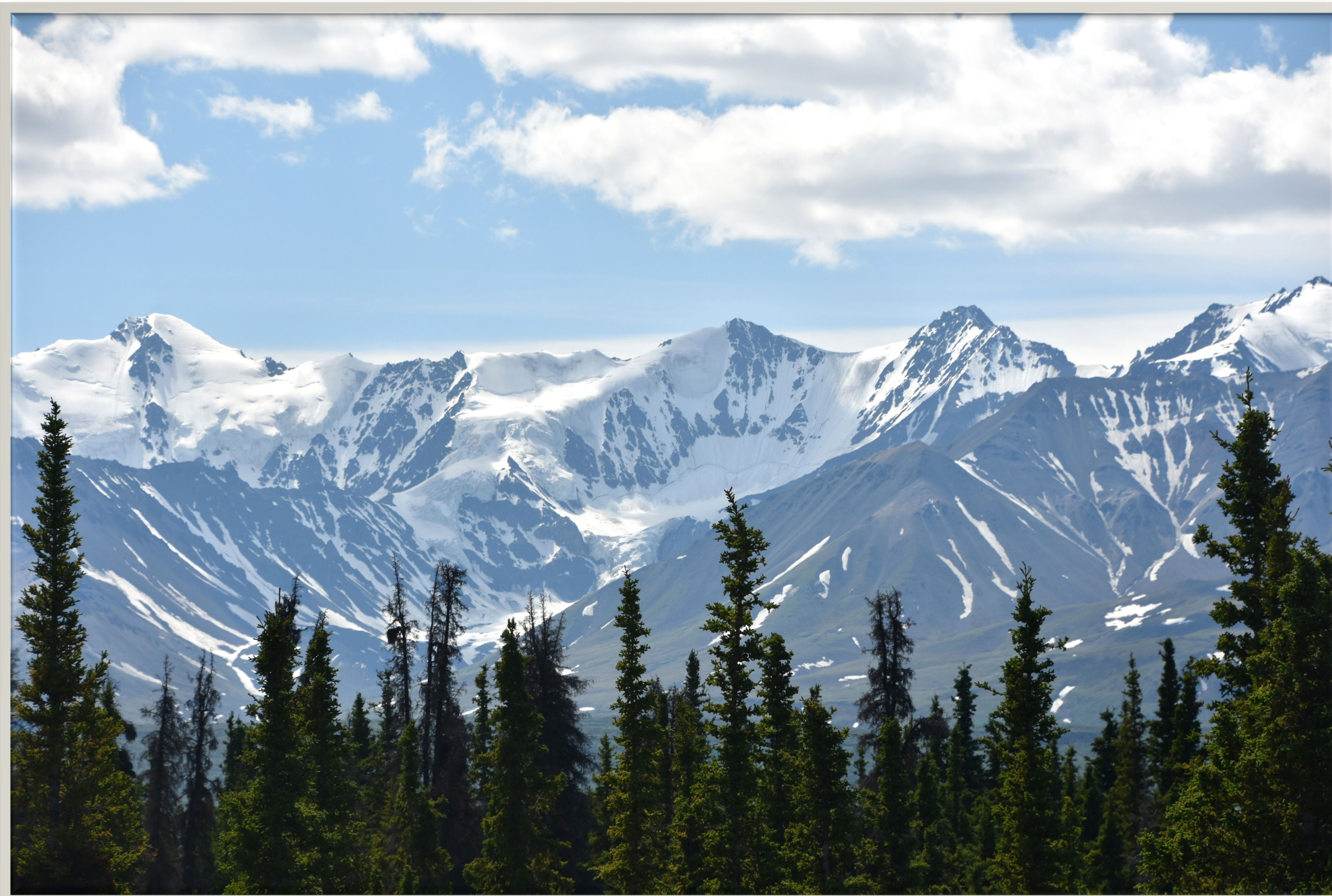




Introduction

As discussed in the Crisis NOW Alaska Mental Health Trust Report, Fairbanks needs a comprehensive crisis response system, as the current system of care struggles to provide timely access to crisis services, is unable to meet individuals where they are experiencing the crisis, and often relies too heavily on law enforcement, the criminal justice system and hospital emergency rooms to respond to behavioral health crises.

As one part of the crisis continuum, the mobile crisis team will incorporate peers within the mobile crisis team (in collaboration with The Bridge); will respond where the person is and not restrict services to select locations within the North Star Borough or during particular days / times; and provide warm hand-offs and coordinating transportation when the situation warrants immediate care in another setting.



Services

The essential functions of the mobile crisis team will include:

- triage and screening (explicit screening for suicidality);
- assessment;
- de-escalation/resolution;
- peer support (in collaboration with The Bridge);
- coordination with medical and behavioral health services;
- collaboration with families and natural supports, information and referrals;
- transportation;
- and crisis planning and follow-up.

Impact in the Community

The implementation of a mobile crisis team will mean that individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis will get the ***right care, in the right setting, when they need it.***

This will lead to a decrease in use and interaction with emergency departments, jails, and police.

Population

The Fairbanks mobile crisis team will provide crisis services to any person in the North Star Borough in their home, workplace, or any other community-based location.

**Estimate of Annual need:
1021 visits**

Based on the Mental Health Trust Authority's Crisis NOW report, there could be approximately 200 crisis episodes per 100,000 North Star Borough residents with 1,021 annual episodes for the mobile crisis team per year.

