

Questions and Responses, Medical Care Respite Grant

April 13, 2020

1. In light of the COVID-19 public health emergency, are we to submit the application with both electronic and hard copies, or electronically only?

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, DHCF is unable to accept applications in hard copy. All applications must be submitted electronically via email to Taylor Woods, Special Projects Officer, Department of Health Care Finance, at taylor.woods2@dc.gov. Please note that the DC government email system cannot transmit files over 25 MB in size. We encourage applicants to minimize the size of files and the number of files as much as possible.

2. Can funds be used to retroactively to cover expenses incurred prior to the award start date?

No. The funds are only available for activities between the date of the award of the grant and September 30, 2020.

3. Do we have to answer all of the points recommended in the narrative?

A complete narrative is expected of all applicants.

4. Does the grant require that applicants focus solely on women, or can we provide services for women and men?

Applicants may provide services to both women and men.

5. Can the due date be pushed back in light of the COVID-19 health crisis?

No. We want to give the grant awardee as much time as possible to fulfill the grant requirements within the timeframe noted in the RFA.

6. If an organization wishes to expand its services to homeless women whom it is not currently serving, can funding be used for start-up cost to expand services to these women?"

An organization may propose to use funds as start-up costs in order to expand services to women not currently served. We encourage organizations to align their proposals to reflect the RFA's goals of 1) expanding the quantity and/or quality of medical respite care services available for District residents; and 2) strengthening the health system for providers of medical respite care services to meet national standards and secure more sustainable funding. An increase in the number of women served by the awardee, as a result of meeting one or both of the grant's goals, is acceptable but it should not be the primary focus of the grant awardees activities under this grant opportunity.

7. If an organization has experience providing medical respite care for homeless men would they be considered a qualified organization, or must it be medical respite care for homeless women?

An organization may be considered a qualified organization even if it does not currently deliver medical respite care for homeless women. Standards for qualified organizations are outlined in Section III.A. of the RFA. Applications that describe how the grant will be used to provide medical respite care for women may be ranked higher by the DHCF application evaluation panel.

8. Will the grant be renewed after 09/30/2020?

This is a one-time funding opportunity authorized in the FY2020 BSA. Applicants should consider opportunities for sustaining grant activities post performance period.