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Grantee: Volunteers of America Alaska
Request Amount: \$1,500,000.00
Project Title: Closing the Gap: MTSS-Based School Mental Health Services for Anchorage and Rural Alaska Youth
Grant Term: 12/1/2026 to 11/30/2027
Trust Staff: Eric Boyer

Staff Analysis:

- What does this project do?
This project will support Volunteers of America Alaska (VOAAK) in serving Trust beneficiaries, children and youth, who live with or at risk of mental illness and substance use disorders in the Anchorage and Lake & Peninsula regions. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) is the best practice system for providing prevention, family services, and behavioral health support in schools through three Tiers: Universal, Targeted, Individual. VOAAK operates this school based MTSS services program in 14 Anchorage School District schools, with the planning being done to expand this to the 10 schools in the Lake and Peninsula School District (based out of King Salmon). Children and youth served through this tiered model of intervention get their needs met in such a way that prevents them from requiring more restrictive interventions through the child welfare system, juvenile justice, and residential/inpatient behavioral health.
- Who is receiving the funds?
VOAAK is a non-profit organization that provides residential and community based behavioral health and well-being services to youth, young adults and their families. VOAAK provides strength-based and person-centered services to Trust beneficiaries for mental illness, substance use disorders, family therapy, and residential treatment.
- Why is staff recommending this project?
VOAAK's MTSS programming and future implementation for expanding this programming from the Anchorage School District to rural schools like Lake and Peninsula School District and the Southwest School District will build a rural model that can be replicated in additional regions. Sustainability of this model is critical to the long-term success of behavioral support in schools. VOAAK is working with the Trust funded TA contractor Stellar Group, Department of Education, AKBH, Providence, Department of Health, and school districts to navigate a pathway forward for increasing Medicaid revenue and braiding State of Alaska grants and diversified philanthropic funding.
- Will this be a multi-year project?
For now, this is a one-year request. However, as partners continue to define the sustainable funding model and gather more information through the rural expansion work, the Trust, DEED, VOAAK, and others will gain a better understanding of whether ongoing or multi-year support will be needed. Future funding needs and configurations will become clearer as this collaborative work progresses.

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Trust Five Year Funding History

Fiscal Year	Project Title	Amount	Status	Final Expended
2026	Kinship Caregiver Support	\$150,000	Final report pending	TBD
2025	Investing in the 3.7 Service Model: Innovating Residential Treatment Services for Alaska's Youth	\$325,000	Closed	\$325,000
2025	Kinship Caregiver Support	\$150,000	Closed	\$150,000
2024	Supported Employment for Young Alaskans	\$125,200	Closed	\$125,200
2024	Kinship Caregiver Support	\$150,000	Closed	\$150,000
2023	Supporting & Empowering Houseless at Risk Transition Age Youth (TAY) through Rapid Re-Housing	\$150,000	Closed	\$150,000
2023	Kinship Caregiver Support	\$85,000	Closed	\$85,000

Comp Plan - Area of Focus	Strategic Priority Area
Area of Focus 1: Early Childhood & Youth	Priority 1: Prevention & Early Intervention

Project Description (from grant application)

Beneficiary Group and Alignment with the Trust's Strategic Plan

This project serves Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (Trust) beneficiaries — school-aged children, and youth living with, or at risk of, mental illness and substance use disorders, and their families and caregivers. Volunteers of America Alaska (VOAAK) advances the Trust's Priority 1: Prevention & Early Intervention through a two-pronged approach: School-Based Services (SBS), a clinical continuum embedded in schools, and Prevention Services, a community-wide infrastructure of school diversion, coalition leadership, and youth development. Together they pursue the Trust's North Star — that every child in Alaska can grow up healthy, supported, and resilient, with fewer children entering state systems — by identifying risk early and intervening before it escalates to crisis, suspension, substance misuse, Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), or an Office of Children's Services (OCS) case.

The project reflects two Trust Core Commitments: Make Data-Informed Investments, through VOAAK's partnership with the Stellar Group on a data-driven needs assessment for rural expansion and through the Strategic Prevention Framework's data-informed prevention cycle; and Foster Transformative Partnerships, through sustained collaboration with the Anchorage School District (ASD), the Lake and Peninsula School District (LPSD), the Southwest Region School District, Providence, and statewide prevention coalitions including Recover Alaska (The Alliance), and the Center for Safe Alaskans.

