 5 – Case counts among non-Anchorage
residents by fiscal year, FY18 – FY25

Figure 1. HMG-AK **case counts** have grown every year since FY20, with a 53% increase from FY24 to FY25.

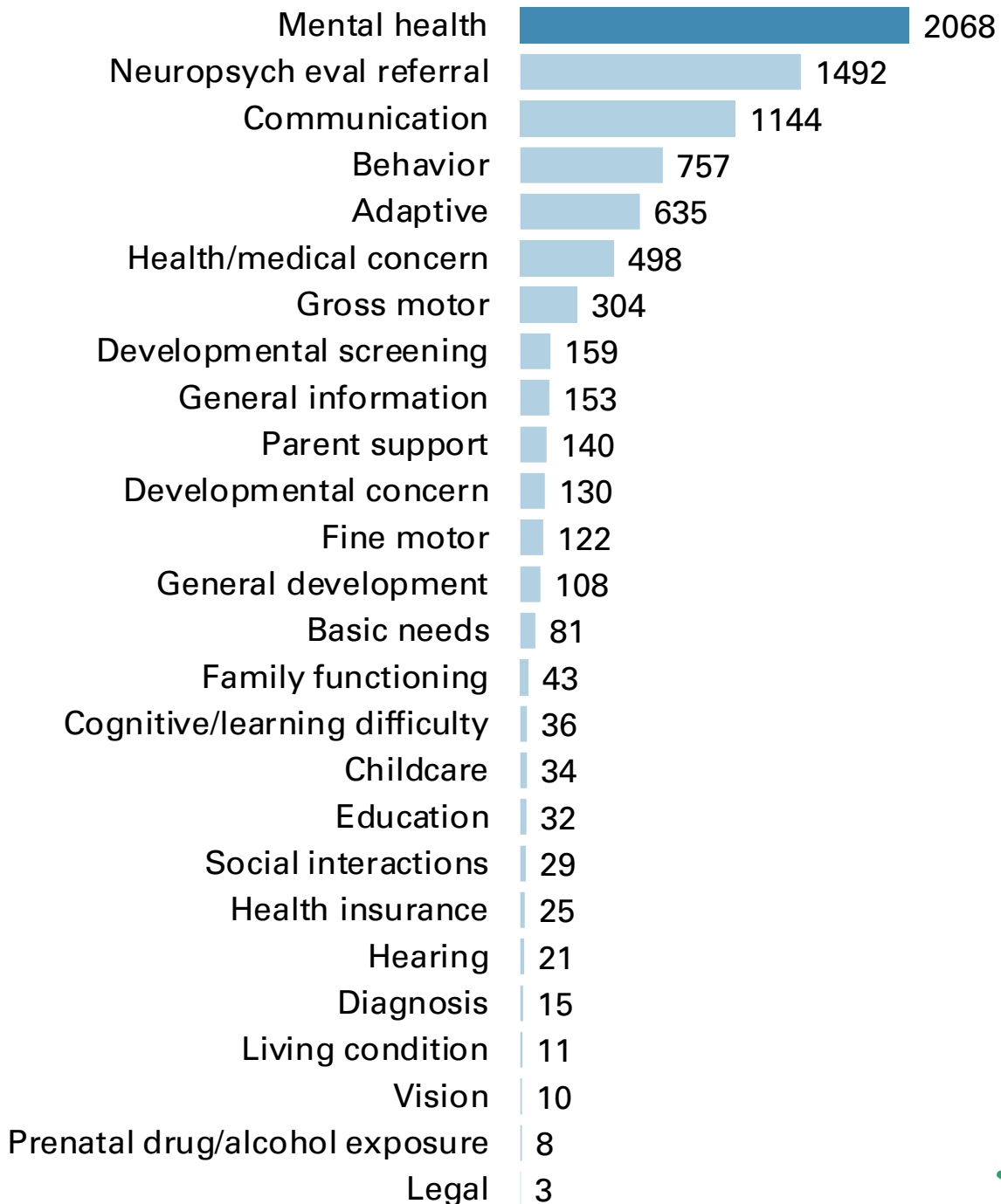
Case counts by fiscal year, FY18 – FY25



Case counts based on the date cases were received by HMG-AK and tabulated by State of Alaska fiscal year (FY). FY26 case count was 1080 as of 11/7/25 (not shown). 1 case with missing case date excluded.

Figure 2. **Mental health** is the leading reason families have used HMG-AK services, accounting for 25% of cases.

