Crisis Now
Innovation Timeline: Alaska

2018
- DHSS submits 1115 Behavioral Health Waiver application, CMS approves SUD portion of the Waiver
- DHSS begins conversations about the Crisis Now model
- Trust + ASHINHA convene stakeholders for Behavioral Health Improvement project to address psychiatric boarding in emergency departments

2019
- Trust + DBH launch Forensic Psychiatric Hospital Feasibility study to understand the competency to stand trial backlog within DOC
- CMS approves the Behavioral Health portion of the 1115 Waiver
- Trust + DHSS continue discussion and research on Crisis Now
- Trust contracts with RJ International for a consultative assessment on community readiness for implementation, which includes convening and engagement of key stakeholders in Anchorage, Mat-Su and Fairbanks
- Trust funds an Alaska immersion site visit to Phoenix, AZ to see Crisis Now programs in action

2020
- Trust provides grant support for additional clinical teams and communities to see Crisis Now programs in action
- Trust convenes workgroups in Anchorage, Mat-Su and Fairbanks to deepen understanding of the framework, identify community and provider readiness for implementation and develop a theory of change
- Concept level pro forma for crisis call center, mobile crisis teams, 23-hour stabilization and short-term stabilization developed
- SB120 passes — amends Title 47 to include crisis stabilization centers as locations where individuals can be brought under a notice of emergency detention
- DHSS settlement with Disability Law Center — settlement agreement identifies implementation of the Crisis Now model as a systems improvement initiative

2022
- HB 172 signed into law
- 988 goes live nationwide
- Five organizations around the state exploring 23-hour and/or short-term crisis stabilization services in conjunction with Crisis Now planning efforts
- Trust funds Crisis Now community coordinator position in Ketchikan

Working towards an effective response for Alaskans experiencing a behavioral health crisis
Take a look back at the key moments that helped create and shape the future of crisis care in Alaska.

To read more about this framework, and efforts to improve behavioral health crisis response in Alaska, visit: alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/crisisnownow