

## **RFP: Minority AIDS Initiative Substance Use Disorder Treatment**

### **OVERVIEW**

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Minority AIDS Initiative. Through this initiative, approximately \$12 million in total funding will be awarded to eligible organizations to provide direct services targeted towards racial and ethnic minority individuals with substance use disorders (SUD) and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders (COD) who are at risk for HIV or are HIV-positive and receiving HIV services/treatment.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **FUNDING**

Up to \$500,000 will be awarded annually through this RFP to 24 organizations. Funding limitations are as follows:

- No more than 20 percent of the award may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, including incentives for participating in the required data collection follow-up;
- No more than 15 percent of the award may be used for infrastructure development;
- Up to 5 percent of the award may be used for hepatitis testing and services, including staff training for testing; and
- Up to \$25,000 may be used for the purchase of Technical Assistance (TA) services for the project.

Awarded organizations must implement policies to ensure other sources of funding are used whenever possible, including other systems and third party payers. Grant funds should be used only for services to individuals who are not covered by public or commercial health insurance, individuals for whom coverage has been formally determined to be otherwise unavailable, or for services that are not sufficiently covered by an individual's health insurance plan.

Contracts are expected to last for up to five years, beginning on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

In order to qualify for funding under this RFP, applicants must be domestic public or private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) entities, including community-based organizations.

Also, a provider organization for direct client substance abuse treatment services appropriate to the grant must be involved in the proposed project. The provider may be the applicant or another organization committed to the project, and more than one provider organization may be involved. Each mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization must have at least two years of experience providing relevant services.

### **PROGRAM SERVICES**

Awarded organizations must use program funding allocated through this RFP primarily to support direct services to people diagnosed with SUD as their primary condition. Applicants should:

- Offer rapid HIV testing to all clients and their drug-using and/or sexual partners, link clients who test positive to confirmatory testing, and follow up on the client's HIV status as appropriate;
- Provide on-site HIV testing, and link clients who request to be tested offsite to facilities that are certified by the local health department;
- Provide case management, referral/linkages to follow-up care and treatment for all clients who have a confirmed HIV test result;
- Develop Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) with primary HIV treatment and care providers, including Ryan White providers, to strengthen integration of care through case management;
- Screen and assess high-risk or HIV-positive clients for the presence of CODs, and develop appropriate treatment approaches for people who are identified as having CODs;
- Provide evidence-based SUD/COD treatment and recovery support services;
- Test all clients who are considered to be at risk for viral hepatitis (B and C); and
- Provide a plan for providing referrals and linkages to follow-up care and treatment for all individuals infected with viral hepatitis (B or C).

Awarded organizations may also choose to provide the following allowable activities:

- Develop and implement tobacco cessation programs, activities, and/or strategies; and
- Provide recovery housing as part of the SUD treatment continuum of care.

In addition, successful applicants will be expected to develop a behavioral health disparities impact statement no later than 60 days after the issuance of the award.

SAMHSA encourages applicants to address the behavioral health needs of returning veterans in designing and developing their programs and to consider prioritizing this population and their families for services as appropriate. If an evidence-based practice (EBP) exists for the types of problems or disorders being addressed in the program, the expectation is that the EBP(s) will be utilized.

## APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Population of Focus and Statement of Need (10 points)
- Proposed Implementation Approach (30 points)
- Proposed Evidence-Based Practices (25 points)
- Staff and Organizational Experience (15 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 April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Questions should be submitted to Kirk James at [kirk.james@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:kirk.james@samhsa.hhs.gov) for program issues and to Eileen Bermudez at [FOACSAT@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:FOACSAT@samhsa.hhs.gov) for grants management and budget issues.