



Governor
Philip Murphy

Commissioner
Jacquelyn Suárez

OFFICE OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION:
RURAL AND SUBURBAN OUTREACH
PROGRAM (R/S OUTREACH)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - SFY25

RFP Due Completed in DCA SAGE: No later than 11:59pm on 9/20/2024

I. Name of the grant program

RURAL AND SUBURBAN OUTREACH PROGRAM (R/S OUTREACH) - FY24

II. DCA contact information

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III. Purpose of the grant program

1. **To provide:** Street outreach, mobile case management, compassionate engagement, diversion, and low-barrier, rapid housing stabilization services to those persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the rural and suburban regions of New Jersey identified in Section VI, to include those persons living in camps, under bridges, at parks, in temporary motels, shelters, meal sites, libraries, public facilities (transit hubs), vehicles, or other outdoor and/or unsafe locations, without the protection of a conventional dwelling or shelter.

IV. RFP Due Date

RFP Due Completed in SAGE: No later than 11:59pm on 9/20/2024

Award Notification Date: On or about 10/15/2024

V. Available & types funding

This RFP utilizes state appropriated special-purpose and prevention of homelessness State funding.

<i>Total OHP Funds:</i>	<i>\$3,750,000.00</i>
Total Funds Available for this RFP	\$ 3,750,000.00

VI. Maximum amount of award

The maximum amount awarded to a single program in a county/region is \$250,000.

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Applicants **may apply for more than one county/region** and are encouraged to align regional selection with services provided in the state’s 16 Continua-of-Care and to supplement and enhance impact of regional PATH programs, local municipal unsheltered efforts, and CODE BLUE centers.

All applicants to this program must clearly demonstrate local system knowledge (see below), a commitment to Housing First principles, and an operational understanding of resources and partnerships to rapidly exit persons from unsheltered conditions to permanent housing, **with or without** an intercessory or imposed stay in interim housing (e.g., enhanced emergency shelter, transitional housing, etc.).

Awards will be distributed using the following matrix:

County	Total Program Award Maximum	# of Programs	Total County Award
Atlantic	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Burlington	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Cape May	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Cumberland	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Gloucester	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Hunterdon	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Monmouth	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Morris	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Ocean	\$250,000.00	2	\$500,000.00
Salem	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Somerset	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Sussex	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Union	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Warren	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000.00
Totals:		15	\$3,750,000.00

VII. Eligible entities

Nonprofit organizations and municipalities servicing Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties that have at **least three (3)** years of experience successfully administering and operating homelessness prevention, street outreach, homelessness diversion, and/or rapid re-housing programs.

Agencies selected must service the entire county and agencies may collaborate to provide R/S street outreach services (with an executed memorandum of understanding [MOU] outlining the collaboration or partnership). However, in partnership projects, no more than one agency may be selected as the **lead agency in a for a collaborative award and the maximum grant funding awarded will not exceed the chart above.**

Lastly, all applicants must demonstrate:

1. Existing street outreach, prevention, homelessness, diversion, or rapid re-housing programs and demonstrable experience in serving unsheltered individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

- a. When speaking to an agency's experience, both the integration of Housing First principles (to include no service mandates on mental health diagnosis, treatment, or sobriety) and the incorporation of lowest-barrier possible services into the agency's portfolio must be clearly articulated with collateral data speaking to the tangible outcomes and impact of services.

This includes statistics regarding the number of individuals and families served, the percentage of those who were able to transition to stable housing, and the length of time in which they were able to achieve this.

Moreover, it is crucial that the agency can provide evidence of the efficiency and effectiveness of their services, such as demonstrating lower rates of recidivism into homelessness, increases in self-sufficiency among clients, and improvements in overall wellbeing.

The collateral data should also include testimonials or case studies that illustrate successful street outreach or homelessness prevention stories, underlining the agency's ability to help those in need.

2. A diverse compilation of resources and partnerships to support and assist households that are homeless and at risk of homelessness exit those situations and circumstances.