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The Problem

Anchorage children face significant, well-documented exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) — including maltreatment, domestic violence, and sexual assault — that raise their risk of lasting behavioral health harm, poverty, housing instability, and involvement with OCS. Up to 80% of youth with a mental health diagnosis have unmet needs, and families face added barriers of transportation, cost, and stigma throughout Alaska. These barriers fall hardest on Title 1 schools, where 51–95% of students are economically disadvantaged. Left unaddressed, these gaps risk worsening mental health and preventable crises — the opposite of the future the Trust's Framework envisions.

The gap between need and care statewide is stark: Alaska has the nation's second-highest suicide rate, with youth aged 15–24 reaching 42.3 per 100,000 in 2023, with the leading cause of death for Alaskans 10–24 being suicide. Alaska staffs one school psychologist per 1,655 students versus the nationally recommended 1:500 and one counselor per 419. Many Alaskans lack access and services to mental health providers as reported in the 2023 Alaska Scorecard - a shortage most acute in rural areas. Substance misuse compounds the crisis: fentanyl now drives 73% of the state's overdose deaths, and ASD students face suspension for first substance-related violations with few alternatives that preserve instructional time.

What VOA Alaska Will Do

School-Based Services: An MTSS Model With Proactive Framework in Prevention & Early Intervention
VOAAK's SBS program operates in 14 ASD schools, where over eleven years it has embedded clinicians and built a continuum of care from classroom prevention, family services, and community connection, and is now extending this model into LPSD. LPSD sits on the Alaska Peninsula and Bristol Bay, roughly 300 air miles southwest; its ten schools serve 14 communities across a region spanning some 23,700 square miles of land and reachable only by small plane or boat, with no road connection to Anchorage or to one another. With the MTSS Model, clinicians are integrated into daily school life rather than simply holding office hours, and services follow a trauma-informed, three-tiered Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS):

Tier 1 — Universal prevention: school-wide training, wellness programming, and stigma-reduction reaching every student, family, and staff member.

Tier 2 — Targeted supports: evidence-based groups (Bounce Back, CBITS) and caregiver workshops for students showing early risk (~15% of the school population).

Tier 3 — Intensive clinical services: trauma-focused treatment (TF-CBT, EMDR, Synergetic Play Therapy), case management, crisis response, and warm handoffs to Providence.

In direct alignment with the Trust's Data-Informed Investments commitment, VOAAK is working with the Stellar Group — author of the Trust's school-mental-health analysis and lead of the statewide Interconnected Systems Framework (ISF) collaborative — to fit the LPSD model to that district's needs rather than transplant it wholesale.

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Prevention Services: Community-Wide Prevention & Early Intervention

VOAAK's dedicated three-person Prevention team extends the same prevention and early intervention priority beyond the clinical caseload to the broader community, following SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (assessment, capacity, planning, implementation, evaluation) and informed by local Youth Risk Behavior Survey data. The team runs three strategies:

1-School-based diversion and education — Own Your Path: a non-clinical substance-education course (Safety First and Healthy Futures, Stanford REACH Lab) delivered through ASD's suspension process; students who complete it reduce a ten-day suspension to five, preserving instructional time while addressing risk. In FY26, Own Your Path served 108 youth and recovered 550 instructional days.

2-Coalition leadership and community mobilization: VOAAK leads the Voices for Prevention Coalition and the Anchorage Suicide Prevention Coalition, coordinating school-based tabling, training access, and quarterly Anchorage Youth Speak Out town halls, which reached over 500 community members in FY26, alongside partnerships with Recover Alaska (The Alliance), and the Anchorage Youth Development Coalition.

3-Youth leadership development: the Youth Leadership Program (YLP), launched in October 2025, is a weekly after-school cohort for high school students focused on civic engagement and service, open to both VOA clients and non-clients. Its inaugural cohort engaged over 30 youth across 10 Anchorage high schools.

Sustainability is a central challenge across both programs: only Tier 3 clinical services are Medicaid/insurance-reimbursable, while SBS Tier 1–2 and all Prevention Services generate no billable revenue and depend almost entirely on grant funding. Trust support will let VOAAK sustain this full continuum — from universal prevention through intensive treatment — while building toward a more durable funding structure informed by rural expansion data and coalition outcomes.

