

RFP Announcement

The Housing and Community Development Division of the Department of Workforce Services is accepting proposals for the implementation of two housing programs related to connecting individuals from homeless services to a variety of housing options. Details of the two different programs and how to apply are available via the website, housing.utah.gov. Proposals are due by 11:59 p.m., November 3, 2017.

Program #1 – Safety Net Connection and Short Term Support

The intent of this program is to primarily apply a diversion assessment to referred individuals engaging in services in the vicinity of Rio Grande homeless services and would be located either in the downtown shelter operated by The Road Home or the Weigand Center operated by Catholic Community Services. Initial conversations with individuals should assess whether the individual has another housing option available in lieu of staying on the street or in an emergency shelter. Workers would then provide necessary connection services to those safety net options such as family and friends. These conversations should happen in every interaction with individuals. If an individual has no other options for housing, workers should help determine a pathway for an individual to exit housing. Options that may be available include a move out package of deposit/rent assistance of one month to a housing unit that is sustainable for the client, rapid re-housing assistance to provide short term rental assistance options beyond one month, or a referral to Program #2. Applicants should expect to see around 600-1000 clients over a six month period.

Program #2 – Shelter Plus Care Permanent Supportive Housing

The intent of this program is to provide a long term housing option in conjunction with supportive services to individuals who would not be able to exit homelessness without this level of assistance. Funding within this RFP will be for the management of the housing relationship between qualified referred clients and landlords. The services will be provided by a team selected to deliver such supports like mental health, substance abuse and other clinical type services as needed by the client. The projected number of clients served will depend on the amount of funding provided. Initial projections anticipate up to 90 slots available for this program.

Applicants interested in either or both of these programs should submit a proposal with the following information for each program for which they are applying:

1. A narrative of the tools they would propose using to deliver the housing assessment.
2. An explanation of the applicant's experience in delivering these types of programs.
3. An explanation of the applicant's experience in working with populations experiencing homelessness.
4. A description of the capacity of the organization to deliver the services including a timeline of how quickly a team could be mobilized to deliver the program.
5. A description of how you would propose coordinating with the Department of Workforce Services and other partners involved with Operation Rio Grande.
6. A budget breakdown of staff costs and program delivery costs for the proposed amounts.

Proposals will be selected from these criteria. The amount of the awards available to these programs is as follows:

Program #1 – \$180,000 for a period of four months with an option for renewal funding for an additional fifteen months of \$420,000

Program #2 - \$1,300,000 for a period of 19 months

Questions regarding this RFP can be directed to Rebecca Banner, Assistant Director, Housing and Community Development Division at rbanner@utah.gov or by phone at (801) 468-0194.

Applicants should submit their proposal to Rebecca Banner of the Housing and Community Development Division via email at rbanner@utah.gov by the deadline of 11:59 pm on November 3, 2017.