- a. An agency's application should demonstrate a ***diverse*** compilation of resources and partnerships. Acceptable examples are found below:
 1. **Resource Inventory:** Clearly catalogue and describe the range of resources that the agency has available for persons experiencing homelessness and

those at risk of homelessness. This could include direct services such as emergency shelter and food, case management, job training, mental health counseling, other OHP programs, or substance abuse treatment. The inventory should also include indirect resources like connections to affordable housing, educational programs, healthcare facilities, and legal aid. The more comprehensive and diversified the resource inventory, the better equipped the agency is to handle various cases of homelessness.

2. **Partnership Network:** Provide evidence of partnerships that the agency has formed with other organizations in the community, whether they are governmental, non-profit, or private entities. This can be through formal memoranda of understanding, joint programs, shared funding, or co-hosted events.
 3. **Success Stories:** Showcase success stories that have resulted from the use of these resources and partnerships. This might involve detailing case studies of individuals or families who were able to exit homelessness with the agency's assistance, highlighting how the agency's resources and partnerships were instrumental in their transition.
 4. **Outcomes Data:** Demonstrate with data the effectiveness of the agency's resources and partnerships. This could involve statistics on the number of people served, the rate of successful housing placements, improvements in employment status, reductions in recidivism, etc. The data should be presented in a way that is transparent and easy to understand.
 5. **Feedback from Clients and Partners:** Include feedback or testimonials from clients who have benefitted from these resources and partnerships, as well as from partners who have collaborated with the agency. This will provide a first-hand account of the agency's work and its impact.
 6. **Innovative Solutions:** Detail any innovative or unique solutions that have been developed through these resources and partnerships. This could involve cutting-edge programs, unique partnerships, or novel resources that the agency has put into place to address homelessness. This demonstrates the agency's commitment to continuous improvement and creative problem-solving.
3. **The willingness and capacity to partner with local and county law enforcement, the service area's correspondent Continuum-of-Care (CoC), public services (e.g., libraries), and regional and local health care providers.**
- a. Agencies should demonstrate this will and capacity through executed MOU/MOA/Letters of Support.
 - b. All agencies applying for funding through this program must be active members of their correspondent CoC.
4. **Commitment to Housing First:**

- a. Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing **without preconditions and barriers to entry**, which include but are not limited to:
 1. Ensuring low-barrier, easily accessible assistance to all people, including, but not limited to, people with no income or income history, and people with active substance abuse or mental health issues;
 2. Helping participants quickly identify and resolve barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing;
 3. Seeking to quickly resolve the housing crisis before focusing on other non-housing related services;
 4. Allowing participants to choose the services and housing that meets their needs, within practical and funding limitations;
 5. Connecting participants to appropriate support and services available in the community that foster long-term housing stability.

- b. Agencies **must demonstrate commitment to the above outlined principles either via memorandum or board resolution** and provide proof of same.

5. Commitment to the Inclusion of & Incorporation of Feedback from Persons with Lived Experience & Expertise (PWLEE):

- a. OHP is committed to incorporating the perspectives and insights of persons with lived experience and expertise (PWLEE) of homelessness and housing instability in feedback and program evaluation processes.
 1. OHP regularly receives this feedback through the DCA Statewide PWLEE Advisory Board, which meets on a monthly basis with OHP and a quarterly basis with DHCR and DCA leadership.

- b. As this feedback is critical to promoting inclusion, equity, diversity, and access in the homelessness prevention and services ecosystem (HPSE), all OHP grantees must affirm and provide proof of organizational alignment with (or the good faith effort of development of alignment with) the following key principles for ensuring the inclusion of PWLEE in feedback in their programs and organization:
 1. Centering the voices of PWLEE: PWLEE have a unique perspective on the experience of homelessness and offer valuable insights into the challenges and barriers they face. It is essential to center their voices in feedback processes to ensure that their experiences and needs are accurately represented.

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2. Creation of a safe and supportive environment: PWLEE may have experienced trauma or marginalization related to their experiences of homelessness. It is important to create a safe and supportive environment for them to share their feedback, where they feel heard and respected.

