**Expression of Interest (EOI): Grant Funding Opportunity**

**Issued by the Milwaukee Coalition on Housing & Homelessness (MCHH) Board of Directors**

**Milwaukee Continuum of Care (CoC) Collaborative Applicant Lead Agency**

The MCHH Board of Directors invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible organizations seeking grant funding to support projects that address homelessness and housing insecurity in Milwaukee County.

**Introduction**

The Milwaukee Continuum of Care (CoC) is designed to promote community-wide goals to end homelessness; provide funding to quickly rehouse homeless individuals including unaccompanied youth and families, while minimizing trauma and dislocation to those persons; promote access to, and effective utilization of, mainstream programs; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The CoC is composed of service providers for homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, street outreach, permanent housing, supportive services, Coordinated Entry, a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and other interested organizations and individuals. The Milwaukee CoC’s mission is to organize people and resources to end homelessness in Milwaukee.

 The CoC is a group of membership agencies working together to create, implement, monitor, and modify collective goals to end homelessness in Milwaukee County. The CoC solicits the input of its Full Body membership on large decisions, is governed by a CoC Board, and accomplishes its work through various committees and workgroups. The Milwaukee CoC appoints a Lead Agency, an HMIS Lead, and Coordinated Entry Lead.

**Funding Opportunity Information**

The Milwaukee CoC invites proposals from not for profit or government entities to fulfill the role of Collaborative Applicant Lead Agency.

Funding is made available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through an annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The applicant would be eligible to apply to HUD for Coordinated Entry Lead Agency. The 2024 funding planning dollars which were used by the Lead Agency were $1,105,571.00. The contract for this work is anticipated for January 1st, 2026 and will be a two-year contract. This process will award one applicant to fulfill this role.

**Collaborative Applicant Lead Agency Overview**

The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for submitting the CoCs funding application to HUD and coordinating the planning and implementation of the CoCs strategic plan.

Collaborative Applicant Lead Agency expectations:

**Commitment to fairness and belonging:** Collaborative Applicant Lead Agency should be committed to fairness and belonging have a strong understanding of the factors that contribute to homelessness, including systemic racism, poverty, and discrimination. They should also be committed to including the voices of lived experience and expertise in homelessness in decision-making and serving all populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including people with lived experience**.**

**Strong leadership skills:** Collaborative Applicants should possess strong listening, negotiating, and leadership skills to effectively manage the CoCs strategic plan and coordinate with other partners. This includes the ability to communicate effectively, facilitate collaboration and cooperation, project manage multiple complex activities, and manage conflict.

**Knowledge of HUD regulations:** Collaborative Applicants should possess a strong understanding of, and fidelity to, HUD regulations and requirements to effectively manage the CoCs grant funding. This includes knowledge of the CoC Program Interim Rule and other relevant HUD policies and guidelines.

**Experience with grant management:** Collaborative Applicants should have successful experience managing grants and other funding sources to effectively oversee CoCs grant funding. This includes experience with grant writing, fiscal management, and reporting.

**Familiarity with the local community:** Collaborative Applicants should have a strong understanding of the local community and the needs of populations experiencing homelessness in their area. This includes knowledge of local service providers, community resources, and other partners.

**Eligibility and Minimum Requirements**

To be eligible, applicants must be an established 501(c)3 nonprofit, tax exempt organization or a government entity.

Applicants will demonstrate the following philosophical approaches in service delivery:

* Fairness and belonging – Applicant should be committed to ensuring member organizations feel supported and encouraged to have a voice at the table. This includes making space for people with lived experience.
* Influential and visionary leadership – Applicant should be prepared to engage and support member organizations in an effort to create a stronger, more cohesive system.
* Seek forward thinking solutions while building on existing practices – Applicant should be willing to stay on top of evolving practices and research while ensuring goodness of fit for the community.

There is a HUD required match for their award for Coordinated Entry of 25%.

Awardee will be required to report to the CoC at bi-monthly meetings including a budget report and any emerging issues. A more robust, written report will be required semi-annually.

Awardee will be able to fulfill the following obligations:

* Lead the execution of the annual NOFO grant application, including collecting and compiling member applications, analysis of scoring, and identifying areas to improve upon
* Effectively manage the CoCs strategic plan.
* Provide oversight and technical assistance to CoC funded agencies.
* Lead community-wide efforts to address emerging issues in homelessness and housing stability.
* Provide planning and support for MCHH Board Meetings and provide updates including a financial report and any emerging issues
* Collaborate with the CoC HMIS Lead and Coordinated Entry Lead Agencies.
* Assist in carrying out the annual Point in Time (PIT) data collection.

**How to Submit an EOI:**
Interested organizations should submit an Expression of Interest including:

* Organization name, primary contact, and their contact information
* A brief description of your interest in applying to be the HMIS Lead Agency

**Deadline:**
Please submit your Expression of Interest by **5:00 PM CST on August 1, 2025.**

**Submit to:**

Kari Southern, Deputy Director, Community Advocates’ Public Policy Institute

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