Target Population and Geographic Area

Beneficiaries are school-aged children, youth, young adults, and families across the Municipality of Anchorage and LPSD. SBS prioritizes VOAAK's 14 partner ASD schools (10 Title 1 sites); since July 2021 it has served 437 unique Tier 3 clients, with many more reached through Tier 1 and Tier 2. Prevention Services reach Anchorage youth and young adults affected directly or indirectly by substance misuse and suicide risk, with Own Your Path drawing referrals from all ASD secondary schools and YLP drawing its cohort from 10 Anchorage high schools. Since January 2026, VOAAK has extended SBS telehealth into LPSD.

Family structure shapes need in both districts; 22.2 percent of LPSD children and 23.3 percent of Anchorage children live in single-parent households, and 16 grandparents in the Lake and Peninsula Borough and 1,597 in Anchorage are raising their own grandchildren. Children in both household types show elevated adverse childhood experience (ACE) exposure and higher rates of child-welfare involvement. Because both districts face acute behavioral health provider shortages, the school is the

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most reliable point of access to care for these students. Outreach is culturally responsive and trauma-informed, prioritizing families of color, kinship caregivers, and OCS-involved families.

VOAAK continues to strengthen rural connections through early partnership development and MTSS expansion with Southwest Region School District and the Lower Kuskokwim School District. The Community Based Services program has been providing connections to services and resources provided by VOAAK. The overall goal is for VOAAK to serve as a leader in the MTSS space for rural regions across Alaska.

Expected Outcomes

In FY25 – FY26 VOAAK provided over 15,000+ Tier 1 – Tier 2 supports. Outcomes for Tier 3 in FY25 -FY26 resulted in 86% of progress treatment goals reflected moderate to significant progress, with 65% of clients having favorable outcomes at discharge. Success reflects the Trust's own vision of care, connection, and the opportunity to thrive:

1-Universal access: all students can reach prevention, early intervention, and treatment services, with a median referral-to-first-visit time of 10 days or less.

2-Reduced suspension and disciplinary loss: Own Your Path continues recovering instructional days while addressing substance-related behavior.

3-Increased awareness and stronger relationships: staff, students, and families recognize behavioral health and substance-use concerns and know how to seek help, building trust across all tiers and coalition activities.

4-Improved functioning: Tier 2 students maintain or improve academic and social-emotional functioning; Tier 3 clients show measurable symptom reduction; YLP youth sustain civic engagement and service participation.

5-Reduced crisis and displacement: crises are resolved on-site whenever possible, reducing out-of-state and out-of-community psychiatric placements.

6-Sources of Strength: building resilience, connection, and help-seeking skills.

7-Absenteeism: improved attendance and reduced chronic absenteeism for Tier 2 and Tier 3 students.

Community Support

This project is built on partnerships that embody the Trust's commitment to Foster Transformative Partnerships. VOAAK holds a longstanding collaborative agreement with ASD — the referral source for both SBS and Own Your Path — plus a monthly group with Providence and Alaska Behavioral Health. For rural expansion, VOAAK meets regularly with LPSD and the Southwest Region School District and partners with the Stellar Group to co-design the needs assessment and strategic plan. Prevention Services are

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further supported by the Center for Safe Alaskans (CBHPEI co-grantee), Recover Alaska (The Alliance), and Project Hope (OSMAP), which together align training, coalition, and opioid-response efforts across Anchorage.

VOAAK has delivered school-based mental health and prevention services in Anchorage for more than a decade, is a CARF-accredited, Medicaid-approved provider, and has successfully managed funding from the Municipality of Anchorage, the State of Alaska, and federal agencies — evidence of the community trust and readiness this project builds upon.

Data source:

Alaska's youth mental health services at critical low -

<https://www.alaskasnewssource.com/2023/05/17/alaskas-youth-mental-health-services-critical-low/>

Statewide Suicide Prevention Council Annual Report 2024 -

<https://health.alaska.gov/media/0umechcc/sspcannualreport2024.pdf>

Suicide Data: Alaska - 1725472354-alaska_2024-state-fact-sheet.pdf

Shortages Dashboard & Workforce Information - <https://www.nasponline.org/about-school-psychology/shortages-dashboard-and-workforce-information>

