

RFP: Enhanced Scattered Site Supportive Housing for Young Adults with Serious Mental Illness

OVERVIEW

On March 3rd, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development and operation of a 27-bed Enhanced Young Adult Scattered Site Supportive Housing program in New York City (NYC). The program will support young adults (ages 18-25) with serious mental illness (SMI) or co-occurring SMI and substance use disorder (SUD).

The program will include both enhancements to current supportive housing services and new services that are important for young adults. The scattered site housing may be in any borough of NYC; however, all 27 beds must be located in one borough. The Enhanced Young Adult Scattered Site Supportive Housing program is intended to help young adults with SMI:

- Transition from institutional settings, foster care, and homelessness;
- Improve access to behavioral health and community resources;
- Pursue vocational/educational goals; and
- Develop real-world skills that will support them on their path forward as independent adults.

Funding for Scattered Site Supportive Housing is a combination of client rent payments and OMH funding. OMH will award one applicant with annual funding per unit, plus additional funding to support enhanced services.

The RFP is available [here](#). Applications are due on May 5th.

FUNDING

Residents are required to pay 30 percent of their net income for rent and reasonable utilities. OMH will provide \$18,794 in annual funding per unit, plus an additional \$5,000 per unit to support enhanced services. Funding may be used for rent stipends, housing case management services, enhanced services, and consumer emergencies.

In addition to the Program Manager and Case Manager, funding will be used to add the following two additional staff members:

- A Psychiatric Rehabilitation Specialist who has vocational experience; and
- A Peer who has lived experience.

Funding may also be used to augment the salary of the Program Manager. There is no capital funding available through this RFP.

Contracts will last for five years beginning on July 1st.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) agencies that currently operate scattered site supportive housing in NYC or Long Island. There are no OMH licensing requirements.

PROGRAM SERVICES

The enhanced services model includes:

- Case management (1:20 consumer-to-staff ratio);
- Vocational/educational support;
- Real-world skill-building;
- Additional clinical support;
- Peer services; and
- A four-member de facto team to support young adult needs and respond to crises as they arise.

While supportive housing is permanent housing, the agency will be expected to transition individuals no later than their 26th birthday to an adult housing slot or to independent housing as the individual progresses in their recovery.

APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Program Description (35 points)
- Program Development & Implementation (25 points)
- Agency Performance (10 points)
- Inclusion and Diversity (10 points)
- Financial Assessment (20 points)

Proposals must receive a minimum score of 70 to be considered for funding. In the event of a tie, the agency with the highest score on “Program Description” will receive the higher ranking. OMH will also review the applicant’s residential programs over the past two years to assess occupancy rates and admissions from priority populations and will review certification visits from the past three years.

Timeline

Proposals must be submitted by May 5th. Awards are expected to be announced on June 2nd.

Questions may be submitted to Deborah Beaudin at Deborah.Beaudin@omh.ny.gov with the subject line “Young Adult SS SH RFP” by March 16th. Questions and answers will be posted on the OMH website on April 6th.