Guidance for Community Resiliency Projects

August 20, 2018

OBJECTIVE:
Invest $20 million in state capital funding to support the establishment, expansion and/or renovation of safe and healthy programming spaces for middle- and high-school age youth to access prosocial activities in the community. While the space would be available for the entire community, the programming emphasis will focus on engaging a broad spectrum of at-risk youth.

ADMINISTRATION:
Capital funds will be administered by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) with a focus on organizations serving areas of high poverty, low tax base, limited philanthropic resources, and that have experienced high rates of death by unintentional drug overdose.

Project Applicants must be federally recognized non-profit entities and should be prepared to adhere to state capital requirements, including public bidding of contracts, payment of prevailing wages during construction, and that funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis. In addition, all organizations must also operate in accordance with OhioMHAS Community Capital Guidelines, including the following parameters:

1) Organization is registered in the State of Ohio and the IRS as a 501(c) not for profit organization.
2) Organization should own the site.
3) Location must be zoned appropriately and comply with the applicable building code requirements.
4) Organization seeks to establish or expand space that will be accessible to youth ages 10-17, and may extend up to age 21, and offer a variety of pro-social programming on a consistent basis. Minimum hours include schooldays between the hours of 3-8pm, non school days from 12-8pm, and on weekends 12-4pm. (Times for the facility itself may be extended depending on the organization’s business model, but programming specifically for youth must be available during the hours listed above.)
5) Organization can demonstrate that, with the addition of resources requested through this program, it has access to sufficient funds so that construction design can be initiated within 90 days of application.
6) Organization commits to provide, in concert with its stated community partners, all deliverables listed in “Programming” section below.
7) Organization includes in its application letters of support from the following:
   a. Local government leaders
   b. ADAMH board
8) Organization may, but is not required to, include in its application letters of support from the following:
   a. Area school districts
   b. Programming partners (if applicable)
   c. Family and Children First Council (FCFC)
   d. Local faith based organizations
   e. Philanthropic organizations
   f. Local County Department of Job and Family Services
   g. Local County Ohio Means Jobs center
Additional information on project requirements can be found online in the OhioMHAS Capital Construction Guidelines, located at http://mha.ohio.gov/Funding/Capital-Planning.

FUNDING:
1) Priority consideration will be given to communities with a high incidence of poverty, low tax base, limited philanthropic capacity, and that have experienced high rates of death by unintentional drug overdose.
2) Capital funds may be accessed for an amount not to exceed 75% of the overall project costs or $500,000, whichever is less.
3) Funding is on a reimbursement basis, subject to Controlling Board approval.
4) OhioMHAS will hold a mortgage on the property for 30 years (standard requirement of capital funds).
5) Other usual MHAS capital funding requirements, including prevailing wage, non-discrimination, public bidding, articles of incorporation, etc. will apply.

PROGRAMMING:
The organization must commit to meet, in concert with its stated community partners, the following deliverables and standards on a scheduled and consistent basis through the life of the mortgage held by the State:
1) Safety:
   a. Program shall have written safety guidelines for youth, staff, and volunteers.
   b. Staff and volunteers should undergo background checks.
   c. Program should establish a point of contact with local law enforcement.
2) Transportation:
   a. During the school year: from area schools to the facility, and from the facility to the young peoples’ homes; and
   b. During summer and school breaks: to and from the young peoples’ homes.
3) Healthy food options (minimum of snacks and water) for participating youth. May include a meal.
4) Scheduled programming should be broad based and tailored to the needs of your community, and must include a combination of at least three of the following elements:
   a. Tutoring and/or homework help time;
b. Mentoring;
c. Support groups/peer support;
d. Access to spiritual counsel;
e. Prevention programs (Evidence Based);
f. Life skills;
g. Recreational art, music, theater, crafts etc.;
h. Sports/Gross motor activities/exercise;
i. Vocational education (exposure to different careers, etc.);
j. Service learning and volunteerism opportunities;
k. Support education and employment for youths in recovery;
l. Suicide prevention; and
m. Parent outreach/education.

5) Organization must establish a fund to offset the cost of customary facility and program access fees for youth eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

6) Regularly scheduled opportunities for family/caregiver engagement (e.g., game night, potluck dinners, support groups for grandparents raising grandchildren, etc.) should be made available.

7) Organization must establish a process for connecting youth and/or families to social and behavioral health services, as needed or requested by the youth and/or family.

REPORTING:
In exchange for capital funding, the organization must commit to the submission of the following information on a semi-annual basis to their county ADAMHS Board:

1) Types and frequency of programs offered, and for what age groups;
2) List of partnering community organizations;
3) Number of unduplicated youth served during the reporting period; and
4) Number of unduplicated youth served who did not pay full customary fee amount.

APPLICATION:
Please use the attached worksheet to submit basic information on the capital construction project desire to see funded in your local community. Completed worksheets should be submitted to Deborah Crockett at Deborah.crockett@mha.ohio.gov by October 1, 2018.