Case counts by reason for call, all time



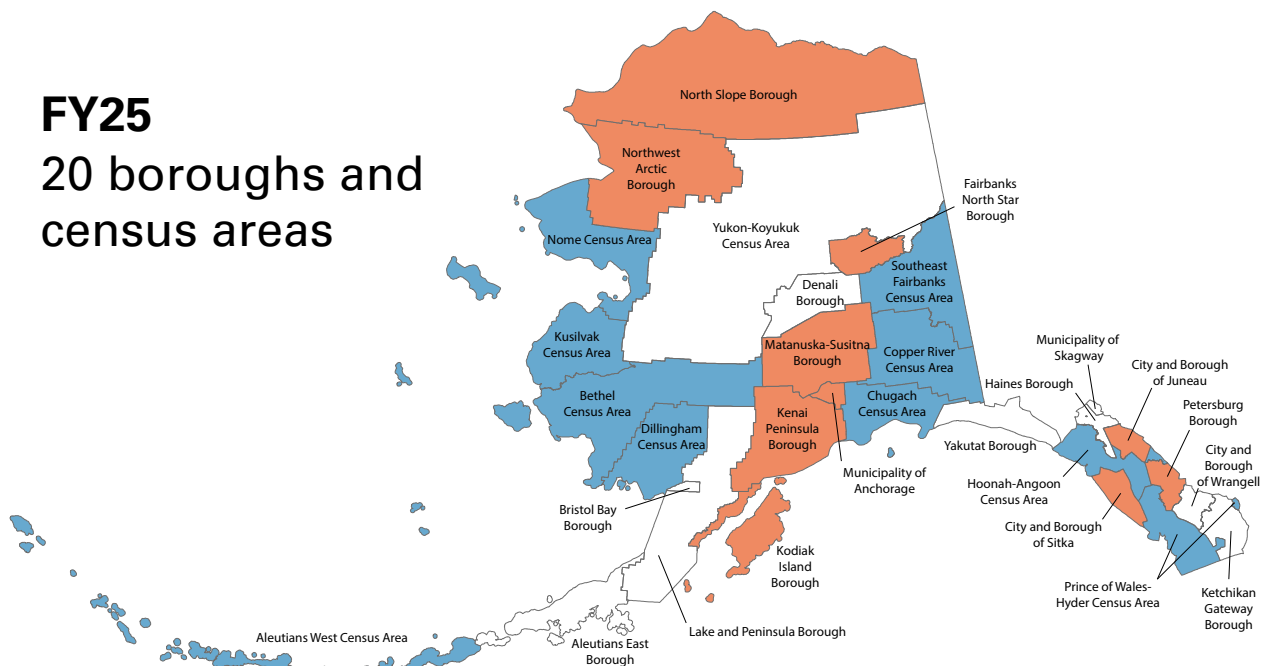
Based on all HMG-AK cases 1/17/18 – 11/7/25. 65 cases with other or missing reason for call excluded.

Figure 3. In FY25, HMG-AK served families from 20 of Alaska's 30 **boroughs** and **census areas**, up from eight in FY19.

