

FY 2020 SAMHSA Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals

OVERVIEW

On October 16th, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) released a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for the fiscal year 2020 Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals. These grants support the development and/or expansion of the local implementation of a community infrastructure that integrates substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, housing services, and other critical services for individuals (including youth) and families experiencing homelessness. SAMHSA will award a total of up to \$5.2 million annually to 13 eligible organizations, primarily to support the provision of direct services, including linkages to housing, direct SUD treatment, and recovery support services, among others.

The full FOA is available [here](#). Applications are due on December 16th.

FUNDING

SAMHSA anticipates awarding up to \$400,000 annually to up to 13 organizations through this funding opportunity. No more than 20 percent of the total grant award for the budget period may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment. Contracts will last for up to five years beginning April 30, 2020.

Awarded organizations are expected to utilize third-party and other revenue realized from the provision of services to the extent possible and use grant funds 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 unaffordable, or for services that are not sufficiently covered by an individual's health insurance plan.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include domestic public and private not-for-profit entities, including community- and faith-based organizations. Additionally, organizations must meet the following two requirements:

- Each mental health/substance use disorder treatment provider organization must have at least two years' experience providing relevant services; and
- Each treatment provider organization must comply with all applicable local (city and county) and state licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements.

Organizations must hire a Project Director for this program, who will require prior approval by SAMHSA.

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

Organizations must use grant funding provided through this program primarily to support direct services, including the following:

- Utilize established relationship with an organization that assists individuals experiencing marginal housing or homelessness to obtain housing;
- Provide direct SUD treatment for individuals with SUDs or co-occurring mental and SUDs who are also experiencing homelessness. Treatment must be evidence-based and may be provided in outpatient, intensive outpatient, day treatment, or residential settings;
- Provide linkage and coordination to obtain permanent housing for the population(s) of focus;
- Engage and enroll the population(s) of focus or connect the population(s) of focus to enrollment resources for Medicaid and other benefits programs (e.g. SSI/SSDI, TANF, SNAP, etc.); and
- Provide recovery support services including recovery housing, employment coaching, vocational training, recovery coaching, and other services designed to improve access and retention in services.

Organizations may also choose to provide the following allowable activities:

- Implement screening and assessment, and either direct provision of appropriate services or referral to and close coordination with other providers of appropriate services, including those funded by the Ryan White Programs; and
- Implement tobacco and vaping cessation programs for the population of focus.

Program implementation must begin by the fourth month after award. In addition, awarded organizations are expected to develop a behavioral health disparities impact statement no later than 60 days after being awarded. Awarded organizations are encouraged to address and prioritize the behavioral health needs of returning veterans and their families in designing and developing their programs.

APPLICATION

Applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Population of Focus and Statement of Need (10 points)
- Proposed Implementation Approach (30 points)
- Proposed Evidence-Based Service/Practice (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

Applications must be submitted by December 16th.

Program questions should be submitted by to Michelle Daly at Michelle.Daly@samhsa.hhs.gov.
Fiscal/budget questions should be submitted to Corey Sullivan at FOACSAT@samhsa.hhs.gov. Grant
review process and application status questions should be submitted to Angela Houde at
Angela.Houde@samhsa.hhs.gov.