CABHI States-Enhancement Request for Applications (RFA) No. SM-15-010
Frequently Asked Questions

1. I was unable to attend the webinar. Where can I get access to the recording?

You can access the webinar for the CABHI-States Enhancement RFA review webinar using the following link: https://samhsa-hhrn.adobeconnect.com/p5aeb0m48kn/

2. If I need to hire SOAR and Supported Employment specialists can those be added to existing sub grantees without an increase in numbers served?

Yes, funds must be used to expand and/or enhance the scope of the project funded under the original grant. If adding these services to your existing grant would enhance the scope of services currently provided then the intention would be met. Please note that funds should not supplant funding received under the original grant.

3. What if each of our sub grantees already has SOAR specialists, but the funding ends next year? Can we project funding in year FY 16 and 17?

If your sub grantees already have SOAR specialists then you can add additional SOAR specialists to the program, these positions can be added at either the state or local levels. Regarding the projection of funds, you will only be able to project funding until the end of your current CABHI State Grant, for current grants awarded in FY13 the grant program will end in 2016; grants awarded in FY14 will be ending in 2017.

4. Can we add new providers?

Yes, new providers can be added as long as it supports the expansion and/or enhancement of the project funded under the original grant.

5. Can funds for enhancement be used for psychiatric services?

Yes, funds for enhancement can be used for psychiatric services. The RFA states that other allowable community-based activities may include the following: “...Provide treatment services in outpatient, day treatment or intensive outpatient or short term residential programs...”

6. Can funds be used for outreach activities?

Yes, funds may be used for outreach activities. The RFA states that other allowable community-based activities may include the following: “... Increase outreach and other engagement strategies to enroll new clients (including screening and assessment, for the presence of substance use disorders, SMI, or co-occurring mental and substance use disorders.”

7. We already have SOAR specialists and employment specialists employed under our current grant. Can we still apply? Does this mean we need to add more of this type of service?
Yes, you may still apply. The intention of this grant is for grantees to enhance and expand services and sustain services after federally funding ends. It is up to the applicant to determine what is needed to achieve this goal while adhering to the RFA parameters.

8. Are there any limitations on how to use Peers with this grant?

No, as long as peers are used within the parameters of the RFA.

9. In regards to Peers, could they already be a SOAR specialist?

Yes, if they are trained and certified.

10. In our original grant we have SOAR and Employment Specialists hired. If we use the same agencies to provide the expanded services, can we have those people work with the clients in the expanded areas and hire staff to do other allowable activities, (i.e., have a person do intake assessments for the community)?

Yes, the intent of this grant is for CABHI-States grantees to further develop, enhance and/or expand their infrastructure and service systems.

11. Is there a document or list of all the reports, continuation applications, etc. that are required for the CABHI-States grant?

At this time a single document that contains all of this information has not been developed. Specific information on data collection and reporting requirements can be found in the RFA in Section 2.2 and in Section VI Administration Information, Reporting Requirements. Information regarding continuation applications can be found on the SAMHSA website at: http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management

12. There is subset of our population that is comprised of chronically homeless individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) who do not have a substance use disorder. Can we provide services to this population using funds from this grant?

Yes, grantees would be allowed to use only the CMHS funds to pay for mental health treatment and recovery support services for individuals who are chronically homeless with SMI and co-occurring mental and substance use disorders.

CMHS funds may not be used to pay for treatment and recovery support services for individuals with only a substance use disorder.

CSAT funds shall be used to pay for treatment and recovery support services for individuals who have only a substance use disorder. CSAT funds may not be used to pay for treatment and recovery support service for individuals with only serious mental illnesses.
Note: Applicants must track and report the use of CMHS and CSAT funds separately. Regardless of the total amount of grant funding requested, the total project costs in the proposed budget must reflect a split of 49 percent CSAT funds and 51 percent CMHS funds.

13. Can funds be used to provide mobile outreach service (such as purchase of a van)?

Grantees need to receive approval from SAMHSA when purchasing equipment that is $25,000 or over. For vehicle purchases, grantees will need to respond to questions that can be found on the SAMHSA website at: http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/post-award-changes/equipment-purchases.

14. Can funds be used to purchase supplies needed for outreach such as tablets (computers)?

Yes, supplies needed for outreach may be considered for funding however, all costs must be reasonable. Each item in the budget requires a justification and the proposed budget submitted in the application is reviewed by SAMHSA’s Division of Grants Management. Applicants should refer to Part II of the RFA, Section II-Funding Limitations/Restrictions and Appendix C-addresses funding restrictions. Appendix E provides a sample budget and justification which may be a useful guide.