

RFP: Capital Awards for Crisis Residential Programs for Children and Adults

OVERVIEW

On November 21st, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for capital funding for OMH-licensed crisis residential programs for people with serious mental illness (SMI). Capital funds may be used for the acquisition of new property, construction of new facilities, and/or the rehabilitation of existing buildings that are part of the development of licensed Residential Crisis Support, Intensive Crisis Residence, and/or Children’s Crisis Residence programs. OMH will award a total of \$50 million in capital funding to eligible organizations through this RFP.

The full RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on January 28, 2020.

FUNDING

There is no operating funding available through this RFP. There will be not be an established minimum or maximum capital award amount that will be distributed to awarded applicants. Funding amounts will be determined based on each applicant’s proposal and a consideration of the following minimum award and unit targets per region:

- \$30 million targeting 120 units within the New York City region;
- \$6 million targeting 30 units within the Long Island region;
- \$6 million targeting 40 units within the Hudson River region;
- \$4 million targeting 30 units within the Central New York region; and
- \$4 million targeting 30 units within the Western New York region.

Allowable costs include, but are not limited to, the eligible expenses outlined in the table below.

Category of Expense	Allowable Costs
Construction	Site work, construction, contingency (rehabilitation should include a 10% contingency and new construction should include a 5% contingency of total construction cost)
Design	Architect fees (10% of the contingency cost), engineering fees
Acquisition	Land/building, closing costs, survey, appraisal
Administration	Legal fees (applicants should include \$20,000 for legal fees related to bond financing as a guideline), accounting fees
Other	Permits, site testing, insurance owner’s representative (applicants should include a construction cost escalation

factor to account for the length of time needed to enter into a construction contract)

Awarded applicants may not use funding provided through this RFP for:

- Costs associated with the operations of the program;
- Interest, fees, or other costs associated with other capital funding sources related to the proposed project;
- Costs associated with applying for or administering the OMH capital grant;
- Debt service; or
- Reimbursement of acquisition or carrying costs for property already owned by the applicant.

Capital contracts will be approved for a five-year term. In addition, awarded applicants will be eligible for Program Development Grant (PDG) funds to assist with the establishment of new crisis residential programs. PDG funds of up to \$8,499 per unit are to be used for start-up costs, including furnishings, equipment, staff training, and initial staffing costs. However, PDG budget requests should not be submitted as part of the application process. OMH will work with successful applicants to develop and approve a PDG budget following an award through this RFP.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants must be not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations in good standing with OMH. Applicants should have knowledge of the coordinated behavioral health crisis response system in the county or counties that the crisis program will serve.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive funding through this RFP, adult crisis residential programs must have between 3 units and 16 units, and children's crisis residential programs may not exceed 8 units. Successful applicants will be required to demonstrate in their proposal a direct relationship between the proposed capital project for adult and children crisis residential programs and how the programs will be part of the behavioral health continuum of care in the county or counties/region(s) that the programs will serve.

Awarded applicants will be expected to provide the following:

- Necessary crisis and transitional services to individuals with a serious mental illness to prevent or delay hospitalizations;
- Step-down services to individuals who are discharged from the hospital but who require a higher level of support and services than can be provided in their permanent residency;
- Voluntary respite services for people who need a different level of care than available at home;
- Peer supports and services in conjunction with behavioral health professionals to develop trustful relationships and support networks that will help manage future crises;

- Coordinated admission/discharge plans with hospital staff and current outpatient mental health providers to ensure continuity of care;
- Coordination with Health Home(s) and other identified supports; and
- Services and supports to ensure successful transition into and from the crisis residential program.

The proposed units must provide for an adequate level of staffing 24 hours a day, seven days per week. OMH expects the length of stay to be no more than 28 days in the Intensive and Residential Crisis Support programs and no more than 21 days for a Children's Crisis Residence.

APPLICATION

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Executive Summary (18 points)
- Proposal Narrative (14 points)
- Implementation (27 points)
- Agency Performance (15 points)
- Financial Assessment (26 points)

Funding will be awarded based on an evaluation of the written proposal using the above criteria and OMH internal reviews. Proposals must receive a minimum score of 70 to be considered for funding. In the case of a tie, the proposal with the highest score on the Implementation section will be ranked higher.

Timeline

Applications are due on January 28, 2020. Awarded applicants are expected to be notified on February 28, 2020.

Questions may be submitted to Carol Swiderski at carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov by December 16th. Answers will be posted on the OMH website on January 6, 2020.