COIC

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

OR-503 MAC Group

Outreach and RRH Funding Opportunity

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. Senate Bill (SB) 5511 is intended to sustain those initial investments to ensure that shelters, outreach positions, and other Program related functions continue to receive funding. SB 5511 provides for continuity of operations by funding services related to shelter, unit access and street outreach.

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.

Central Oregon's rehousing goal through EO 24-02 is to rehouse 60 households by June 30, 2025, and funding is able to provide continued supports and services through June 30, 2027.

2 Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council and the Continuum of Care

Resources will be delivered to Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, the Collaborative Applicant for Central Oregon's Continuum of Care – The Homeless Leadership Coalition (OR-503), and the distribution of funds will be overseen by Central Oregon's Multi Agency Coordination (MAC) group.

3 Funding Timeframe

January 10, 2024, to June 30, 2025 **(One time funding).** ORI funding is eligible for expenditures through June 30, 2027, for those households placed into housing prior to June 30, 2025.

4 Focus on Permanent Housing

All activities conducted with EO funding must be Housing Focused. "Housing Focused" activities are defined as activities that seek to lower barriers for people experiencing homelessness to access Permanent Housing. Activities conducted under this program may not screen participants out solely based on certain behavioral, psychological, physiological, citizenship or immigration status or economic preconditions. Housing Focused services must ensure that the safety and support of both staff and clients are paramount. This is accomplished through a focus on ensuring safety by managing behaviors that pose a risk to health and safety rather than implementing blanket exclusions based on a past diagnosis or current behavioral health symptoms that do not pose a direct risk to community safety. Furthermore, a recipient must actively coordinate services and supports for helping people exit homelessness and make efforts to reduce the barriers to re-housing individuals and families in their community.

5 No supplanting of funds

Subrecipient may not use these funds to supplant other funds available for the same purpose.

6 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.

7 Funding available through this RFA: $3,549,909

Up to $2,101,333 through SB 5511 and up to $1,448,576 through ORI. Administrative funding is limited.

8 Use of Grant Funds

Grant Funds may be utilized for the following purposes:

i. Street outreach services, including housing navigation and placement services.
   - a Engagement activities to locate, identify and build relationships with those living in unsheltered settings for the purpose of providing immediate support, intervention, and connections with homeless assistance programs, social services and housing programs.
   - b Case Management – Assessing housing and service needs of clients, and arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services.
   - c Emergency Health and Mental Health Services
   - d Transportation – Travel by outreach and service providers to provide services and the costs associated with transporting unsheltered people to shelters or service facilities.
   - e Safety & Comfort Resources such as food, tarps, sleeping bags, clothing, blankets, tents, toiletries, propane tanks are allowed; however, this must not be the sole strategy for street outreach services and such items must be limited and provided as a means of building rapport with homeless individuals to connect them to shelter, permanent housing options, and additional health and human services

ii. Rapid Rehousing
   - a Oregon Rehousing Initiative funds are primarily intended to support rapid rehousing activities. Rapid rehousing activities are those services performed to enable households to obtain permanent housing when they are currently homeless. Rapid rehousing is used when a household's housing status is literally homeless (category 1), homeless under other federal statues (category 3), or when a household is fleeing or attempting to flee a domestic violence situation (category 4).

     Allowable expenses for rapid rehousing include, but are not limited to:

     (a) Housing costs such as rental assistance (up to 24 months per household) and security deposit (inclusive of first, last, pet rent, and if accepted by landlord as an incentive, forward rent), renter's insurance, and late fees;
     (b) Utility payments and arrearages (utilities include water, sewer, garbage, gas, electricity, phone, internet);
     (c) Moving costs (van/truck rental) and transportation costs, such as bus/train passes, gas vouchers, Uber/Lift/Cab fares, car repair/insurance;
     (d) Housing navigation and case management including pre-eligibility determination for housing and other needed services;
     (e) Education and training in such areas as personal finance and budgeting, job search and

access to job training, life skills, and literacy, as well as assistance in completing/submitting applications for other state/federal benefits (SSI/SSDI, TANF, SNAP, Unemployment, etc.); and

(f) Crisis intervention/counseling or referrals and/or "warm hand-offs" to counseling, addiction, and mental health services.

iii. Administrative Costs, not to exceed 10% of award, which may include:
   a Senior executive management personnel salaries and benefits (unless they are directly involved in Program operations), administrative staff travel costs;
   b General services such as accounting, budget development, personnel, contracting, marketing, agency audit, agency insurance;
   c Board expenses (excluding meals);
   d Planning and implementation of MAC group infrastructure;
   e Organization-wide membership fees and dues specific to the Program;
   f General agency facilities costs (including those associated with executive positions), such as rent, depreciation expenses, and operation and maintenance (as part of the organization's direct or indirect cost allocation plan); and
   g Equipment rental/purchase, insurance, utilities, and IT costs that are not specific to the Program but relate to the administration of the recipient as a whole.

9 Client Eligibility

Household must meet one of the following Housing Status criteria for Street Outreach and Unit Access Client Eligibility:

i. Category 1: Literally Homeless
ii. Category 2: Imminent Risk of Homelessness
iii. Category 3: Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes
iv. Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence
v. Category 6: Unsheltered Homelessness

**Grant Funds are not allowable for households that are Category 5: Unstably Housed. Other funding is available to serve this population.*

10 Performance Measures

Subrecipients shall conduct the Grant Activities to achieve the following performance goals:

i. Increased outreach contacts and increased percentage of "engaged" outreach participants, as defined by the HUD HMIS Data Standards.
ii. Data entry completeness and timeliness, in accordance with CoC Data Quality Plans and HUD HMIS Data Standards.

11 Evaluation Criteria

Applications to be reviewed by grants committee, with priority placed upon the following criteria:

i. Geographic area(s) of service;
ii. Services provided to priority populations (BIPOC, LGBTQ+ Youth, & Medically Vulnerable);
iii. Innovative proposals addressing gaps in service;
iv. Using Best Practices to include, but not limited to: CES, Housing First, etc.

12 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. If such

processes are not currently in place, subrecipients are required to implement prior to funding.

13 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. If such policies are not currently in place, subrecipients are required to implement prior to funding.

14 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 SB 5511 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

- ✓ **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.**
- ✓ **This is a reimbursement grant. If you are a successful applicant, your agency will submit an invoice each month to COIC for payment.**
- ✓ For questions, please contact Meghan Weaver, mweaver@coic.org
- ✓ **Submit the application via email to mweaver@coic.org.**

APPLICATION DEADLINE

11:59 p.m. Sunday, November 11, 2024