

Revision v.1
REQUEST for PROPOSALS

Help Me Grow Alaska

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Professional

First Proposal Review - September 15th, 2025. Please submit to:

All Alaska Pediatric
Partnership (A2P2)

contact@a2p2.org

*Please contact Carmen Wenger with any questions at:
907-301-3321 or carmen@a2p2.org*

If you would like to be notified of any changes to the RFP or answers to questions asked, please fill out this brief form:

<http://bit.ly/4kX1S9j>

If you are unable to use Google Forms, please email Carmen Wenger at carmen@a2p2.org.



First RFP Review - September 15th, 2025

Please submit a question through address above if the deadline has passed

Instructions

Please read this entire Request for Proposals (RFP).

By the due date, submit a proposal combined into a single PDF document that addresses each area outlined in the Response Requirements section below to the email address listed above. All times referenced in this RFP are in Alaska time.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Overview

The All Alaska Pediatric Partnership (A2P2), through its program Help Me Grow Alaska (HMG-AK), is launching a pilot program in partnership with the Alaska Department of Health to expand the services provided by the Partnership Access Line – Pediatric Alaska (PAL-PAK) Program. This pilot project, called Growing Minds, will

complement the child psychiatric consultation services available through the [PAL Line](#) by offering remote-based Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) support for providers who care for infants and young children and who are not currently eligible to call the PAL Line. This will be a non-emergency service for providers to receive guidance on their practice or to ask questions about a specific concern in their professional setting.

Service Requirements

Help Me Grow Alaska is seeking professional services to provide virtual infant and early childhood mental health support to providers working with young Alaskans. The goal of Growing Minds is to support adults in nurturing young children's social and emotional development and to enhance the quality of care for children from birth through five years old across settings. The service will target any professional working with young children not currently able to access IECMH Consultation, including Family, Friend and Neighbor care, home visiting, early intervention, medical or social service providers. The selected IECMH Professional will work with providers caring for children with social-emotional-behavioral challenges that impact the quality of the care being provided or the learning and development of the child(ren) in their setting. The IECMH Professional will also work with providers on ways to strengthen their overall program to promote the social-emotional development of all the children in their care. The IECMH Professional will work together with the Help Me Grow Alaska program to receive triaged referrals from eligible providers.

Position Description

The IECMH Professional will be responsible for providing virtual mental health support to providers working with children in Alaska. The IECMH Professional will perform telephonic or video-based support and connect with referred providers synchronously and asynchronously, based on providers' capabilities. The IECMH Professional will also document initial case and follow-up information via form submission to the Help Me Grow Alaska database. HMG-AK Family Support Specialists (FSS) will support the IECMH Professional through the screening and referral of potential providers and collaboration on family navigation and resource identification.

SCOPE OF WORK

This is a pilot project, and there will be opportunities to engage and contribute to some design elements and to provide ongoing input on recommended changes to ensure high quality service delivery and relevance for Alaskan providers.

Expectations of the IECMH Professional include:

- Answering specific calls from eligible providers and conduct follow-up as needed to support the questions/needs raised on the initial call.
- Documentation through a form connected to the HMG-AK database.
- Through a one-to-one process, the IECMH Professional will address a wide range of non-emergency related questions or needs from a provider who

cares for infants and young children. The issue(s) may be addressed in a single call, or include follow-up, as appropriate.

The IECMH Professional (or professionals, please address the staffing model in your response) is expected to work with a broad range of professionals supporting infants and young children via phone or other telemedicine-based service. The targeted provider types include: Family, Friend and Neighbor Care, Infant Learning/Early Intervention providers, Home Visitors and community health providers.

The IECMH Professional should maintain a schedule that allows for reasonable access by providers. Examples of schedule options include (but are not limited to):

- An “Office Hours” style schedule with a recurring day/time of availability blocks, open to be scheduled by the HMG-AK FSS.
- Maintaining availability throughout the workday/week with a set minimum and maximum hours available, to be no less than 10 hours per week. Scheduling would be coordinated by the HMG-AK FSS via a real-time ability to check availability, such as Calendly links or a shared calendar.

Help Me Grow Alaska Family Support Specialists will screen and refer appropriate cases based on the agreed upon schedule and referral process. The respondent should include the proposed structure for availability in their response.

The services can be provided by an individual or multiple professionals as a direct contract or via an organization.