3. Using inclusive language and communication: Feedback processes should use language and communication that is inclusive and accessible to all. This includes using plain language, avoiding jargon or technical terms, and ensuring that all communication is available in formats that are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

4. Providing opportunities for meaningful engagement: PWLEE should have opportunities to provide feedback in ways that are meaningful and accessible to them. This may include one-on-one conversations, focus groups, surveys, or other methods of engagement that suit their preferences and needs.

5. Recognition of power imbalances: Power imbalances can and often do exist between PWLEE and those collecting feedback, which can lead to a lack of representation or influence. It is important to recognize and address these imbalances to ensure that the perspectives and experiences of PWLEE are fully represented and considered in feedback processes.

c. Applicants for OHP funding are required to document affirmation of the principles through supplementary materials submitted as addenda to their application.

Acceptable materials indicating affirmation include, but are not limited to:

1. Centering PWLEE Voices: This could be proven through agency protocols highlighting how PWLEE's perspectives are prioritized, or instances where their insights have influenced changes in the program.

2. Creating Safe Environments: Evidence of this could include policies or guidelines about creating respectful and supportive spaces for PWLEE, and possibly testimonials from PWLEE on their experience participating in feedback processes.

3. Inclusive Language and Communication: Applicants may share their guidelines or examples of accessible, jargon-free communication materials, including different formats for individuals with disabilities.

4. Opportunities for Meaningful Engagement: This could be shown through the variety of feedback methods employed to suit different preferences and needs of PWLEE, and how this feedback has been utilized by applicant.

5. Recognition of Power Imbalances: Applicant could provide evidence of their strategies to identify and address power imbalances, such as policies for equitable treatment, or practices promoting shared decision-making.

6. Active Pursuit of Inclusion, Equity, Diversity, and Access: Applicant may share the organization's policies, training programs, and examples of actions taken to uphold these values.

7. Evidence of Good Faith Effort: For organizations still developing alignment with these principles, they should provide a detailed plan showcasing their understanding of these principles and their steps towards incorporating them. This can include timelines, measurable goals, and designated personnel responsible for each step.

VIII. Ineligible entities

1. Entities listed on the DCA list of High-Risk grantees and, as applicable, the current audit submission is not overdue.
2. Entities listed on the State Debarment list, located at www.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/treas/revenue/debarsearch.pl

IX. Target populations

Households experiencing unsheltered homelessness in eligible regions in New Jersey and whose situations and circumstances meet the criteria defined below:

1. Income Limitations & Assets

While there is not a specific income guideline or restriction for the delivery of services through programs funded through this grant, DCA and OHP expects that majority of consumers accessing services to be at or below 120% Area Median Income (AMI).

2. Definitions of 'unsheltered homelessness'

Awardees will document that all project participants who receive R/S Outreach assistance either:

- (1) meet at least one of the HUD categories of 'homeless' [(1), (3), or (4) of in CFR 24 § 576.2 & 578.3] and has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation

OR

- (2) is otherwise fleeing tracking, forced sex work, natural disaster, abusive circumstances and/or other dangerous situations, and consequently is living in camps, under bridges, at parks, abandoned buildings, in temporary motels, shelters, meal sites, libraries, public facilities (transit hubs), vehicles, or other outdoor and/or unsafe locations in the State, without the protection of a conventional dwelling or fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

3. Immigration status

In alignment with OHP state-funded projects, assistance, and services **are not restricted by immigration status** as they are necessary for the protection of life and safety of persons.

X. Eligible Activities

This program provides assistance through the following four activity components and services:

1. Street Outreach:

Description: Street Outreach is a proactive and compassionate approach aimed at identifying, engaging, and building trust with individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in rural and suburban areas of New Jersey, without limitation on number of engagement or frequency of contact to assist with services.

Outreach staff consist of dedicated professionals who traverse the identified regions, including camps, parks, under bridges, motels, shelters, meal sites, libraries, transit hubs, vehicles, and other outdoor or unsafe locations, in order to exit persons from unsheltered homelessness.

