

**Treatment for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness,
Serious Emotional Disturbance, or Co-Occurring
Disorders Experiencing Homelessness
(Short Title: Treatment for Individuals Experiencing
Homelessness)**

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) No. SM-18-014

Questions and Answers

February 10, 2018

- **Could someone explain the intergovernmental review and impact statement?**

Please refer to Section IV-4 and Appendix J of the FOA. All SAMHSA grant programs are covered under Executive Order (EO) 12372, as implemented through Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regulation at 45 CFR Part 100. Under this Order, states may design their own processes for reviewing and commenting on proposed federal assistance under covered programs. Certain jurisdictions have elected to participate in the EO process and have established State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs).

If your state participates, contact your SPOC as early as possible to alert him/her to the prospective application(s) and to receive any necessary instructions on the state's review process. For proposed projects serving more than one state, you are advised to contact the SPOC of each affiliated state.

The SPOC should send any state review process recommendations to the following address within 60 days of the application deadline: Director, Division of Grants Management, Office of Financial Resources, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Room 17E18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. ATTN: SPOC – Funding Announcement No. SM-18-014.

- **The link in Appendix J appears to be broken:**
https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc

This link is no longer active. Please contact your state administration for mental and substance use disorder treatment for address and contact information.

- **Who is an eligible applicant?**

Please refer to Section III-1 of the FOA.

Eligible applicants are domestic public and private non-profit entities. For example:

- **State governments and territories;**

Eligible state applicants are either the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA) or the Single State Agency (SSA) for Substance Abuse. However, SAMHSA's expectation is that both the SSA and SMHA will work in partnership to fulfill the requirements of the grant.

- **Governmental units within political subdivisions of a state, such as a county, city or town and**
- **Federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribes and tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations and consortia of tribes and or tribal organizations**
- **Public or private universities and colleges**
- **Community- and faith-based organizations**

- **How do I find out if there is any interest from my state to apply for this grant?**

Applicants are encouraged to contact both the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA) and Single State Agency (SSA) for Substance Abuse in their state.

- **Is a project required to enroll individuals (youth) under age 18?**

There is not a requirement to enroll individuals under the age of 18. The purpose of this program is to support the development and/or expansion of the local implementation of an infrastructure that integrates behavioral health treatment and recovery support services for individuals, youth, and families with a serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance or co-occurring disorder (i.e., a serious mental illness [SMI] and substance use disorder [SUD] or a serious emotional disturbance [SED] and SUD who are experiencing homelessness. Applicants may include one, two, or all three populations of focus. You must identify your selected population of focus in response to review criteria A.1

- **What is the correct date applications are due?**

Applications are due March 9, 2018.

- **What is the Funding Opportunity Announcement reference number?**

The FOA reference number is SM-18-014.

- **SAMHSA has a SOAR contract. Do grantees have access to training and materials via that contract?**

Yes. SOAR training and materials are available online at <http://soarworks.prainc.com/>.

- **Does the attachment-Letter of Commitment apply to Community-Based Organizations?**

Yes. Please refer to Section IV-4 of the FOA.

- **Are sub-awardees of CABHI and GBHI grants eligible to apply?**

Yes. Sub-awardees of CABHI and GBHI grants are eligible to apply.

Recipients that received an award under the FY 2017 (TI-17-009) Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) FOA, or the FY 2016 and FY 2017 (SM-16-007) Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) FOA, are not eligible to apply. If you submitted an application for the FY 2017 GBHI FOA and receive an award in FY 2018, you are not eligible to receive an award under this FOA.

- **Are grantees that received an award under the FY 2017 (TI-17-009) Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI) FOA, or the FY 2016 and FY 2017 (SM-16-007) Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) eligible to serve as sub-awardees?**

No. Please refer to Section III.1 of the FOA.

- **Can FY 2015 CABHI-States grantees apply?**

Yes. Those who received FY 2015 CABHI-States grants are eligible to apply.

- **Can the grant project have for-profit agencies as sub-awardees?**

Yes. For-profit agencies may receive a sub-award, if they meet the criteria specified in the FOA.

- **Can private and non-profit entities collaborate for this funding as a partnership?**

Private and non-profit entities can collaborate for this funding as a partnership; however, only one organization may serve as the applicant.

- **Are there funding limitations within each state or federal region or are they nationally competitive?**

The Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness program is nationally competitive. However, refer to Section V-2. Review and Selection Process of the FOA. In cases where applications are received from the same state and in the fundable range, SAMHSA will review the applications to ensure that community applicant(s) would not receive duplicate funding (as a sub-awardee to a state or another community, and directly as a recipient) to serve the same population of focus.

- **Can the 15 percent for infrastructure be used to hire staff?**

No. Costs related to infrastructure usually correspond to systems that will enable the organization to become operational in order to accomplish the goals and objectives of the program.

- **Are we expected to serve a larger number of clients with this grant?**

SAMHSA does not specify the target numbers of clients to be served.

- **Is there a general expectation of dollars-per-person served for these grants?**

SAMHSA does not have a general expectation of the dollars-per-person served for these grants. SAMHSA expects that grantees use the awarded funds in an efficient and effective manner that best meets the needs of the identified population(s) of focus in their communities.

- **Can the grant funds be used for housing?**

SAMHSA services grant funds must be used primarily to support allowable direct services. No more than 5 percent of the total grant award for the budget period may be used for short-term residential programs that are 30 days or less in duration.

- **May grant funds be used to support direct services to clients in their homes?**

Section IV-3 of the FOA states that at least 70 percent of the total grant award for each budget period must be used to support direct services.

- **We have to have a competitive process for any of our sub-grantees. Can we show a panel of potential mental health/substance use treatment providers? Would a letter of intent to apply be sufficient?**

Refer to FOA Section IV- Attachment 1: SAMHSA requires Letters of Commitment from direct service provider organizations.

- **Regarding the \$25,000 allowed for purchasing technical assistance. Will grantees be able to identify any person or organization for that TA or will they have to choose from a list of approved TA providers?**

There is not a pre-approved list of TA providers. Grantees can purchase the TA services from the general public.

- **What is the definition of a CBO? What does it mean for an organization to be "representative" of the community served?**

A community-based organization would be a non-profit agency based in the geographic location where services will be provided. Refer to Section V: D - Staff and Organizational Experience. Applicants are expected to describe the experience of their organization with similar projects and/or providing services to the population(s) of focus.

- **What does SAMHSA mean by "limited screening" for incarcerated individuals?**

The FOA does not define limited screening.