Specific responsibilities to be addressed through virtual communications with providers include (but are not limited to):

- Facilitate early childhood development through changes in care environments to enable more children to thrive.
- Provide early childhood providers with strategies to improve social and emotional development.
- Address problematic social and emotional behaviors of young children by providing intervention strategies.
- Work with HMG-AK to refer families and children requiring more intensive intervention services to high-quality assessment and clinical intervention services.
- Working with providers to maintain children in their care settings with support as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge

- Demonstrated understanding of infant and early childhood mental health.

- Demonstrated understanding of differences in mental health services and concepts across cultures, including specific knowledge of the Alaskan context.
- Demonstrated knowledge of child mental health services system in Alaska.
- Demonstrated experience with clinical documentation.
- Experiences with evidenced based practices with curricula and/or programs to promote early childhood mental health.

Skills

- Build and maintain strong, collaborative relationships with diverse provider types serving young children across Alaska.
- Support professionals on sensitive topics in a virtual setting.
- Communicate effectively with diverse groups both verbally and in writing.
- Organize tasks and manage time effectively.

Education & Experience

- Minimum of 2 years direct experience providing prevention services and/or mental health therapy to children and families or supporting professionals working with young children in a mental health setting.
- Experience with a model supporting early relational health and/or social-emotional learning (Circle of Security, Pyramid, FAN, The Incredible Years or Conscious Discipline, etc.)
- Documented experience working with Alaskan providers, preferably in multiple contexts.
- Hold an endorsement in I/EC mental health or equivalent.
- Trauma-informed practice background, including use of a relevant model (ARC, Trauma Smart, CPP or other trauma informed models)
- Master's Degree preferred, preferably in social work, psychology, counseling, or related field.
- Clinical license highly desirable.

Other Requirements

- Be an Alaskan based provider.
- Maintain any relevant certification or licensure.
- Maintain all required insurance and provide proof of insurance to A2P2 at time of contract signing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The IECMH Professional will be an independent contractor, either as an individual or through an organization. The contracted entity will have a point of contact with HMG-AK and will participate in routine administrative meetings to discuss program

implementation, answer questions and to provide feedback on process and needs. HMG-AK will be available for implementation support as needed. The IECMH Professional will receive referrals into the program from HMG-AK's Family Support Specialists. The FSS team will also be available for resource identification and for follow-up family navigation services, as appropriate. It is expected that the IECMH Professional will regularly engage in clinical supervision, which should be arranged directly by the IECMH Professional.

It is expected that a one-year contract will be issued through this RFP. Continuation of services beyond the initial contracting period will be contingent on performance and available funding.

Please provide a proposed budget for the services as outlined in the Scope of Work. Clinical supervision is an eligible expense but must be identified in the proposed budget.

Payment for services provided will be issued (monthly/quarterly) based on approval of submitted invoices.

RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Contact Information of Submitting Individual/Organization (Required)

- a. [Organization Name, if applicable] _____
- b. [Contact Name] _____
- c. [Address, City, State, Zip] _____
- d. [Phone Number] _____
- e. [Email] _____

Service Approach

Please describe how you would provide the services detailed in the Project Description and Scope of Work, specifically addressing (a) prior relevant experience, including your experience supporting professionals who work with infants and young children, trauma-informed care and working with providers in a rural context, (b) your approach to promoting children's mental health, including your work with young children in child care/home visiting or other early childhood settings, and (c) your approach to effectively implementing mental health support to providers in a virtual setting.

Cultural Responsiveness

Please describe your experience working with families and staff from diverse cultural, social, and economic backgrounds within the Alaskan context. Please include the settings and subpopulations that the IECMH Professional has experience supporting.

Delivery and Continuity of Services

Please describe how you will ensure high quality delivery of service and appropriate design for reasonable continuity. Include both a staffing plan (individual or multiple professionals), primary work location of professional and proposed schedule/structure, as referenced in the Scope of Work. The proposed schedule/structure should include the details of when and through what platform(s) the professional will be available and should include an estimated number of hours per week, to be no less than 10. Please also include your plan for training and licensure needs, professional development and supervision. Any current or anticipated dual roles of the IECMH Professional(s) that may impact this project should be identified and addressed.

References

Please include letters and contact information from three (3) professional references who can comment on your ability to provide similar services as described in this RFP.

Cost Estimate

Please submit a budget for the first year of service design and delivery, including the direct and indirect costs for the IECMH Professional.

Résumé

Please include the résumé of the IECMH Professional(s).