Objectives:

- Locate and establish rapport with unsheltered individuals and families.

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- Conduct rapid assessments to understand specific needs and vulnerabilities.
- Provide immediate necessities such as food, water, hygiene supplies, and blankets.
- Offer information on available services and resources.
- Provide transportation (as needed) to effect entry into services and resources.

Approach:

Outreach staff utilize a non-judgmental and client-centered approach, emphasizing harm reduction, trauma-informed care, and cultural sensitivity. The goal is to connect unsheltered individuals with appropriate services, including mobile case management, diversion, and rapid housing stabilization.

Eligible component costs:

1. Salary and/or hourly wage for street outreach staff.
2. Fringe benefits for street outreach staff.
3. Purchase or lease of a vehicle to deliver and deploy services (*\$50,000 limit*).
 - a. **Note:** If an agency has received prior OHP or DCA funding to deploy street outreach services in an area within the past 5 years and is requesting additional funding for transportation costs, the agency must materially demonstrate the need for an additional vehicle purchase for the activities of this grant program. Vehicles purchased for this program must be utilized for this program only and/or in support of other activities related to the reduction of unsheltered homelessness.
4. Technology (laptop/tablet), mobile phone, mobile WiFi hotspot, NJ HMIS access (\$1000 limit).
5. Uber/Lyft/other rideshare vouchers for client transportation.
6. Costs for emergency supplies, food, and items for building rapport.
7. Clothing allowance (high visibility gear for workers).
8. PPE and first-aid supplies.

2. Mobile Case Management:

Description: Mobile Case Management involves dedicated professionals who provide personalized support and guidance to unsheltered individuals and families to help them navigate the complex web of services, address their unique needs, and develop individualized housing stability plans. This service extends beyond basic outreach to provide ongoing support.

Note: *Staff hired through this program are able to provide both tiers of service in a professional capacity, as needed, but applicants must clearly identify the processes and procedures by which service type delivered is recorded in NJ HMIS and how a mobile case management session differs from an outreach encounter.*

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Objectives:

- Conduct comprehensive assessments to identify barriers and strengths.
- Assist clients in accessing essential services like housing, healthcare, mental health treatment (only if requested), and substance use support (only if requested)
- Collaborate with local agencies and organizations to secure necessary resources and to advocate on behalf of their consumers.
- Create and track progress towards housing stability goals.

Approach: Mobile case managers utilize a client-centered and strengths-based approach, building trusting relationships to empower clients to achieve self-sufficiency, aligned with Housing First principles. They act as advocates, helping clients overcome obstacles and connecting them with relevant services, including leveraging other program components, to include compassionate engagement and diversion services.

Eligible component costs:

1. Salary and/or hourly wage for mobile case management staff.
2. Fringe benefits for mobile case management staff.
3. Purchase or lease of a vehicle to deliver and deploy services (*\$30,000 limit*).
 - a. **Note:** If an agency has received prior OHP or DCA funding to deploy street outreach services in an area within the past 5 years and is requesting additional funding for transportation costs, the agency must materially demonstrate the need for an additional vehicle purchase for the activities of this grant program. Vehicles purchased for this program must be utilized for this program only and/or in support of other activities related to the reduction of unsheltered homelessness.

A maximum of one (1) vehicle may be purchased by any single program for this grant and it is expected that the vehicle will be used for both service components.

Given current interest rates and purchase prices, OHP STRONGLY ENCOURAGES agencies to engage in leasing of vehicles.

4. Technology (laptop/tablet), mobile phone, mobile WiFi hotspot, NJ HMIS access (\$1000 limit).
5. Uber/Lyft/other rideshare vouchers for client transportation.
6. Costs for case management activities (e.g., identity documents, application fees, etc.).
7. Costs for office/flex space to conduct case management activities.
8. Clothing allowance (high visibility gear for workers).
9. PPE and first-aid supplies.

