

RFP: Assertive Community Treatment Grants

OVERVIEW

On March 29th, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for organizations interested in establishing or expanding and maintaining Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) programs for individuals with a serious mental illness (SMI). Approximately \$4.7 million in total funding will be awarded to up to seven organizations over five years. Funding will support the delivery of comprehensive and effective recovery-oriented services to individuals living with SMI with the goal of helping them successfully integrate into the community.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on May 29th.

FUNDING

A total of \$678,000 may be awarded annually through this RFP to up to seven organizations who establish or expand ACT programs. At most \$25,000 of the award may be used for the purchase of Technical Assistance (TA). Funding may also be used to develop and implement tobacco cessation programs, activities, and/or strategies and towards the integration of primary care services, including wellness activities, into ACT model team activities. Funding limitations are as follows:

- No more than 15 percent of the award may be used for developing the infrastructure necessary to provide services; and
- No more than 20 percent of the award may be used for data collection, performance measurements, and performance assessment.

To the extent possible, recipients must utilize third party and other revenue gained from the provision of services and use grant funds allocated through this RFP only for services to individuals who are not covered by public or commercial health insurance programs, individuals for whom coverage has been formally determined to be unaffordable, or individuals whose insurance plan does not sufficiently cover provided services.

Contracts are expected to last for five years beginning on September 30th, 2018.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

In order to qualify for funding under this RFP, applicants must be one of the following:

- Health care facilities;
- States or political subdivisions of state;
- Indian tribes or tribal organizations;
- Mental health systems; or
- Other entities that serve individuals with SMI who experience homelessness or are justice-involved.

Entities must have at least one provider organization for direct client mental health services involved in the project and each mental health treatment provider organization must have at least two years of experience providing relevant services.

TARGET POPULATION

The ACT model is designed to provide services to individuals with SMI who experience the most serious psychiatric symptoms, the most significant social functioning challenges, and whose needs have not been well met by traditional care approaches.

PROGRAM SERVICES

Organizations must provide the following core ACT services to the target population:

- Comprehensive assessment;
- Crisis assessment and intervention;
- Illness management and recovery skills;
- Individual supportive therapy;
- Substance use disorder treatment;
- Peer and family support;
- Employment support services;
- Assistance with activities of daily living;
- Connection and intervention with support networks and recovery support services;
- Care management and case coordination; and
- Psychotropic medication for treatment of SMI and medication for other medical conditions, including prescription, administration, and monitoring.

APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Population of Focus and Statement of Need (10 points)
- Proposed Implementation Approach (40 points)
- Staff and Organizational Experience (30 points)
- Data Collection and Performance Measurement (20 points)

Awards will be distributed based on the above criteria, the availability of funds, and an equitable distribution of funding by geographic area, population need, and program size.

Timeline

Proposals must be submitted by May 29th. Questions should be submitted to Mary Blake at mary.blake@samhsa.hhs.gov for program issues and Gwendolyn Simpson at FOACMHS@samhsa.hhs.gov for grants management and budget issues.