

Behavioral Health System Improvement Initiatives Proposal Scoring Framework

Evaluation Criteria: Kane County will evaluate applications on a competitive basis using a formula, subject to funding availability.

- An overall score of the proposal, based on a maximum of 100 points will be used to compare applications.
- A weight is assigned to each Criterion. The assigned weights reflect the relative importance of the Criteria in the evaluation process.
- Criterion Scores are based on Scoring Dimensions (see page 3).
- The proposals with the highest Total Scores will receive funding. This approach allows for a systematic and transparent evaluation process, ensuring that proposals are assessed based on predefined criteria and priorities.
- Applications may be submitted in one or more Criterion areas. A score will be given between 0-100 based on the proposal’s inclusion of the various Scoring Dimensions. The more Criterion and Scoring Dimensions included in the proposal, the higher the score.

Example

A proposal receives the following scores:

- 60 (criterion 1 score) x .30 (criterion 1 weight) = 18
- 87 (criterion 2 score) x .20 (criterion 2 weight) = 17.4
- 72 (criterion 3 score) x .25 (criterion 3 weight) = 18
- 83 (criterion 4 score) x .25 (criterion 4 weight) = 20.75

$18 + 17.4 + 18 + 20.75 = 74.15$ Total Score

Criterion 1: Expansion of Behavioral Health Services (Weight: 30%)

- Treatment services (therapy, medication management, psychiatric)
- Adequate workforce capacity and competency (staffing, training and support, evidence-based interventions, cultural competence)
- Peer support and recovery services
- Community-based programming
- Crisis intervention and emergency services
- Infrastructure
- Increased Access to Care (more Medicaid slots, sliding fee scales, free services, scholarships)

Score Range	Description
0 - 25	Limited expansion and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
26 - 50	Some expansion and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
51 - 75	Substantial expansion and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
76 - 100	Significant expansion and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions

Criterion 2: Integrated Behavioral Health Care Models (Weight: 20%)

- Primary care, substance use, housing, employment, etc. (social determinants of health)
- Co-location
- Direct screening/assessment to treatment pathways
- Wraparound care

Score Range	Description
0 - 25	No integration or inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
26 - 50	Limited integration and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
51 - 75	Moderate integration and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
76 - 100	Comprehensive integration and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions

Criterion 3: Prevention and Early Intervention (Weight: 25%)

- Education (health, psychoeducation, etc.)
- Screening, assessments, referrals
- Pro-social
- Family/community support
- Health habits (exercise, nutrition, sleep, etc.)
- Coping and skill-building

Score Range	Description
0 - 25	Minimal prevention and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
26 - 50	Some prevention efforts and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
51 - 75	Effective prevention and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
76 - 100	Strong prevention efforts and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions

Criterion 4: Enhance Telehealth and Technology Solutions (Weight: 25%)

- Increase telehealth options
- Organization/infrastructure
- Software (referrals, EHR/EMR, case management, telehealth, etc.)
- Technology to support data collection and evaluation

Score Range	Description
0 - 25	Limited use of telehealth/technology and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
26 - 50	Basic telehealth/technology capabilities and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
51 - 75	Advanced telehealth/technology solutions and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions
76 - 100	Comprehensive telehealth/technology program and inclusion of Scoring Dimensions

Scoring Dimensions (various aspects used to determine Criterion Scores)

- **Alignment with Funding Priorities:** The extent to which the proposal addresses the specific funding priorities outlined in the notice of funding opportunity. Proposals that closely align with the identified priorities may receive higher funding amounts.
- **Scope and Impact:** The potential impact of the proposed project on improving behavioral health outcomes and addressing systemic challenges. Proposals with broader scope and greater potential to effect positive change may receive higher funding amounts.
- **Innovation and Creativity:** The degree of innovation and creativity demonstrated in the proposed approach to addressing behavioral health system improvement. Projects that propose novel or unique strategies may receive additional funding to support experimentation and exploration of new ideas.
- **Sustainability:** The likelihood that the proposed project will be sustainable beyond the funding period. Proposals that include plans for long-term sustainability, such as leveraging additional resources or establishing partnerships, may receive higher funding amounts.
- **Capacity Building:** The extent to which the proposed project contributes to building the capacity of organizations, communities, or individuals involved in behavioral health service delivery. Projects that focus on training, education, or infrastructure development may receive additional funding to support capacity-building efforts.
- **Community Engagement and Collaboration:** The level of community engagement and collaboration demonstrated in the proposed project. Proposals that involve meaningful engagement with stakeholders, including individuals with lived experience of behavioral health issues, may receive higher funding amounts.
- **Evaluation and Monitoring:** The strength of the proposed evaluation and monitoring plan to assess project outcomes and measure impact. Proposals with robust evaluation plans that include clear objectives, performance measures, and data collection methods may receive additional funding to support rigorous evaluation efforts.
- **Geographic and Population Diversity:** The extent to which the proposed project addresses the needs of diverse geographic areas and populations. Projects that target underserved or marginalized communities may receive higher funding amounts to support efforts to reduce disparities in access to behavioral health services.

Important note: Proposals that cover the most Criterion and Scoring Dimensions will likely receive higher scores, but proposals that **only address one Criterion are still highly encouraged**. Those that receive a higher score in one single Criterion area, for example, may still receive a higher score than proposals that receive lower scores across multiple Criterion. The most effective way to receive the highest scores is to consider as many Criterion as possible and weave Scoring Dimensions through various aspects of proposals/projects.