3. Compassionate Engagement and Service Marketing:

Description: Compassionate Engagement focuses on building trust and rapport with individuals who may be resistant or distrustful of service providers and marketing efforts to build partnerships and to make the surrounding community aware of services.

Trained outreach workers and mobile case managers employ empathetic and patient strategies to encourage individuals to accept services and explore pathways to stability, while demonstrating the value of this approach to a myriad of stakeholders in their constituent community.

Objectives:

- Develop relationships based on respect, empathy, and active listening.
- Assess individual needs and priorities while respecting autonomy with no limit on number of engagements or time of service.
- Provide emotional support and crisis intervention when necessary.
- Facilitate access to necessary services, including diversion and housing options.
- Demonstrate the value and impact of compassionate engagement and promote service to the community.

Approach: Compassionate engagement is grounded in trauma-informed care and harm reduction principles, recognizing that individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness may have complex histories and challenges. This service component ensures that individuals feel heard and respected as they navigate their journey toward housing stability.

Eligible component costs:

1. Training attendance and travel for program staff.
2. Supervision costs and training for supervision.
3. Community engagement activities.
4. Program marketing and promotion.
5. Community education initiatives.

4. Diversion/Flexible Funding:

Description: OHP Diversion services and flexible funding aims to prevent homelessness whenever possible by identifying alternative housing solutions and resources for individuals and families facing immediate housing crises. This includes exploring options such as reconnection with family or friends, mediation, and financial assistance to rapidly exit unsheltered conditions and to avoid entry into the shelter system.

Objectives:

- Assess each person's unique circumstances and available resources.
- Mediate and facilitate conflict resolution with family or other support networks.

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- Provide limited financial assistance for immediate housing needs using flexible funding (*see OHP PPB #23-01 for Diversion Flexible Funding guidelines*).
- Explore creative solutions to divert individuals from shelters and into permanent housing destinations when feasible.

Approach: Diversion services require creative problem-solving and a collaborative approach with the goal of reducing the flow of individuals into the shelter system and instead connecting them to stable housing alternatives. While not all persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness are diversion appropriate, diversionary principles and resources should be leveraged to accelerate exits to housing from unsheltered conditions as maximally possible.

Eligible component costs:

1. Flexible funding (defined in OHP PPB #23-01).
2. Direct Client Assistance

XI. Ineligible activities

Activities not specifically approved through this application or subsequently approved in writing by DCA.

XII. Grant term

September 1, 2024 – August 30, 2025

XIII. Application process - Narrative

The proposal must be submitted electronically via SAGE. All applicants must submit in SAGE a written narrative that describes the following:

1. Agency's mission, staff capacity, experience (to include outcomes) in homeless services, rental assistance/supportive services, and financial management/grant operations.
2. Identification of project type and service area.
3. Contact information for executive team and project personnel.
4. Data Collection and Management Processes
5. Identification and qualifications of staff that will participate in the project and in the administration of the grant.
6. Consultant listing
7. Proposed Project Budget (see examples, below).

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Example Budget: Rural and Suburban Outreach Program – Salem County	
Total Award: \$250,000.00	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount (\$)</i>
Administration (Up to 10%)	\$25,000.00
<u>Personnel</u>	
Salaries/Wages	
Fringe	
<u>Operating</u>	
Audit	
Other	
Program (Minimum 90%)	\$225,000.00
<u>Direct Expenses</u>	
Street Outreach Staff Hourly Wages (40 hr/week)	\$56,160.00
Mobile Case Manager Salary (1.0 FTE)	\$62,500.00
Fringe (capped at 40%)	\$47,464.00
<u>Operational Expenses</u>	
Vehicle Lease (Van @ \$800.00/per month)	\$9,600.00
Fuel, Maintenance, & Insurance	\$8,500.00
NJ HMIS	\$1,000.00
Emergency Items	\$6,500.00
Flexible Funds - Diversion	\$30,776.00
Direct Client Assistance	\$2,500.00
<u>Total</u>	\$250,000.00

