



Agencies serving beneficiaries often lack resources for necessary deferred maintenance, renovation and repair, energy efficiency and accessibility upgrades. The ongoing need for this project has been well documented by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the beneficiary boards and the Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Plan, *Moving Forward*. The unmet need for deferred maintenance is also documented by the consistent number of applicants that are left unfunded by each Request for Proposal (RFP) due to the limited funds available for this grant program.

The most recent request for proposal garnered \$4,446,961 in requests with only \$705,000 available for award. Maintenance of buildings for housing, treatment offices, residential services and administrative offices is a continual problem for providers serving Mental Health Trust beneficiaries. Some agencies have staff working in buildings that are in serious states of deterioration and disrepair. Clients are sometimes housed in residential program facilities in which maintenance and repair needs are extensive.

The number of deferred maintenance projects continues to grow as agencies continue to defer the maintenance needs of their facilities. Other potential available funding sources to address deferred maintenance also continues to decrease. Because of rising fuel and energy costs the department will partner with the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to allow for energy efficient upgrades to be included as part of this grant program. This project will reduce the deferred maintenance and accessibility needs as well as mitigate high energy costs among Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries' provider agencies throughout Alaska.