Alaska Hopeful Futures Campaign - <https://hopefulfutures.us/action-alaska/>

2023 Alaska Scorecard - <https://health.alaska.gov/media/muug2v1o/2023-alaskascorecard.pdf>

2024 Drug Overdose Mortality Update - <https://health.alaska.gov/media/wqql4fhp/2024-drug-overdose-mortality-update.pdf>

Grantee Proposed Evaluation Measures (from grant application)

VOAAK will measure the success of the SBS program using data collected continuously through its electronic health record (EHR) platform, CareLogic, supplemented by standardized screening tools (SAEBRS, C-SSRS, ACEs screener) and semesterly satisfaction and outcome surveys distributed to students, families, and school staff. Data collection is tiered by service level: Tier 1 and Tier 2 activities are logged through encounter forms in CareLogic, while Tier 3 services generate full clinical documentation, including assessments, treatment plans, and demographic data (race, ethnicity, gender identity, age, and zip code). VOAAK anticipates a 35–45% survey response rate and will continue to encourage participation by explaining the value of the surveys to respondents. Program leadership and the Data & Special Projects Analyst review this data on a semesterly and annual basis, and VOAAK's Continuous Quality Improvement process uses these findings to guide real-time program adjustments.

The measures below are organized around the three core evaluation questions: how much was done, how well it was done, and whether people are demonstrably better off.

How much did we do?

Performance Measure 1: Number of unique students, families, and staff reached through Tier 1 universal services (trainings, presentations, family nights)

-Data Source/Collection Method: Tier 1 encounter forms in CareLogic (EHR)

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-Target: Each of the 14 schools hosts ≥ 1 training and ≥ 3 family nights per year; $\geq 80\%$ of students reached per school

Performance Measure 2: Number of students receiving Tier 2 targeted supports (individual/group sessions, screenings)

-Data Source/Collection Method: Tier 2 encounter forms in CareLogic; SAEBRS data via ASD

-Target: $\geq 70\%$ of eligible students screened via SAEBRS for schools with implemented screening; ≥ 10 small-group sessions per school per semester

Performance Measure 3: Number of unique Tier 3 students receiving intensive clinical services (assessment, therapy, case management, crisis intervention)

-Data Source/Collection Measure: Full clinical documentation in CareLogic (treatment plans, ACEs screens, demographics)

-Target: 100% of Tier 3 clients receive a comprehensive intake within 5 days of consent and an ACEs screener

Performance Measure 4: Number of Own Your Path student's participation

-Data Source/Collection Measure: Own Your Path Records

-Target: Total #number of Own Your Path student participation

Performance Measure 5: Number of Stop and Talk events held promoting Healthy Alaskans 2030

-Data Source/Collection Measure: Engagement Log

Target: Total #number of Stop and Talk Events; minimum of 1 Stop and Talk Event held per school

-How Well Did We Do?

Performance Measure 1: Percent of designated staff and school partners trained in ACEs, trauma informed practices, and warm hand-off protocols

-Data Source/Collection Method: Training attendance logs; Program Manager tracking

-Target: $\geq 90\%$ of designated staff trained

Performance Measure #2: Percent of Tier 3 crises responded to on the same day, and percent of indicated C-SSRS risk assessments/safety plans completed within 24 hours

-Data Source/Collection Method: CareLogic crisis documentation

-Target: $\geq 95\%$ same-day crisis response; 100% C-SSRS and safety plans within 24 hours

Performance Measure #3 Percent of families, students, and staff reporting increased knowledge of behavioral health, ACEs, and available supports after Tier 1 activities

-Data Source/Collection Method: Post-training knowledge surveys (semesterly)

-Target: $\geq 80\%$ of staff, $\geq 75\%$ of students, $\geq 60\%$ of caregivers report increased understanding/ability to identify concerns

Performance Measure #4 Percent of students with reduction in chronic absenteeism receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 services.

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- Data Source/Collection Method: Data sharing agreement with ASD and LPSD
- Target: $\geq 50\%$ of students receiving Tier 2 or Tier 3 services have reduction in absenteeism.

Is anyone better off?