XIV. Application process - Required attachments

1. Certification regarding debarment and suspension.
2. Certification regarding lobbying.
3. Staff resumes, to include the applicant's executive team.
4. Job descriptions of positions created via project.
5. Resolution from the applicant's Board of Trustees.
6. Letter of Support from the County/Regional Continuum-of-Care (CoC):
 - a. This letter must include a description of the applicant's participation in CoC processes and programs (to include Coordinated Entry [if applicable]).
 - b. This letter must also certify the applicant's participation in PIT Count activities.
7. Materials outlined in Section VII of this document:
 - a. Agency Experience with Collateral Data
 - b. Resources Listing
 - c. MOU/MOAs for Partnerships
 - d. Affirmation of Housing First
 - e. PWLEE Inclusion and Activities
8. Process map of project (from initial client contact through discharge/follow-up) that is inclusive of and aligned with CoC processes.
9. Marketing plan that will be used to socialize program to community stakeholders.
 - a. Slide deck/PowerPoint
10. Executed application cover page.

XV. Reporting and monitoring requirements

1. Bi-monthly peer-to-peer meetings (via Teams)
2. Quarterly leadership meetings (via Teams)
3. Quarterly reporting via SAGE
4. Semi-annual site visitation/file review

5. Recording encounter and case note data no later than 24 hours post-encounter in AWARDS.

XVI. Training requirements

Each grantee agrees that staff will participate in all mandatory training and meetings according to a schedule provided by the Office of Homelessness Prevention (see below). Training and meetings are to increase understanding of integrated services delivery and its interplay with other aspects of case management and as part of a larger housing problem-solving approach to preventing homelessness that is person-centered and affirming of Housing First principles.

Direct staff, Supervisors and Leadership staff must agree to the following mandatory training participation as part of this program:

1. Harm reduction
2. Landlord collaborations
3. Housing First
4. Eviction Prevention & Housing Rights
5. Reporting, including the use of the Homelessness Management Information System database (HMIS), also known as AWARDS, report building, and uploading options through NJ HMFA.
6. Racial equity
7. Trauma-Informed Service Delivery
8. Project Service Delivery Coaching & Peer-to-Peers
9. Persons with Lived Experience and Expertise (PWLEE) feedback sessions

In addition, the entity must participate in and make presentations to various audiences during required training and meetings according to the schedule designated by the Office of Homelessness Prevention. The entity must also work in collaboration with other DCA grantees to achieve this initiative's objectives.

XVII. Grantee performance expectations & requirements

1. Project is operationalized and running no later than 30 days post award notification.
2. Project's corresponding CoC executive body is made aware of award and project no later than 24 hours after notice.
3. Presentation and referral process is socialized to CoC's general body at the first available meeting post operationalization of the project and at on-going CoC and public meetings regarding housing vulnerability and homelessness.
4. Attendance at all training and OHP peer-to-peer activities.
5. Project staff meaningfully participate in NJ Counts (PIT Count) through both surveying and planning activities.

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6. Maintenance of 95% data quality in AWARDS (to include discharge destination/outcome capture).
7. Any changes in participant status or circumstances are updated in NJ HMIS no later than 24 hours of notice.
8. All service costs and payments made on behalf of or to participants are updated in NJ HMIS no later than 24 hours post-disbursement.
9. **For all projects:**
 - a. 80% of project households have defined pathway to permanent housing 30 days post first outreach contact.
 - b. 75% of referrals result in successful service connections (e.g., shelter, rapid rehousing, food assistance, employment assistance).

XVIII. Threshold requirements

Only applications that meet all the following threshold requirements will be scored; **applications missing any documents identified in numbers 7-12 will be provided 5 days to upload same.**

1. Minimum of three years of experience in providing homelessness prevention and housing services such as financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services to the target population.
2. Attend a mandatory technical assistance workshop.
3. Be an active participant in the local Continuum of Care.
4. Be an active participant in NJ HMIS.
5. Agree to attend a HMIS training workshop.
6. Submit the last 3 years of audits [to include statement cash flows [or equivalent]] and latest IRS Form 990.
 - a. Applicant’s submissions **must demonstrably show** that they have sufficient cash flows to sustain staff and effectively administer the grant.
7. Submit Bylaws.
8. Submit Articles of Incorporation.
9. Submit staff resumes and current organizational chart.
10. Submit verification of current SAM registration.
11. Complete all certification sheets.
12. Submission of all required attachments in Section XIV.

