

NEW FUNDING ALERT

Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI)

FUNDER: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

DUE DATE > March 21, 2023

Link to Funding Opportunity:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/grants/pdf/fy-23-gbhi-nofo.pdf>



SAE Behavioral Health Consulting | www.saebhc.com

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to provide comprehensive, coordinated, and evidence-based treatment and services for ***individuals, including youth and families*** with substance use disorders (SUDs) or co-occurring mental health conditions and SUDs (CODs) who are experiencing homelessness.

Award recipients will be expected to:

- 1) engage and connect the population of focus to behavioral health treatment, harm reduction services, case management, and recovery support services;
- 2) Assist with identifying sustainable permanent housing by collaborating with homeless services organizations and housing providers, including public housing agencies; and
- 3) Provide case management that includes care coordination/service delivery planning and other strategies that support stability across services and housing transitions.

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ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants are:

- The statutory authority for this program specifies that these awards must be made to **community-based public and private non-profit entities**. Therefore, states are not eligible to apply.
- **Recipients of the follow awards are not eligible:**
 - TI-17-009 (GBHI) –Awards funded in FY 2019
 - TI-20-001(GBHI) –Awards funded FY 2020 and FY 2022
 - SM-18-014 (Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness) –Awards funded in FY2019 and FY 2020
 - Applicants may apply for SM-23-006, not yet released (Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness) but will be eligible to receive only one award if both applications are in the fundable range.

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FUNDING LEVEL

- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 32
- **Award Amount:** \$500K per year
- **Length of Project Period:** 5 years
- No Match or Cost Sharing Required

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POPULATION OF FOCUS

Award recipients must use SAMHSA's funds to support direct services for individuals with SUDs or CODs who are experiencing homelessness.

This opportunity can focus on adults, youth, or families with SUD or COD.

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REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

Award recipients must use SAMHSA's funds to support direct services primarily. This includes the following activities by the 4th month of funding:

- Provide outreach and other engagement strategies to unsheltered (including encampments) and sheltered populations to increase access to, and participation and retention in, harm reduction, case management, treatment, and recovery support services.
- Provide direct SUD and mental health treatment. Treatment must be culturally appropriate, trauma-informed, and evidence-based and may be provided in outpatient, intensive outpatient, day treatment, or residential settings.
- Have access to or have the ability to partner with existing licensed Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), and Office-Based Opioid Treatment programs (OBOTs) to provide all forms of FDA-approved medications to treat opioid use disorder (MOUD). Recipients must ensure that individuals receiving MOUD are not excluded from any service.

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REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

- Provide evidence-based harm reduction practices such as rapid fentanyl test strip distribution, overdose education, naloxone, and other FDA approved overdose reversal medications as long as such purchases are consistent with the purposes of the program and consistent with other local, state, and federal laws.
- Provide case management that includes care coordination/service delivery planning and other strategies that support stability across services and housing transitions such as referral to primary care services, enrollment in Medicaid and other benefit programs (e.g., SSDI and SSI, TANF, SNAP, etc.), and other human and community-based services.
- Utilize staff with lived expertise to provide project services.

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REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

Provide recovery support services including, but not limited to, recovery housing, childcare, vocational, educational, and transportation services designed to improve access and retention in services.

- SAMHSA has identified four dimensions of recovery that include home, health, community, and purpose. Important to maintaining and sustaining recovery is a safe and healthy living environment.
- While recovery housing programs vary widely in structure, they all provide an opportunity for individuals to build resources as they transition to living independently and productively in their community.
- Recovery housing programs should support and provide an individual's access to evidence-based treatment, including all forms of medication for SUDs in addition to other recovery support services if requested.

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REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

- **SAMHSA also expects recovery housing programs to implement standards and establish best practices** for maintaining the safety and health of residents and the larger community. These best practices should include administrative, operational, property, and good neighbor perspectives. SAMHSA understands the regulation and certification of recovery housing programs varies based on state, locality, and model of care. In general, states regulate clinical services, while local governments regulate health and safety standards. Both state and local government regulations must adhere to federal laws and limits, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act.
- **Award recipients must describe the mechanism** in their jurisdiction that assures the recovery housing program is guided by any regulation, credentialing, or certification requirements, and demonstrate how the recovery housing program abides by these requirements set forth by the state or local government.

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

- **Assist with identifying sustainable permanent housing** by collaborating with homeless services organizations and housing providers, including public housing agencies. Coordinate with local HUD Continuums of Care (CoCs) to ensure that individuals and families are enrolled in the local CoC Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- **Establish a culturally and linguistically diverse steering committee** that meets at least quarterly to monitor the goals outlined in the project. Membership must be comprised of, at a minimum: local or regional representatives from substance use and mental health authorities; health department; public housing authorities; service providers; community members, employees, individuals (including youth) and/or families who are currently experiencing homelessness or have experienced homelessness and are recovering from SUDs or CODs; and the SAMHSA Government Project Officer (GPO).
- **Award recipients are encouraged to add additional members** based on the goals, objectives, or specific population of focus of the project (e.g., criminal justice, veterans' affairs) and may use existing committees that meet the membership, meeting, and goal requirements of the award to satisfy this activity.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Funds may not be used to pay for housing other than recovery housing which includes application fees and security deposits;
- No more than 10 percent of the total award for each budget period may be used for developing the infrastructure necessary for expansion of services.

STRATEGY

Based on our experience, these are our recommendations.

- We suggest that you carefully review the funding announcement and solidify any needed MOUs with community collaborators, providers, and steering committee members.
- Review current data for people experiencing homelessness to determine if disparities exist among particular populations with respect to access or outcomes.
- Review your evidence-based practices for working with people experiencing homelessness effectiveness with the population of focus, including racial and cultural considerations.
- Ensure you meet the requirements regarding access to MOUD.

NEXT STEPS

Helping you build toward your tomorrow.

SAE is available to collaborate with you to write the proposal, provide a review of your proposal, or to provide technical assistance in developing your program plan.

- Immediately validate that you have accounts in the System for Awards Management (SAM), Grants.gov, and era Commons.
- Create a table to assess your current level of implementation for each of the required activities and what you plan to expand or enhance with grant funding for each year of the funding period.
- Use this table to begin developing your staffing plan and program budget.
- Contact SAE for a free consultation to discuss this funding opportunity and your ideas for your proposal.

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WE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST YOU & YOUR TEAM.
Reach out today to schedule a no-cost consultation.



CONTACT US

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