

Draft 10-28-21

Letter to Mayor & Assembly on the Mobile Crisis Team

Description of Mobile Crisis Team:

<https://alaskamentalhealthtrust.org/alaska-mental-health-trust-authority/what-we-do/crisis-continuum-of-care/>

Mayor Bronson and Dear Assembly Members,

The Mobil Crisis Team (MCT) has proven to be an integral part of the emergency response team in Anchorage. The MCT allows our emergency responders to better respond to a resident in crisis. We all know that mental health let alone other forms of crisis do not only happen during certain parts of the day or night. This is the reason the MCT must be staffed and available 24/7 and must also remain as part of the Anchorage Fire Department (AFD). The Anchorage Police Department (APD) does not have the ability to bill Medicaid for services rendered where AFD through their medical emergency response does. Why would the Municipality remove a funding source for the MCT by moving them over to APD? That doesn't make any sense.

Please provide full funding for the staff of the MCT 24/7 and leave them with the medical emergency response of the AFD. We must address mental health along with homelessness as they much too often go hand in hand. This request is on behalf of the University Area Community Council.

Sincerely,

Paul Stang,

President, UACC