



## **FY24 City of Boise Homelessness Services Grants**

### **Background**

The City of Boise serves as the lead agency for Our Path Home, the public-private partnership working to make homelessness in Ada County rare, brief, and one-time. Because of this commitment, the City continues to bolster the work of Our Path Home non-profit partner agencies by investing in evidence-based best practices and by exploring new opportunities to better serve our community.

The City of Boise funds grants for homelessness services each year from the Neighbors in Need (NIN) Fund and can obligate additional monies for a homelessness services purpose when funding is available. Together, the funds available during any given year are combined into a single grant process, the Homeless Services Grants, that funds projects beginning on October 1st and ending on September 30th of the following year.

### **FY24 Funding & Priorities**

For Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), the total funding available is \$325,000.

The City, in support of Our Path Home, is soliciting project applications for FY24 for these funds. The call for applications outlines the prioritization of intended beneficiaries, including:

- Residents experiencing literal homelessness, especially adult-only households
- Residents either at risk or imminent risk of experiencing homelessness, especially those exiting public funded intuitions, systems of care, and those in legal eviction processes AND residents that have prior experience of homelessness documented with Our Path Home within the last 24 months

Therefore, programs or projects that are prioritized generally should include the following:

- Supportive housing services, including direct financial rental assistance and case management, to residents actively exiting or with recent prior experiencing of homelessness.
- Targeted homelessness prevention through direct financial/rental assistance to residents at risk or imminent risk of experiencing homelessness.

Our Path Home also wants to explicitly invite and encourage applications from organizations that primarily serve, are led by, and/or advocate alongside residents from underrecognized communities that are overrepresented among residents experiencing homelessness:

- Black, Asian, Latinx, Pacific Islanders, and indigenous populations
- People who identify as LGBTQIA+
- People living with disabilities

- People who have been arrested or incarcerated
- Veterans
- Youth
- Seniors

### **FY24 Application Process**

The Our Path Home Executive Committee (OPH EC) oversees the grant making processes and makes a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council regarding the expenditure of funds. For the FY24 Homelessness Services Grants the OPH EC designated the grant making process work to a grant review team composed of different community stakeholders connected to ending homelessness and staffed by the Our Path Home staff. The FUND Committee will set up the process, review the applications and provide a recommendation to the OPH EC.

The OPH EC will review and determine a final funding recommendation that will be sent to the Mayor and Council for final review and approval.

### **FY24 Grant Application Timeline**

- June 12, 2023 - OPH EC confirms funding priorities and direction on grant review team membership
- June 29, 2023 - Open Applications
- July 31, 2023 - Close Applications
- September 4, 2023 - FUND Committee sends Scoring & Recommendation to OPH EC
- September 11, 2023 - Our Path Home Executive Committee Recommendation determines funding recommendations
- September 26, 2023 - Council Reviews for approving grant agreements
- October 1, 2023 - Grantees can begin requesting reimbursement for eligible activities

### **Grantee Requirements**

Grantees must implement eligible activities that:

- Serve residents of the City of Boise
- Serve households with an income of 80% or below AMI, as defined by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Grantees must comply with all applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements in 24 CFR 5.105(a). In addition, grantees must make rental assistance and services available to all on a nondiscriminatory basis and ensure that all Boise City residents have equal access to information about the program and services available and equal access to the financial assistance and services provided.

Grantees are required to affirmatively further fair housing for the protected classes: race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability and familial status. Examples of affirmatively furthering fair housing include:

- Marketing the program to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency
- Making buildings and communications that facilitate applications and service delivery accessible to persons with disabilities
- Providing fair housing counseling services or referrals to fair housing agencies
- Informing program participants of how to file a housing discrimination complaint
- Recruiting landlords in areas that expand housing choice

Grantees will be asked to attest to the following and be required to present evidence during monitoring:

- Fair housing and civil rights documentation
- Financial policies and procedures
- Staff that have attended training on Fair Housing Law in the past 12 months
- A Language Assistance Plan
- Vital documents translated in other languages
- Physical locations that are ADA accessible
- Separation of duties for accounting

Resources:

Homelessness, HUD Definitions

[https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition\\_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf](https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf)

At Risk of Homelessness, HUD Definition

[https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/AtRiskofHomelessnessDefinition\\_Criteria.pdf](https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/AtRiskofHomelessnessDefinition_Criteria.pdf)