Performance Measure #1: Number and percent of Tier 2 group participants demonstrating improved social, and emotional functioning and school/family connectedness

- Data Source/Collection method: Pre/post group session surveys
- Target: $\geq 50\%$ of participants show improvement on survey measures $\geq 70\%$ show symptom/skills improvement in evidence-based groups (Bounce Back, CBITS)

Performance Measure 2 Number and percent of Tier 3 students showing reduced symptoms and progress toward treatment plan goals at 90-day review

- Data Source/Collection Method: 90-day treatment plan reviews in CareLogic
- Target: $\geq 70\%$ of students make moderate-to-significant progress on treatment goals

Performance Measure #3- Percent of discharged/step-down students maintaining stabilization

- Data Source/Collection Method - Discharge outcome surveys; 6-week follow-up; crisis intervention logs
- Target: $\geq 70\%$ of stepped-down students maintain stabilization at 6-week follow-up

Performance Measure #4 Caregiver- and client-reported satisfaction and perceived quality-of-life improvement at discharge

- Data Source/Collection method: Tier 3 Client and Family Satisfaction Surveys (administered at discharge)
- Target: $\geq 70\%$ caregiver report satisfaction with quality of care.

Together, these measures allow VOAAK to report both the scope of services delivered (reach and volume across all three tiers) and their impact — documenting not only whether students and families accessed care, but whether that care produced measurable improvements in mental health knowledge, symptom reduction, family connectedness, and reduced reliance on crisis or out-of-community psychiatric care. Data validated through this process also feeds into VOAAK's quarterly reporting to the State of Alaska via AKAIMS and informs annual program evaluation and continuous quality improvement.

Proposed Project Performance Measures (developed by the Trust)

Performance Measure 1:

How much did you do?

- a. Number (#) of unique students, families, and staff reached through Tier 1 services (trainings, presentations, family nights) during the grant reporting period.
- b. Number (#) of students receiving Tier 2 targeted supports (individual/group sessions, screenings) during the grant reporting period.

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- c. Number (#) of unique Tier 3 students receiving intensive clinical services (assessment, therapy, case management, crisis intervention) during the grant reporting period.
- d. Number (#) of students participating in Own Your Path during the grant reporting period.
- e. Number (#) of Stop and Talk events held promoting Healthy Alaskans 2030 during the grant reporting period.

Performance Measure 2:

How well did you do it?

- a. Provide a narrative describing the timeline, activities, successes, challenges, and any lessons learned during the grant reporting period. Be sure to address how this program will be sustained beyond Trust funding.
- b. Number (#) and percentage (%) of designated staff and school partners trained in ACEs, trauma-informed practices, and warm hand-off protocols.
- c. Number (#) and percentage (%) of Tier 3 crises responded to on the same day, and the percentage (%) of indicated C-SSRS risk assessments/safety plans completed within 24 hours.
- d. Number (#) and percentage (%) of families, students, and staff reporting increased knowledge of behavioral health, ACEs, and available supports after Tier 1 activities.

Performance Measure 3:

Is anyone better off?

- a. Number (#) and percentage (%) of Tier 2 group participants demonstrating improved social and emotional functioning, and school/family connectedness.
- b. Number (#) and percentage (%) of Tier 3 students showing reduced symptoms and progress toward treatment plan goals at 90-day review.
- c. Number (#) and percentage (%) of discharged/step-down students maintaining stabilization at 6-week follow-up.
- d. Provide a brief synopsis of the Tier 3 Client and Family Satisfaction Survey and perceived quality of life improvements results that are administered at discharge.
- e. Provide examples of three (3) participants and how their participation impacted their quality of life.

Sustainability (from grant application)

Sustainability is a critical barrier for the MTSS model and School-Based Services (SBS). Main funders of this program have included the State of Alaska (Children's Mental Health Initiative), Municipality of

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Anchorage (Alcohol Tax), School Based Health Alliance (SAVE High School), Anchorage School District (Project AWARE), ConocoPhillips (Rural Expansion), United Way (Direct Giving to Families), SafeAlaskans (Prevention), and the Alcohol Safety Action Program (Prevention). Although separate Project AWARE applications to SAMHSA by VOAAK and ASD were not awarded, VOAAK is evaluating how its LPSP and Southwest Region rural expansion can align with and draw on Alaska's new federal Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) as the state prepares to open applications for Year 2 awards. With funding from ConocoPhillips, VOAAK is also working with the Stellar Group (owner Iris Matthews) to explore rural expansion and sustainability and to conduct an environmental scan. This work includes calls with school districts, such as Spokane School District, that have successfully partnered with their state to implement a sustainable model.

