REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Oregon Rehousing Initiative Supportive Services

1. **Background**

On January 10, 2023, Governor Tina Kotek issued Executive Order (EO) 23-02, which declared a state of emergency due to homelessness. The EO provided one time funding through House Bill (HB) 5019 to rapidly expand the State's low-barrier shelter capacity, to rehouse people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and to prevent homelessness to the greatest extent possible.

On January 9, 2024, Governor Kotek signed EO 24-02 to maintain the added capacity to the state's shelter system, rehouse people experiencing homelessness, and prevent homelessness. OHCS was allocated $39 million in a Special Purposes Appropriation (SPA) via SB 5701. This funding is designated for a statewide rehousing program—the Oregon Rehousing Initiative (ORI). This program is intended to house more community members experiencing homelessness, above and beyond the work initiated by EO 23-02 and House Bill (HB) 5019. Rehousing efforts will be for new households, not the sustaining of those previously rehoused.

Regional Goal: Our region will rehouse 60 households by June 30, 2025, through this statewide rehousing program.

Project applications are now being requested for service providers to provide wraparound supportive services to clients who are participating in the Oregon Rehousing Initiative. Providers will align their proposals with the Guiding Principles of the ORI:

1. Lead with Racial Equity
2. Progressive Engagement Approach
3. Remove Barriers and Simplify Processes
4. Strengthen Relationships with Landlords

Proposals are required to follow the regional priority placement populations outlined in the plan:

- BIPOC
- LGBTQ+ Youth
- Medically Vulnerable

2. **Nondiscrimination**

Subrecipients are required to comply with all state and federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination and cannot discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, familial status, disability (federal) or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or source of income (state), or any other legally protected status. Subrecipients are required to have a stand-alone policy that aligns with OHCS requirements.

3. Funding Restrictions in this RFA

Proposals must include operational plans to sustain services and supports through the rehousing period (July 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2025). Proposals may include operational and funding plans to sustain services and supports through the entire program period (July 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2027). Funding opportunities will be dependent on selected proposal and allowable expenditures under funding. **This funding is reimbursement based that will be client specific to those enrolled in the program. Selected proposals will need to have the mechanisms in place, or a plan to integrate them into their current systems, to track services and supports delivered specifically to enrolled households. Any ongoing rental subsidies will be provided by agency overseeing RRH program.**

OHCS Executive Order Funding Information:

Category of Funding	Funding Restrictions
Oregon Rehousing Initiative (ORI)	ORI funding is being released in alignment with EO 24-02. These funds will assist with rapid rehousing, outreach, and supportive services for rehoused households. Client eligibility for this funding is restricted to Categories 1, 3, 4 & 6. **Allocation Awarded to Central Oregon: $2,056,329.44, of which $494,364.00 will be awarded for wrap around services through this RFA.**

4. **Client Eligibility**

Participants must be evaluated for eligibility criteria at the time of initial engagement. As defined by the State, the following Housing Status criteria apply to ORI funding passed through COIC. Housing status shall be determined based upon the head of household only.

i. Category 1: Literally Homeless
ii. Category 3: Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes
iii. Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence
iv. Category 6: Unsheltered Homelessness

5. **Evaluation Criteria**

Applications to be reviewed with priority placed upon the following criteria:

i. Dedication to serving Priority Population (must demonstrate a history of working with targeted populations)
ii. Proposal demonstrates how project includes or plans to include people with lived expertise of homelessness and disability in service provision and policies.
iii. Organization experience delivering high-quality, holistic services to households experiencing homelessness.
iv. Experience and demonstrated success in meeting standards for managing data within HMIS or an equivalent data management system.
v. Using Best Practices to include, but not limited to: CES, Housing First, etc.; and

6. Grievance and Appeals Process

Subrecipients are required to have an established, written process for addressing client grievances for decisions, including termination or reduction of benefit, denial of benefit or other grievances.

7. **Limited English Proficiency**
   Subrecipients must have a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) policy document that describes how the subrecipient identifies LEP populations in their service area and the actions they take to provide language assistance and to address language barriers. The policy must also state the type and frequency of staff training to learn how to work with LEP people, how the level of success of the policy will be identified and how changes will be made if needed. LEP applies to those who have difficulty reading, writing, speaking, or understanding English, and do not use English as their primary language.

8. **Data Entry**
   Subrecipients are required to enter client data into the WellSky Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), except for data of victims of domestic violence clients, which must be entered into a comparable database that meets HMIS standards, like Osnium. Subrecipients are responsible for acquiring and documenting informed written consent from program participants and protecting their confidentiality.

   Subrecipients are required to enter reliable, valid, and accurate project related participant and service data into HMIS in a timely manner. Both an HMIS entry/exit and HMIS Service Transactions are to be entered into HMIS. Each allowable service must be represented with a Service Transaction. Same-day services will have the same Service Start and End Date. Service Transactions for program costs, including all payments, arrearages, deposits, fees, landlord engagement and client non-categorical services, must include an HMIS Fund Source and amount.

   Timely and accurate data entry is critical to ensuring meaningful data analysis and reporting. For all project types, Subrecipients should enter data within 72 hours of program enrollment. To ensure timely and accurate data reporting to OHCS, Subrecipients will have until the 15th of each month to complete data entry for all services provided during the previous calendar month.

Application Instructions

- ✓ **Submit the application via email by 11:59 p.m., Sunday, September 15, 2024, to kbanner@coic.org.**
- ✓ **Program narrative questions may be no more than six (6) letter- sized pages.**
- ✓ **The proposal must be in 12-point font with one-inch margins.**
- ✓ **Incomplete proposals, or proposals exceeding the page limit, will not be considered.**
- ✓ **Failure to meet any of the application guidelines may result in disqualification of the proposal.**

For questions or to obtain an application, please contact Kimberly Banner, kbanner@coic.org or 541-548-8163.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
11:59 p.m. Sunday, September 15, 2024

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
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