

Request for Proposals (RFP)
Stable Housing and Supports Workgroup
Central Oregon Health Council Regional Health Improvement Plan

Project Name: Stable Housing Supports

Access Code: SUPPORTS24

[Future State Measures](#)

- By December 2024, decrease the combined severely rent and mortgage burdened households in Central Oregon by 2 percentage points to 13% (2019–2023, 5-year estimate from data.census.gov).
- By December 2024, 50% of Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) holders will be able to find and lease a housing unit.

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About the Central Oregon Health Council

The [Central Oregon Health Council](#) (COHC) is a nonprofit public and private community governance organization. We partner with our communities to guide and align vision, strategy, and activities across industries for a healthier Central Oregon.

Central Oregon Health Council champions diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in our work culture, grant-making, and community partnerships. Inequalities based on geography, age, sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, disabilities, immigration status, faith, gender identity, and sexual orientation, along with income and wealth inequalities, prevent us from fully realizing our vision of creating a healthier Central Oregon. Therefore, we aim to build capacity in communities experiencing health disparities caused by oppression.

The Central Oregon Health Council is responsible for funding projects that improve the health priorities of the [Regional Health Improvement Plan](#) (RHIP). These priorities were decided by the diverse people of our region before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We recognize that when we invest in long-term preventative solutions, we build a Central Oregon that is better able to respond to present and future crises. Therefore, we reserve most of our funds for projects whose impact can be measured over decades. The goal of this request is to support long-term, system-level change.

We also provide smaller funding opportunities for \$5,000 or less called mini-grants [HERE](#).

Description of Grant Opportunity

The Regional Health Improvement Plan Stable Housing and Supports workgroup is investing in efforts that create and increase housing program resources and opportunities. We seek to support programs that do any of the following:

- Safe Parking programs that provide a safe place for individuals and their belongings
- Capacity building for local organization to provide meals, shelter, hygiene resources, and social service referrals
- Expansion of supportive services programs for transition age youth (16–24) at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- Support for a housing program for women and their children who have been or are at risk of becoming homeless
- Outreach program and supplies for those experiencing homelessness or staying in mobile homes, trailers, or vehicles
- Capacity building for warming and cooling shelters to protect community members from inclement weather or severe weather events
- Legal advocacy assistance program to help negotiate reduced housing costs, contest eviction notices, file paperwork or address other legal housing issues
- Financial management program provided by a legal payee for members who are not able to manage their finances
- Financial literacy counseling and community-wide classes on debt consolidation, budgeting, credit report reviews and managing housing and student loans
- Land use and homeownership trainings

- Home furnishing program to provide essentials for a safe and healthy home
- Home repair program that provides services like installation of wheelchair ramps, wheelchair-accessible entryways and showers, elevated toilets, grab bars, and other accessibility improvements to support those living with disabilities
- Health and Wellness program that provides services to eliminate health hazards from living spaces

Why Are These Efforts Needed?

Housing supports are essential for promoting stable housing success by addressing financial barriers, preventing homelessness, supporting basic needs, improving health outcomes, and fostering overall well-being and economic stability for individuals and communities. Providing supports for stable housing promotes:

Financial stability: Many individuals and families struggle to afford stable housing due to low income, job loss, or unexpected expenses. Housing supports such as rental subsidies or housing vouchers can help bridge the gap between income and housing costs, making it more affordable for people to maintain stable housing.

Prevention of homelessness: Housing supports can prevent homelessness by providing temporary assistance to individuals and families facing eviction or who are already homeless. This support can include emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or rapid rehousing initiatives that help people move quickly from homelessness into permanent housing.

Access to basic needs: Stable housing is a fundamental need that supports access to other basic necessities, such as food, health care, education, and employment. Without stable housing, individuals and families may struggle to meet these needs, leading to further instability and hardship.

Health and well-being: Stable housing is associated with better physical and mental health outcomes. Housing supports can help individuals and families access safe and healthy living environments, reducing the risk of health issues related to inadequate housing conditions or homelessness.

Stability for children: Stable housing is particularly important for children's well-being, as it provides a secure and consistent environment for them to grow and thrive. Housing supports that prioritize families with children can have long-lasting positive effects on their development and future opportunities.