Funding from many of VOA Alaska's current State of Alaska grants is time-limited, creating a significant sustainability challenge beginning in 2027. Our forecast models three scenarios for maintaining school-based services from March 2027 through February 2028, with potential funding gaps of up to approximately \$1.5 million. Rather than relying on any single partner, VOA Alaska is pursuing a diversified strategy that includes continued State of Alaska funding, the next phase of RHTP funding, and requests to additional philanthropic partners, including the Trust.

Because Tier 3 services are the only reimbursable component of the continuum, VOAAK has begun increasing billable expectations for integrated mental health clinicians while preserving the core elements of the MTSS model. VOAAK is examining how clinician time is allocated across tiers to expand access to Tier 3 assessment, therapy, case management, and crisis response without losing the prevention and early intervention supports that make the model effective and are critical to Families First. To do this, VOAAK is shifting appropriate Tier 1 activities to its Prevention Team, strengthening referral pathways with its Family Services Program, and developing trainings that equip school partners to support students at Tiers 1 and 2. These changes let clinicians focus on students with intensive needs while maintaining strong relationships with school staff, families, and community partners.

VOAAK is developing sustainability plans for all its Community-Based Services programs (Prevention, School-Based Mental Health Services, and strengthening the bridge to Rapid Response). A main goal is for VOAAK to increase billable percentages by 20% year over year for the next 3 years. The second focus area is reframing how it uses MTSS so that each tier has a clear purpose and each staff member works at the top of their credential:

- Tier 1 (Universal Support) is being simplified to emphasize presence in the school, such as greeting students, being visible at dismissal, and supporting district initiatives, rather than leading programs.
- Tier 2 (Targeted Support) will include small groups, individual check-ins, peer support, and prevention and follow-up activities, some of which can become billable when tied to a treatment plan and overseen by a supervising clinician.
- Tier 3 (Intensive Support) will remain focused on individualized care for students who need it most, removing barriers for those who could not otherwise access services.

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By using prevention staff for prevention and eligible group services, peer support specialists for peer work, strengthening the bridge to Rapid Response Team for students and schools needing immediate or short-term support, and clinicians for services requiring licensure, the program creates more capacity for billable clinical care while staying flexible.

This model supports a continuum from prevention to crisis and early intervention to intensive services, giving schools multiple entry points and the program multiple funding streams. Prevention programming, including presentations, assemblies, "Stop and Talks," and outreach, can be offered across ASD and supported through grants such as current State of Alaska funding. Rapid Response acts as a pre-treatment bridge offering short-term intervention, check-ins, small-group follow-up, and connection to longer-term care; VOAAK's dedicated team provides services within 60 minutes, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. A proposed continuation model for alternative and specialized schools would combine peer support, small groups, and clinical oversight in a co-located format that can be billed when connected to treatment plans. VOA Alaska is also increasing its visibility with ASD leadership, principals, counselors, and assistant principals, and is preparing updated program briefs, portfolios, and budget concepts ahead of FY28 funding requests.

In the near term, we are seeking approximately \$1,500,000 from the Trust to support school-based services through this transition. This investment would provide critical time and capacity while VOA Alaska completes its sustainability work with the Stellar Group, expands earned revenue, pursues longer-term funding, and integrates prevention more intentionally into its Tier 1 and Tier 2 services. If anticipated funding and earned revenue are fully realized, the need for additional Trust support may be reduced or eliminated; if gaps remain, we anticipate returning to the Trust and other partners to discuss a multi-year sustainability strategy. Our goal is not simply to replace expiring grant dollars, but to fundamentally strengthen the financial model so school-based services can be sustained long term, moving from a grant-dependent model toward a diversified, sustainable approach.

Who We Serve (from grant application)

Volunteers of America Alaska (VOA Alaska) proposes serving the beneficiary group of 14 schools across the Anchorage School District (ASD) and via telehealth in the Lake and Peninsula School District (LPSD). ASD is Alaska's largest school district, in the state's largest city. LPSD sits on the Alaska Peninsula and Bristol Bay, roughly 300 air miles southwest; its ten schools serve 14 communities across a region spanning some 23,700 square miles of land and reachable only by small plane or boat, with no road connection to Anchorage or to one another. The focus is school-aged youth enrolled in schools across ASD and LPSD, ages 5 to 18, and their families. The 14 Anchorage schools span elementary through high school and enroll roughly 9,000+ students, ten of them Title I campuses; the 10 Lake and Peninsula schools serve 292 students across 14 off-road communities, a combined population of focus of roughly 9,292 students. Since July 1, 2021, VOA Alaska has served 437 students in the ASD schools through its most intensive (Tier 3) services alone and has reached far more through school-wide prevention and group services.

