

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Frontera Healthcare Network Awarded \$325,000 American Red Cross Grant to Expand Flood Recovery Behavioral Health Services Across Rural Central Texas

MENARD, Texas — Frontera Healthcare Network has been awarded a **\$325,000 grant from the American Red Cross** to expand access to trauma-informed behavioral health services for individuals, families, and communities continuing to recover from the devastating 2025 Central Texas floods.

The funding will support Frontera's **Rural Flood Recovery Mental Health & Resilience Initiative**, a year-long project designed to strengthen long-term recovery efforts across Menard, Concho, Mason, McCulloch, Kimble, and surrounding rural communities. The initiative will increase access to behavioral health services through clinic-based care, mobile outreach, community partnerships, youth and family programming, and dedicated support for first responders.

Many rural residents continue to face barriers to care following the floods, including transportation challenges, provider shortages, geographic isolation, and the lasting emotional effects of disaster. Through this initiative, Frontera will expand counseling capacity by supporting licensed behavioral health providers delivering evidence-based, trauma-informed care while strengthening clinical oversight to ensure high-quality services throughout the region. The project also includes a Community Health Worker dedicated to connecting flood-impacted residents with behavioral health services, recovery resources, and ongoing care navigation. Services will be available through Frontera's clinics, community locations, and its Mobile Medical Unit to reach individuals where they are.

"Recovery doesn't end when the floodwaters recede. Mental health needs often intensify after the immediate crisis passes, and that's typically when support disappears. This grant lets us reach people wherever they are in their recovery, through our clinics, our mobile unit, and trusted community partners," said Mikki Hand, Chief Executive Officer of Frontera Healthcare Network.

"Providing mental health support is especially important as new storms may result in strong feelings for those affected by the 2025 floods," said Naomi Pease, senior director of long-term recovery for the American Red Cross. "We are proud to be partnering with Frontera Healthcare Network to provide these essential services, to help them weather the storm, literal and figurative, that these new disasters may bring up for survivors as they continue their recovery."

The initiative builds upon Frontera Healthcare Network's longstanding commitment to expanding access to affordable healthcare in rural Central Texas. As a nonprofit community

health center, Frontera serves more than 8,500 patients annually through comprehensive primary care, behavioral health, pharmacy, care coordination, and school-based health services. Following the July 2025 floods, the organization worked alongside local partners, first responders, and long-term recovery groups to help meet the immediate and ongoing needs of affected communities.

The Rural Flood Recovery Mental Health & Resilience Initiative will begin immediately and continue through May 2027 under the American Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Program.

About Frontera Healthcare Network

Frontera Healthcare Network is a nonprofit community health center providing quality, accessible, and affordable healthcare across rural Central Texas. Serving communities throughout McCulloch, Menard, Mason, Kimble, Concho, and Gillespie counties, Frontera offers primary care, behavioral health, psychiatry, pediatrics, pharmacy, care coordination, and outreach services. Through its mission of improving the health and well-being of the communities it serves, Frontera works to remove barriers to care and ensure every individual has access to the services they need.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](https://www.cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on social media.