

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability of Funds

2023 Transitional Housing Program

Take notice that in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Department of Law & Public Safety (LPS), through the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) in conjunction with the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee, hereby announce the availability of the following grant program funds:

a. Name of the Program: 2023 Transitional Housing Programming.

b. Background & Purpose

Youth in the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) are serving a term of incarceration pursuant to a disposition imposed by New Jersey's Family Courts. Supervision continues even if the juvenile reaches the age of majority. Youth ages on parole range from 16-28 with 52% of parolees being over the age of 20. The average age of a youth upon discharge from the JJC is 20.3 for males and 23 for females. The total average age of those currently being supervised in the community is 20.5.

The JJC implements a reentry plan that provides opportunities for successful reintegration for each youth. Reflecting best practices, the JJC's reentry process begins at admission and includes individualized case planning based on a needs assessment and pre-release transitional reentry planning with community-based partners; however, reentry challenges still exist and vary by individual need and available resources in the receiving county. A lack of suitable, stable housing is one such challenge.

Housing stability matters throughout life but may be especially important during certain developmental stages, such as the transition to adulthood, because of its relationship to healthy interdependence and self-sufficiency. A lack of stable housing can impede these efforts to become self-sufficient. Moreover, it is difficult for young people to pursue education and training, or to find and keep a job, if their housing is unstable. Conversely, young people are better able to

continue their schooling and maintain gainful employment if they are stably housed (Johnson et al. 2010; Sommer, Wu, and Mauldon 2009).

The priority locations for housing programs are situated within 30 miles surrounding Paterson (Passaic County), Jersey City (Hudson County), Newark (Essex County), Atlantic City (Atlantic County), City of Camden (Camden County), and Trenton (Mercer); however, proposals will be considered from other areas of the state as well.

The JJC seeks to award funding to secure up to two (2) slots in housing programs statewide that are guaranteed to be available for JJC youth up to the age of 26. The JJC will enter into an award with selected providers that will allow the JJC to access these “guaranteed” slots, as described further below.

c. Funding available: Up to \$73,000 total (FFY 2020 Title II funds)

- Start and end date: 4/1/23 – 3/31/24.
- Award period is one year with a possibility to renew.
- Funding may be distributed among multiple providers.
- Providers will be awarded, and payment provided based “guaranteed occupancy.” A guaranteed slot is reserved solely for the use of JJC youth regardless of whether the slot is occupied. Therefore, payment will be made if the slot is occupied or unoccupied.
- Award amounts will be determined based on the number of qualified applicants and capacity per provider.
- Please note that this is a reimbursement grant.

ci. Subject to Appropriations

Please note that funding allocations and individual subaward amounts are subject to change. Subrecipients shall recognize and agree that both the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under a grant agreement is expressly dependent upon the availability to the JJC of funds appropriated by the State or Federal Legislature from State and/or Federal revenue or such other funding sources as may be applicable. A failure of JJC to make any payment under a grant agreement or to observe and perform any condition on its part to be performed under a grant agreement as a result of the failure of the State or Federal Legislature to appropriate funds shall not in any manner constitute a breach of a grant

agreement by JJC or an event of default under a grant agreement, and JJC shall not be held liable for any breach of a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from JJC beyond the duration of the award period set forth in a grant agreement and in no event shall a grant agreement be construed as a commitment by JJC to expend funds beyond the termination date set in a grant agreement.

e. Organizations that are eligible to apply for funding under this program

- Must be a legally established nonprofit organization, which meets the 501(c)3 standards of the Internal Revenue Service and be registered with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs; for-profit youth serving organization; or faith-based organization.

f. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding

- Must have a DUNS number. A DUNS number is used to track Federal assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. For further information visit on-line at <http://www.dnb.com/us>.
- Must not have been debarred or suspended from doing business with any unit of government. Applicants must be in good standing with all federal, state, and county agencies with which they have or had an existing grant or contractual agreement (including any grants with the Juvenile Justice Commission).
- Where appropriate, must hold current state licenses, permits and certificates.
- These beds must stand alone and not be carved out from existing licensed or state-funded transitional housing programs/beds including congregate care and scattered site housing programs under contract with any other federal, state, county or municipal entity.
- Preference will be given to applicants having experience working with court involved youth and having existing housing structure. Based on youth's needs, bedrooms may be single or double occupancy.

g. Procedures for eligible organizations to apply

- The application and required attachments/forms should be emailed to jjdpcommittee@jjc.nj.gov. You must include "2023 Transitional Housing Program" in the subject of the email. Required attachments and forms are available at

<https://www.njoag.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/juvenile-justice-commission-home/jjc-funding-opportunities/>.

- Applicants must complete and submit the application and all required attachments/forms by the submission deadline. Applications that do not comply with the requirements of the Notice of Availability of Funds or are received after the submission deadline may be administratively rejected. Applications that do not score a minimum of 80 out of 100 possible points will not be considered for funding.
- Applicants who meet the minimum eligibility requirements and score 80 out of 100 possible points may be visited by a team of JJC staff to tour the facility. The visit may be incorporated into the overall applicant total score. Site visits would take place on December 15th and 16th, 2022.
- Please note that applications are only being accepted via e-mail at JJDPcommittee@jjc.nj.gov. Mailed applications will not be accepted.

h. Deadline by which applications must be submitted

Applications and all required attachments must be received by 3:00 pm on 11/28/22.

i. Applicant Bidders Conference

In effort to assist candidates in applying for these funds, a **mandatory** virtual bidder's conference will be held on 10/19/22 at 2:00 pm and on 10/20/22 at 10:00 am. You only must attend one Bidder's Conference. Please read this NOAF and the funding application in its entirety prior to the event and be prepared to discuss any questions you may have. Please note, the information provided during this bidder's conference will not be made available in any other form to those who do not attend. Please R.S.V.P via email to JJDPcommittee@jjc.nj.gov if you are attending the bidder's conference and you will receive the login information.

j. Date by which applicants will be notified of approval or disapproval of funding

Applicants will be notified no later than 1/23/23.

k. Post Award Meeting

In an effort to assist candidates to understand the award process, a mandatory virtual post award meeting will be held. The date is to be determined. The program director and a fiscal representative are required to attend.