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As a result of this project, Anchorage's and Lake and Peninsula's most vulnerable children, youth, and families will have earlier, easier access to mental health and substance-use support — reaching them at school and in their communities instead of only after a crisis, suspension, or hospitalization. Students will build the coping skills, relationships, and stability needed to stay in class and feel supported, while families gain trusted adults and clear pathways to care instead of navigating a fragmented system alone. Over time, fewer youth will need intensive or out-of-community care at all. The prevention and early-intervention supports will impact children and families by fewer children coming into state systems, more families staying together and intact, and healthier youth ready to learn and thrive where they live.

Estimated Numbers of Beneficiaries Served Experiencing (from grant application)

Mental Illness:	250
Secondary Beneficiaries (family members or caregivers providing support to primary beneficiaries):	300
Number of people to be trained	300

Project Budget (from grant application)

Personnel Services Costs	\$1,261,097.83
Personnel Services Costs (Other Sources)	\$726,374.15
Personnel Services Narrative	Total cost for each position to be funded by the Trust includes salary plus 26% fringe. Chief Clinical Officer, .15 FTE, total cost \$28,349.81 Chief Medical Officer, .05 FTE, total cost \$19,845 Director of Community Based Services, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$142,379.87 Program Manager of School-Based Services, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$127,184.37 Clinical Supervisor of School-Based Services, 2.0 FTE, total cost \$225,817.36 Psychiatrist, .05 FTE, total cost \$14,805 School-Based Clinicians (ASD), 13.0 FTE, total cost \$1,048,106.06

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	School-Based Clinician (Rural), 1.0 FTE, total cost \$40,312.50 (starting August 1, 2027) Case Manager, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$75,600 Prevention Supervisor, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$102,578.11 Prevention Coordinator, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$83,869.90 Prevention Educator, 1.0 FTE, total cost \$78,624 Total costs for personnel funded by other sources: \$726,374.15
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Travel Costs	\$22,000.00
Travel Costs (Other Sources)	\$12,100.00
Travel Costs Narrative	Training costs of \$22,000 funded by the Trust consisting of \$500/FTE training for 24 FTEs and \$10,000 for Sources of Strength Training Travel costs of \$12,100 to be funded by other funders, for rural expansion

Supplies Costs	\$21,250.00
Supplies Costs (Other Sources)	\$21,250.00
Supplies Narrative	Prog Supplies – -funded by Trust: \$5,250 = 13 ASD sites @ \$250 + 2 retreats at \$1,000 -funded by other: \$1,000 for rural Food Supplies – -Funded by Trust: \$16,000 = 13 ASD sites @ \$1000; 2 retreats at \$1,500 -Funded by Other: \$2,500 for rural;

Other Costs	\$195,652.17
Other Costs (Other Sources)	\$841,347.83
Other Costs Narrative	Funded by Trust: Admin/Indirect of 15% - \$195,652.17 Funded by other: Marketing campaign for rural expansion: \$15,000 Contracting fees for rural expansion consultation: \$50,000

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Direct client assistance for ASD schools: \$22,000 Remaining Admin/Indirect charged to program: \$754,347.83

Other Funding Sources (from grant application)

State of Alaska – Children's Mental Health Initiative for remainder of FY27, secured	\$175,000.00
State of Alaska via Safe Alaskans – Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention & Early Intervention for remainder of FY27, Secured	\$80,750.00
State of Alaska – Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP) for remainder of FY27, Secured	\$75,000.00
United Way of Anchorage, for remainder of FY27, Secured, anticipate renewal in FY28	\$22,000.00
ConocoPhillips Alaska, for CY2027, requested	\$100,000.00
Earned Revenue from Medicaid & Private Insurance, anticipated	\$1,110,800.00
State of Alaska – Children's Mental Health Initiative FY28, if SOA applies for funds through SAMSHA. AND- Department of Education and Early Development, grant opportunities in FY27 – FY28. Amts TBD	\$0.00
Rasmuson Foundation, Tier 2 grant in FY28, to be requested. Amt TBD	\$0.00
State of Alaska – Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) to be requested	\$250,000.00
Total Leveraged Funds	\$1,813,550.00