

# South Dakota Statewide COVID-19 Crisis Counseling Program

## Project Summary

The Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) applied for and was awarded CCP funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Eligibility for the funding results from the Presidential Disaster Declaration SD-DR-4527 related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

## DBH Grant Activities

The Crisis Counseling Program funding supports

- Outreach to individuals impacted by COVID-19 and links them to appropriate behavioral health or other necessary resources including unemployment, health, and financial;
- 211 hotline for individuals to call seeking resources as well as the statewide awareness campaign, 605 Strong;
- A follow-up program for individuals in acute distress or in need of additional support; and
- Crisis counseling is available statewide, focusing on COVID-19 hotspots, and are supported by staff at Lutheran Social Services and The Helpline Center.

## Target Population

- South Dakotans impacted by COVID-19 through direct exposure or loss of a loved one
- Health care workers
- Business community
- Children and family
- Nursing facilities
- Tribal members

## Partners

Partners include The Helpline Center, Lutheran Social Services, the South Dakota Department of Health, and Caliber Creative.

## Funding

CCP funding is issued in two parts with awards totaling to \$892,595. First, funding flows from FEMA through OEM in coordination with DBH for an award of \$210,723. This funding was available from April 30, 2020 through August 31, 2020. The second piece of funding flows from SAMHSA to DBH for an amount of \$681,872. Funding is available from September 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

## 605 Strong Program



The 605 Strong Program promotes COVID-19 related resources and support, including crisis intervention, outreach, and the 211 hotline. The program connects South Dakotans with basic needs, financial assistance opportunities, government information, and mental health and family resources. Media campaign was developed to bring awareness to the resources available through the 605 Strong Program.

Website: [www.605strong.com](http://www.605strong.com)