Cases by borough and census area, FY19 and FY25

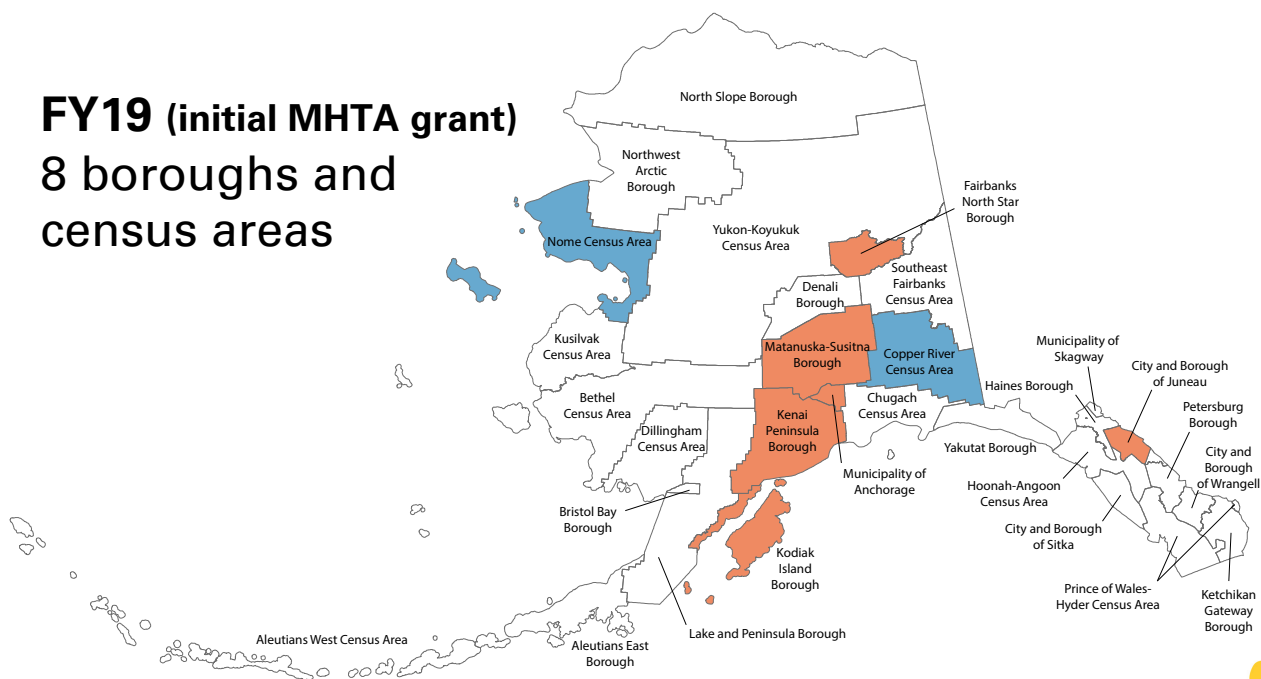
FY25

20 boroughs and census areas



FY19 (initial MHTA grant)

8 boroughs and census areas



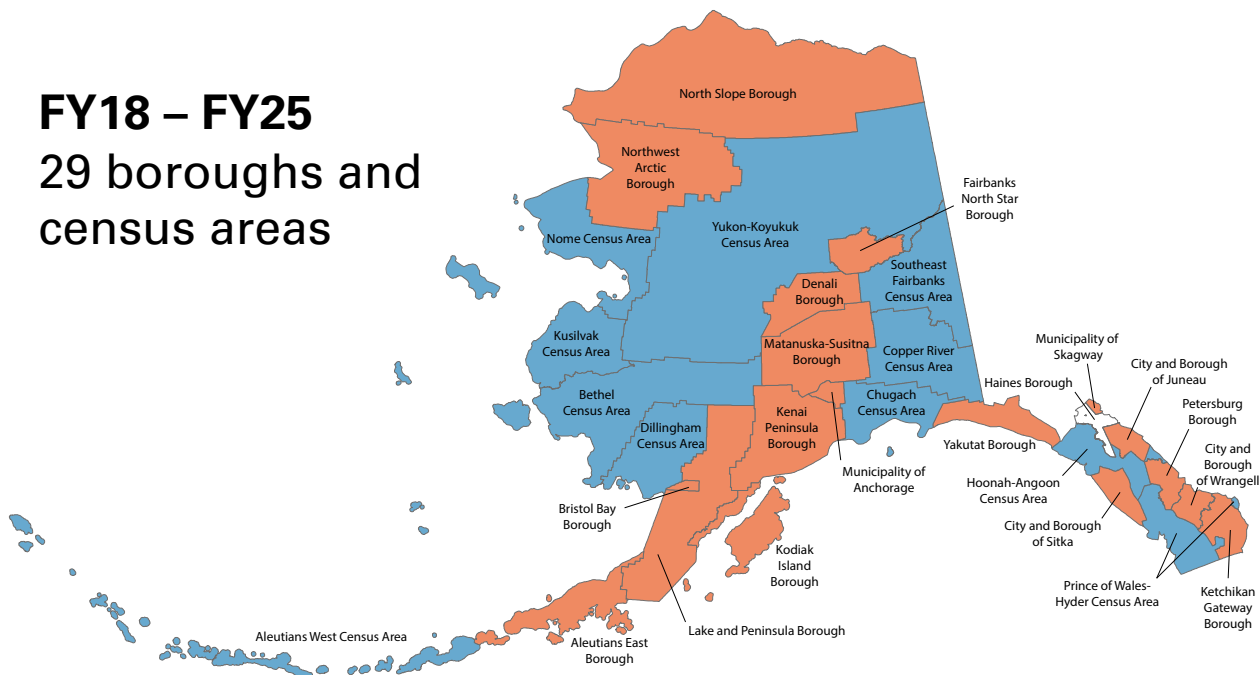
Case data based on the date cases were received by HMG-AK and tabulated by State of Alaska fiscal year (FY). Map source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section.

Figure 4. HMG-AK has served families from 29 of Alaska's 30 **boroughs** and **census areas** since its launch in FY18.

