



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Tony Evers, Governor
Kirsten L. Johnson, Secretary

August 25, 2026

The Honorable Jesse L. James
Senate Committee on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention,
Children, and Families
319 South State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

The Honorable Paul Tittl
Assembly Committee on Mental Health and
Substance Abuse Prevention
218 North State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator James and Representative Tittl:

The Department of Health Services is pleased to submit to your committees the 2023-2025 report on the crisis enhancement programs grants pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 46.536(2).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kirsten Johnson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kirsten L. Johnson
Secretary-designee

Enclosure



Crisis Program Enhancement Grants 2023-2025 Report to the Legislature

Crisis program enhancement grants aim to enhance or expand programs for people experiencing mental health and substance use emergencies that serve individuals in rural areas or to establish law enforcement and behavioral health services collaboration programs.

This grant program is authorized under Wis. Stat § 46.536. Counties, municipalities, and regions comprised of multiple counties or municipalities are invited to apply for up to \$100,000 of the \$250,000 available each state fiscal biennium. Grant recipients must match at least 25% of their award.

This report covers the July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, state fiscal biennium. Four grants were awarded during this reporting period.

Grant Recipient	Award
Florence County	\$89,599
Green Lake County	\$39,668
Juneau County	\$90,000
Marquette County	\$30,000

Florence County used the grant funds to become certified under Wis. Admin. Code ch. DHS 34 as an emergency behavioral health services provider and establish a crisis services program.

Green Lake County used most of the grant funds to cover the cost of a crisis services staff person to work second shift to better assist law enforcement officers after normal business hours. Some of the grant funds were used to cover the costs of stays at a crisis stabilization facility for people in need of that level of care.

Juneau County acted as the fiscal agent for a region of counties that included Juneau County and Adams County. This region used the grant funds to contract with Lutheran Social Services to ensure mobile crisis services are available 24/7 in both counties. Mobile crisis services meet the person experiencing a mental health or substance use emergency where they are in their community for face-to-face counseling.

Marquette County used the grant funds to establish a drop-in center where people can go to get support from certified peer specialists. Certified peer specialists are people who have experienced mental health and substance use challenges trained to assist others in their journey to recovery from similar challenges.