Reduction of economic inequality: Housing supports can play a role in reducing economic inequality by providing assistance to low-income individuals and families who might otherwise struggle to afford decent housing. This can help create more equitable opportunities for people from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

Proposal Requirements

Project Criteria

1. Applications must be submitted by an organization with an EIN/Tax ID. Both nonprofit and for-profit organizations are welcome to apply.
2. Projects must directly impact the specified Future State Measures of the Regional Health Improvement Plan (see above).
3. Projects must be community-level interventions that include, but are not limited to, Medicaid members and are focused on improving population health and health care quality.
4. Projects must take place within Central Oregon or serve the following tribal members:
 - Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties
 - Northern Klamath County, limited to Gilchrist, Chemult, Crescent, Crescent Lake Junction, and Beaver Marsh (zip codes 97731, 97733, 97737, and 97739)
 - Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, and Klamath Tribes
 - Projects partnering with tribes may be required to submit a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or letter of support from the tribe.
5. Projects partnering with other organizations will be required to submit a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or letter of support from the organization.
6. Organizations with CCO Flex Fund Contracts can only apply for program expenses not included in their CCO contract.
7. Applications must include the following:
 - Program or organizational operating budget

- Description of your organizational mission, length of time in business, and a list of the board of directors
- Letters of support from regional partners and/or prior funding partnerships

Restrictions

COHC funds are subject to the OHA Health Related Services (HRS) guidelines. Regional Health Improvement Plan grants cannot be used for:

1. Activities that can be billed as clinical services
2. Administrative activities to support the delivery of covered services
3. Brick & Mortar construction
4. Building new buildings and capital investments in facilities designed to provide billable health services
5. Tenant assistance, housing assistance, housing construction, and utilities
6. Projects benefiting a single individual or single household
7. Projects that do not address the specified Future State Measures of the RHIP (see above)
8. Projects only serving undocumented community members
9. Projects that are primarily designed to control or contain healthcare costs
10. Provider workforce development and certification training, including provider credentialing
11. Broad assessments or research that does not directly improve community health
12. Advocacy work that does not directly improve community health or healthcare quality
13. Patient incentives and items and services that could be covered by the CCO's Flexible Services
14. Projects that are inherently religious

Recommended Partnerships

Partnerships that leverage existing community assets and knowledge to improve future state measures are encouraged.

Evaluation Criteria

The RHIP Stable Housing and Supports workgroup will review your grant application using this [SCORECARD](#). We encourage you to use it to help build your proposal.

Funding Details and Important Information

Available funds: \$105,360.00

Funding duration: Single and multiyear projects will be considered.

Anticipated selection schedule:

Request For Proposal (RFP) Released: May 30, 2024

Application Submission Closes: August 1, 2024

Notification of Award: September 26, 2024

How to Apply

This Request for Proposal is posted on our website [HERE](#).

Instructions on how to submit your proposal are [HERE](#).

Instructions on how to access this application are [HERE](#).

Once registered and logged in to the grant platform, use this access code to apply for the grant:

SUPPORTS24

Support

The RHIP Stable Housing and Supports workgroup is available to support this project in a collaborative advisory role and to provide networking support.

If you have questions about this RFP, please contact Gwen Jones, Program Manager, at gwen.jones@cohealthcouncil.org or 541-306-3523.

If you have questions about the application, parts of the application, or using the grant platform, please contact Kelley Adams, Grants Manager, at kelley.adams@cohealthcouncil.org or 541-306-3523.

Resources

2019 Regional Health Assessment [HERE](#)

2020–2024 Regional Health Improvement Plan [HERE](#)

Central Oregon Health Data website [HERE](#)

Glossary of Terms: [HERE](#)

Grant Writing Support: [HERE](#)

Prioritized populations (COHC definition):

Prioritized populations are those that experience health disparities due to social, political, and cultural discrimination and economic exclusion. Marginalization occurs because of unequal power relationships regardless of reason based on geography, age, sex, size, race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, disability, spiritual beliefs, gender identity, sexual orientation, education, criminal background, housing status, income, wealth, displacement, and immigration status. It affects both the quality of life of individuals and the equity and cohesion of society as a whole. Poverty is both a consequence and a cause of being marginalized. As an organization created to improve the well-being of all residents across Central Oregon, the Central Oregon Health Council (COHC) has a responsibility to promote and protect that right to health.

Rural communities (COHC definition):

We strive to support the creation of social conditions that lead to thriving economic, political, and social rights and opportunities in the lives of people at every level of society. It is within our purview to promote and protect the right to health for rural communities with their unique challenges. Due to the lack of access and inequitable distribution of resources, rural communities are considered marginalized. We define rural communities as:

Population of 35,000 or less AND one or more of the following:

Low income such as:

- High levels of poverty*
- Gaps between income and cost of living
- High levels of generational poverty or persistent cycles of poverty

Limited infrastructure, such as:

- Regional connectivity (transportation, communications)
- Social services (affordable childcare, emergency food, shelters)
- Health care (maintenance and prevention)
- Emergency services (public safety, fire and rescue)
- Economic services (business development, access to capital,

employment services)

*Federal poverty thresholds are set every year by the United States Census Bureau and vary by size of family and ages of family members.