

**WAC 182-140-0080 Staffing standards.** To be endorsed, eligible organizations must meet the staffing standards described in this section.

(1) **Staffing plan.** An eligible organization must have a staffing plan that includes:

(a) How an eligible organization will be staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including when each position is available to respond and where the teams are located;

(b) How peers will be incorporated into the response team;

(c) How peers will be recruited and any anticipated challenges for them;

(d) Policies and procedures for how staff will respond safely and meet the time requirements in the regional dispatch protocols; and

(e) Policies and procedures for ensuring follow-up crisis services occur after an initial response, as clinically appropriate.

(2) **Additional staffing documentation for community-based crisis teams (CBCT).** A CBCT that contracts with a licensed and certified behavioral health agency to meet the staffing requirements described in WAC 182-140-0090 must have a staffing plan that includes:

(a) Which staff are involved in the agreement;

(b) The role of each staff member;

(c) How staff will access clinical supervision 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for real-time consultation; and

(d) How frequently clinical supervisors will provide ongoing coaching, case consultation, and clinical debriefing in a trauma informed manner, including how to:

(i) Review charts; and

(ii) Provide clinical quality assurance.

(3) **Mobile rapid response crisis teams and nonexempt CBCTs.** Eligible organizations that are not seeking the personnel exemption in RCW 71.24.903(3) must have sufficient staffing to ensure an in-person response is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and must:

(a) Meet the required response times identified in the BH-ASO contract;

(b) Provide all outreach in pairs unless it is not clinically appropriate;

(c) Provide follow-up services as clinically appropriate to a person seeking behavioral health assistance and connect the person to ongoing support; and

(d) Be composed of the following behavioral health clinical staff who are appropriately credentialed or licensed within their scope of practice and meet the criteria below:

(i) A mental health professional (MHP);

(ii) A mental health care provider (MHCP);

(iii) A certified peer counselor who meets the criteria in WAC 182-115-0100; or

(iv) Another behavioral health or medical professional working within their scope of practice under an approved staffing plan, as needed, to meet staffing requirements; and

(v) Include at least one MHP or MCHP during an initial response and a certified peer counselor, when available.

(e) Have an MHP supervise when the responding team staff are in the field; and

(f) Have access to an MHP 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for consultation. The consulting MHP may be the team supervisor or another MHP.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and 71.24.903. WSR 24-18-088, § 182-140-0080, filed 8/30/24, effective 9/30/24.]