

RECOMMENDATION TO THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE  
FROM THE ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

**Recommendation 7-2018, adopted September 24, 2018:**

**Develop crisis stabilization centers**

The Commission recommends that the Legislature support current efforts aimed toward the development, implementation and operations of crisis stabilization centers in communities where there is a shared commitment to developing such centers. The Commission also recommends exploring the development of this type of service in other communities around the state.

Although hospital emergency rooms in Anchorage provide critical emergent and acute psychiatric care, that level of care may not be required for some individuals if other options existed. Therefore, crisis stabilization centers would offer law enforcement officers a diversion option instead of jail for individuals who are experiencing a crisis and need to be removed from a situation. Currently, the Department of Health and Social Services has issued a request for proposals to establish a crisis stabilization facility in Southcentral Alaska, using \$4,000,000 in funds appropriated during the 2018 legislative session. If DHSS receives responses to the request and a project is created, this funding would last just under three years.