XIX. Scoring Rubric

Section	Point Value
Section 1: Organizational Capacity and Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission alignment with RFP goals (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission focuses on serving those experiencing or at-risk of homelessness (2 points) 	25 Points

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission emphasizes rapid resolution of housing crises (2 points) • Mission aligns with prevention principles and Housing First (1 point) • Staff capacity and capabilities (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient staff roles/positions for project implementation (2 points) • Staff have relevant capabilities and qualifications (2 points) • Staff retention rate/turnover metrics (1 point) • Years of experience in homeless services (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of experience (2 points) • 4-5 years of experience (3 points) • 5+ years of experience (5 points) • Experience with street outreach principles and practices (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes experience implementing street outreach programs (2 points) • Provides data/outcomes demonstrating existing program efficacy (2 points) • Discusses incorporation of lowest barrier possible approaches (1 point) • Experience providing mobile case management and supportive services (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of mobile case management and supportive services provided (2 points) • Data on households served through these interventions (2 points) • Examples of successful housing placements/stabilization (1 point) 	
<p>Section 2: Proposed Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly defined project type and service area (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates project type (SO) (2 points) • Specifies county/counties that will be served (3 points) • Detailed project process map (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step-by-step description of service delivery process (4 points) • Roles and hand-offs between staff and partners clearly defined (3 points) • Process aligns with local interim housing process (3 points) • Qualifications of project staff (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumes demonstrate capabilities matched to assigned roles (5 points) • Key positions filled with qualified candidates (5 points) • Data collection, management, and reporting processes (10 points) 	<p>50 Points</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods for timely and accurate data collection described (5 points) • Process for recording data in HMIS/AWARDS explained (2 points) • Capacity for generating required reports demonstrated (3 points) • Partnerships with CoC, healthcare, and other entities (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength of partnership with CoC evidenced through MOU and/or letter of support (2 points) • Additional partnerships documented through MOUs/letters of support (2 points) • Leverages partnerships for client referrals and resources (1 point) • Marketing/outreach plan (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets relevant stakeholders for program awareness (2 points) • Uses appropriate communication channels and materials (2 points) • Promotes program alignment with Coordinated Entry (1 point) • Reasonable and allowable budget (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs limited to eligible expenses (2 points) • Budget aligned with program design (2 points) • Leverages other resources where possible (1 point) 	
<p>Section 3: Commitment to Best Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embraces Housing First principles (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation of board resolution/policy adopting Housing First (3 points) • Low barriers, client-driven approach described in application (4 points) • Willingness to accept clients and accelerate housing outcomes regardless of substance use, mental health conditions, household composition, etc. (3 points) • Centers voice of those with lived expertise (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies/process for including lived expertise feedback (2 points) • Examples of incorporating feedback provided (2 points) • Lived expertise inclusion in organizational leadership (1 point) • Pursues diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and access (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies for equitable treatment of clients (2 points) • Staff training on implicit bias, cultural competence, etc. (2 points) • Accessibility of program and materials to disabilities (1 point) • Participates in HMIS, PIT, and other COC activities (5 points) 	<p align="center">25 Points</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirms HMIS participation and training requirements met (2 points)• Demonstrates PIT Count participation (2 points)• Actively engages in COC meetings and coordinates with partners (1 point)	
Section 4: Threshold Requirements (Pass/Fail) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meets all threshold criteria listed in RFP	Application is Eligible/Ineligible
Section 5: Overall Proposal Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Well-written, easy to understand, thorough, and compelling overall proposal (10 bonus points)	Max 10-point bonus
Total Points (Max): 110	