

## **RFP: Transition of Existing Supportive Housing for Adults with SMI**

### **OVERVIEW**

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for one not-for-profit organization to take over the operation of an existing three-unit residential respite program and an existing peer-to-peer warm line phone link in Nassau County for adults with a serious mental illness (SMI). The residential respite program is a peer run, voluntary, short-term housing program for individuals experiencing a behavioral or mental health crisis. The awardee will provide treatment services and other supportive services to residents as needed, both in the community and on-site. The awarded organization will also be responsible for continuing the operation of the peer support warm line phone link, which is operated by trained peer staff who offer social support and a complement to hotlines with the goal of averting crisis situations and reducing hospital admissions.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **FUNDING**

Annual funding for the residential respite program and peer-to-peer warm line phone link, which is based on prior expenditures of the program, will be a gross total of \$503,788. Up to 15% of the total annual program funding (\$75,568) may be allocated to administrative and overhead costs.

Operating contracts will last for five years beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Applicants must be not-for-profit 501(c)(3) agencies who have experience providing OMH peer respite/hospital diversion housing and supportive services for individuals with SMI.

### **TARGET POPULATION**

The existing housing program and support services delivered through this RFP are available to individuals with SMI who are:

- Identified as in need of crisis and transitional housing services who are referred by Health Homes;
- Being discharged from a New York State OMH Psychiatric Center, Article 28, or Article 31 hospital, but not yet ready for a full transition into the community;
- Residing in New York State and are experiencing a behavioral health crisis and could be safely diverted from admission or readmission to inpatient care; and
- Not a danger to themselves, to others, or do not suffer from co-morbid physical injuries that require nursing or hospital level of care.

## APPLICATION

Applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Population (10 points)
- Housing Transition Plan (15 points)
- Housing Implementation (40 points)
- Agency Performance (15 points)
  - This will include the Bidder's Narrative and an internal OMH review of the bidder's past performance operating residential programs over the past two-year period.
- Financial Assessment (20 points)

Applicants must receive a minimum average score of 65 to be considered for this RFP. In the case of a tie, the proposal with the highest score on the Housing Implementation section will be ranked higher.

## Timeline

Proposals are due on March 16<sup>th</sup>. No letter of intent is required. OMH plans to notify the successful applicant on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Questions about the RFP may be submitted by email to Carol Swiderski at [carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov](mailto:carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov) by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Responses will be posted on the OMH website on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.