Cases by borough and census area, all time

FY18 – FY25

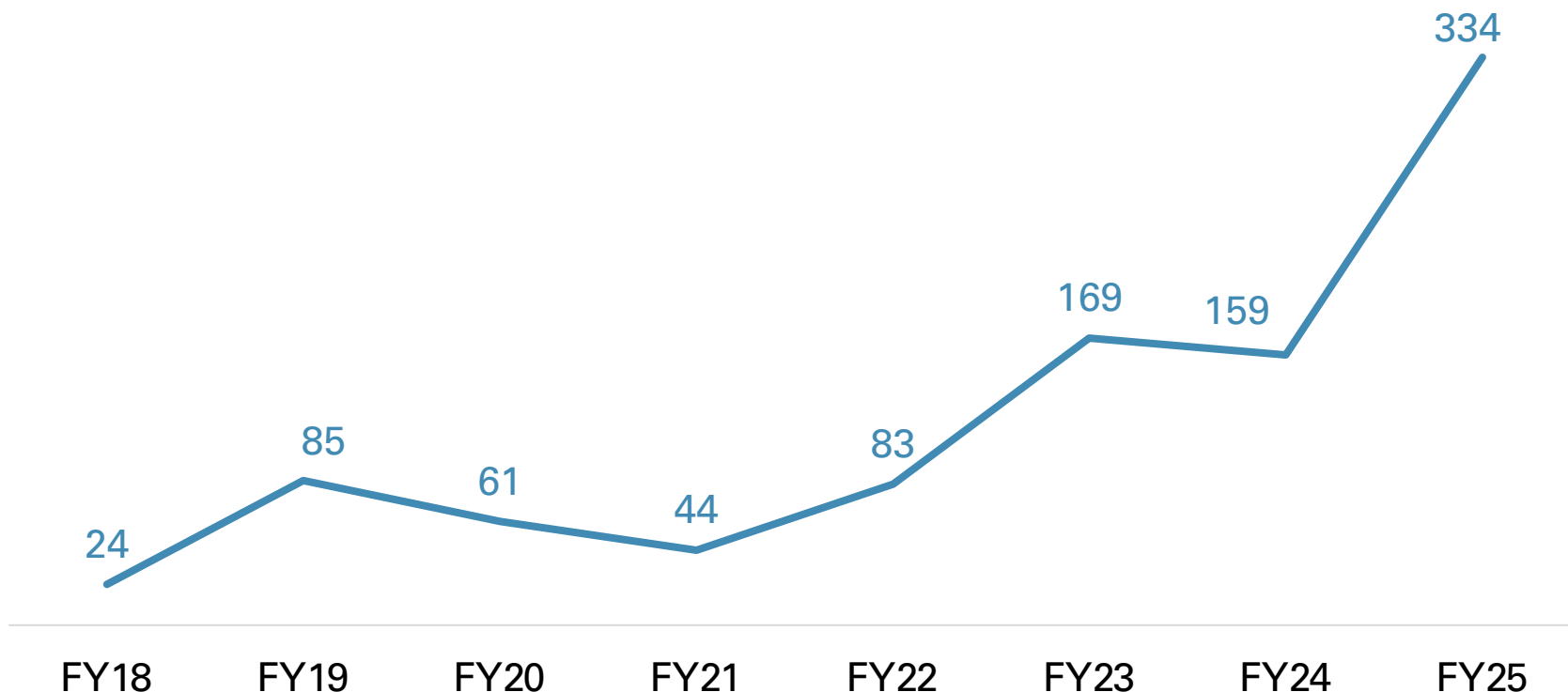
29 boroughs and
census areas



Based on all HMG-AK cases from 1/17/18 – 11/7/25. Map source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section.

Figure 5. HMG-AK **case counts** among families residing outside the Municipality of Anchorage gradually increased from FY18 to FY24 and more than doubled from FY24 to FY25.

Case counts among non-Anchorage residents by fiscal year, FY18 – FY25



Case counts based on the date cases were received by HMG-AK and tabulated by State of Alaska fiscal year (FY). FY26 case count for families residing outside the Municipality of Anchorage was 162 as of 11/7/25 (not shown). Cases with missing city or city outside Alaska excluded.

All Alaska Pediatric Partnership MHT HMG-AK Budget Planning FY27-28

		FY27 MHT Program	FY28 MHT Program	Total
		\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$300,000.00
Account	Line Item	HMG-AK	HMG-AK	
Contract Services				
	Evaluation and Consulting	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00
	Data Services	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00
	Total Contract Serv. Expenses	\$16,750.00	\$16,750.00	\$33,500.00
Facilities and Equipment				
	Rent	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
	Total Facil. & Equip. Expenses	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
Operations				
	Supplies	\$300.00	\$250.00	\$550.00
	Telephone, Telecommunications	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
	Dues	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
	Total Operations Expenses	\$5,600.00	\$5,250.00	\$10,850.00
Payroll Expenses				
	Salary & Wages & Fringe	\$85,140.00	\$87,700.00	\$172,840.00
	Total Payroll Expenses	\$85,140.00	\$87,700.00	\$172,840.00
Travel and Meetings				
	Travel and Meetings	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
	Total Travel & Meeting Expenses	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00
Conference, Convention, Meeting				
	Conference, Convention, Meeting	\$510.00	\$300.00	\$810.00
	Registration Fees	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Total Conf, Conv, Mtg Expenses	\$2,510.00	\$300.00	\$2,810.00
	Total Project Expenses	\$127,500.00	\$127,500.00	\$255,000.00
	Indirect	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$45,000.00
	Total Project Budget	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$300,000.00