

HOMELESS DIVISION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative
Pre-submittal Conference
January 15, 2015



CITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

New investment in resources to end veteran homelessness by 2015

- ❑ Mayor Rahm Emanuel signed on to the White House Mayors' Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, an effort to meet the federal goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015.
- ❑ Plan 2.0 commitment to coordinated outreach to and facilitating the transition of homeless persons from the street to permanent housing as fast as possible and to increase collaboration on these efforts with Jesse Brown VAMC and veteran-specific homeless programs.
- ❑ Chicago's January 2014 Point-in-Time Count found 721 homeless veterans. 465 were counted in shelters and 256 were counted on the street. The VA estimates that 15% of homeless veterans are not eligible for VA housing programs.
- ❑ The Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative will house up to 52 veterans and will provide coordination to the system work on this issue.

25Cities Initiative

- ❑ Initiative sponsored by the VA, HUD and USICH to help communities accelerate progress on implementing coordinated access systems and ultimately lead to ending veteran homelessness
- ❑ In Chicago, 25Cities serves as a “learning lab” to test strategies and ideas envisioned by the Coordinated Access Steering Committee.
- ❑ The initiative is guided by a leadership team and implemented in coordination with a community team – nearly 30 public and private partners.

25Cities Initiative Local Goals

- Utilizing 100 day action plans, 25Cities strives to:
 - Involve community partners to create a coordinated system for housing
 - Test access points and a standardized assessment tool
 - Develop and test the housing prioritization tool and matching engine for moderate vulnerability households
 - Implement a shared data system
 - House veterans impacted by homelessness – current goal is 100

Submission and project timeline

- ❑ Proposal Deadline is **January 29, 2015 by 4:30 p.m.**
- ❑ Applications must be submitted via Cyber Grants online system:
http://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/ao_login.login?x_gm_id=5130&x_proposal_type_id=37058
- ❑ Award letters will go out by February 12, 2015
- ❑ Projects must be ready to proceed within 45 days

General Selection Criteria

- ❑ Previous Programmatic Experience
- ❑ Administrative/Fiscal Capacity and Experience
- ❑ Program Design and Administration
- ❑ Quality of Proposed Budget

Cyber Grants Overview

- ❑ Cyber Grants is a web-based client accessible from any computer with an internet connection via Internet Explorer, Safari or Chrome.
- ❑ For all things Cyber Grants, please navigate to the City's Funding Opportunities website at the following web address:
 - <http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/obm/provdrs/FundingOpportunities.html>
- ❑ At this location, you'll be able to obtain instructions on how to register your organization with Cyber Grants and instructions on how to complete the online application.

Cyber Grants Overview

- ❑ This RFP has two components:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - System Coordination

- ❑ Be sure to select the component you are applying for in Cyber Grants – questions follow logic of the specific component

- ❑ If applying for both components, you must submit two separate applications.

Permanent Supportive Housing Component: Overview

- ❑ DFSS proposes to allocate a total of \$200,000 to this component. Seeking one or more experienced delegate agencies that will be selected through this Request for Proposal.
 - Funding awarded will support services only
 - Collaborative applications encouraged
- ❑ DFSS expects that this level of funding will support services that enable up to 52 veteran households to move into housing. Housing subsidies will be available through the Chicago Low Income Housing Trust Fund.

Permanent Supportive Housing Component: Overview

- ❑ Services are specifically targeted to veterans who meet Category 1 (literally homeless) of the HUD definition of homelessness. Priority will be given to veterans who are not eligible for VA housing programs due to their discharge status or length of service as well as veterans who prefer not to receive services from the VA.
- ❑ Veterans will be eligible for this program based on high acuity determined by a standardized vulnerability assessment.
- ❑ Selected respondents will be required to work in collaboration with DFSS and the Chicago 25Cities Initiative and future coordinated access and housing placement implementation efforts to coordinate outreach, navigation and housing placement.

Permanent Supportive Housing Component:

Key program elements

- ❑ Street outreach and in-reach at shelters and community agencies and placement of homeless veterans into permanent supportive housing
- ❑ Provision of supportive services that address housing stability and crisis intervention services that prevent homelessness
- ❑ Integration with existing homeless services and veteran services system components (25Cities/Coordinated Access)

Permanent Supportive Housing Component: Performance measures

- ❑ Actual measures will be established in the scope of services when the grants are awarded.
- ❑ Respondents should propose anticipated performance measures such as:
 - housing placement rates
 - housing retention rates
 - percentage of participants active in case management

System Coordination Component: Overview

- DFSS proposes to allocate \$50,000 to one experienced delegate agency that will be selected through this Request for Proposal.

System Coordination Component:

Key program elements

- ❑ Comprehensive oversight of the veteran coordinated access system components including outreach and assessment, the housing referral process and housing placement process.
- ❑ Coordination and follow-up with all system partners to ensure that households progress between phases of the assessment and housing system.
- ❑ Coordination and reporting with the coordinated access data system, including monitoring data system usage and data quality.

System Coordination Component:

Key program elements

- ❑ Status reporting to 25Cities Leadership team, Coordinated Access Steering Committee, Planning Council and City of Chicago.
- ❑ With Leadership Team guidance, recruitment of new community partners.
- ❑ Leadership within the 25Cities Initiative and other coordinated access initiatives that evolve from this project.

System Coordination Component:

Performance measures

- ❑ Actual measures will be established in the scope of services when the grants are awarded.
- ❑ Respondents should propose anticipated performance measures such as:
 - Housing placement rates
 - Percentage of veterans matched to housing
 - Percentage of veterans document-ready for housing
 - Any other outcomes projected as a result of the Initiative.

Questions?