



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST NOTICE OF INTENT

(Revised: 9-24-15)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 8/18/16
Agenda Item #: C.1
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am
Date Submitted: 8/2/16

Agenda Title: NOTICE OF INTENT for A Place For You Grant

Note: This APR is for NOI's only. APRs are available for other types of submittals. Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: 08/18/16 Time Needed: none
Department: DCHS Division: Multnomah Idea Lab (MIL)
Contact(s): Mary Li
Phone: 503.988.7497 Ext. 87497 I/O Address: 167/2nd
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): N/A

A Notice of Intent is required to obtain approval from the Board of County Commissioners to ensure a competitive grant proposal is in alignment with the County's mission; to receive an indication from the Board of its willingness to commit the necessary County resources to support the grant. A Budget Modification is required to appropriate funds received from a successful grant proposal.

Notice of Intent Specific Information

Department recommendation for consent agenda placement (*must meet all criteria*):

- Proposal is under \$500,000/ year.
- Proposal does not require cash match as part of the budget.
- Proposal does not commit County to on-going programming following award.
- Proposal adheres to the County's indirect guidelines.
- Proposal is within the Department's strategic direction.
- Proposal does not have policy and/or legal implications that warrant a public dialog.

☒ *To the best of my knowledge, this proposal adheres to all of the above criteria and may be placed on the Board of County Commissioner's Consent Agenda. I understand the proposal can be moved to the regular Board Agenda for any reason by Commissioners or their staff.*

☐ *To the best of my knowledge, this proposal does not meet criteria for placement on the Consent Agenda and should be placed on the Regular Agenda.*

Please complete for any NOI:

Granting Agency	Meyer Memorial Trust
Proposal due date	7/11/16 & 8/1/16
Grant period	12 months
Approximate level of funding by year	\$350,000 (2 x \$175,000 grants)
Program Offer(s) potentially impacted	N/A
How do you expect to spend the majority of funds? (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub-contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Capital (including equipment)
Does grant require match? If so, describe type (cash, FTE, etc) and %	No

1. Brief overview of grant's purpose and/or impact.

This NOI includes two different grant proposals from the same source: The Meyer Memorial Trust (MMT) Housing Opportunities and the MMT Building Communities Opportunities. After two initial Letters of Intent, DCHS was invited to submit full proposals for both grant opportunities. For reader tracking, the NOI content is divided into the two grant portfolio areas.

Housing Opportunities Funding:

The purpose of the Meyer Memorial Trust (MMT) Housing Opportunities funding portfolio is to enhance opportunities and strengthen communities through safe and affordable housing. MMT focuses its funding dedicated to housing in three ways: by building and preserving units of affordable housing, and strengthening housing providers and the sector; by investing in emerging opportunities and innovations in housing development, service delivery, systems alignment and housing finance; and by supporting residents through better access to available housing and wrap-around services that help residents retain housing and advance in their goals.

Families are homeless and need to be housed now. A Place for You (APFY), the name of the proposed grant-funded project, builds on the good work of A Home for Everyone to rapidly house families who are homeless by: utilizing existing spaces, practices, resources, investments, systems of care, community engagement, and community will.

This project was identified to test the development, feasibility, financial incentives, economic scale, and participant outcomes of creating short-term housing in response to the homeless crisis facing our community. As a strategy aligned with A Home for Everyone (AHFE), DCHS is serving as the laboratory to explore this new idea that may have future large-scale development potential through the Joint Office on Homelessness Services (JOHS).

If funded, APFY will expand the currently funded test from five to approximately 10 units that will access AHFE's coordinated access system of care for homeless families.

Earlier this year, DCHS was the winner of the [Oregon Innovation Award](#), securing a Hatfield Fellow and PSU technical assistance to pursue this innovative concept. In addition, the City of Portland allocated funding to test this idea.

MMT funding will directly match City of Portland funding to double the investment to test and refine a possible innovative solution to create debt-free housing in Multnomah County by leveraging privately-owned land for short-term housing. Lastly, the project directly supports and

compliments priority areas identified by A Home for Everyone, reinforcing a critical opportunity for project alignment and leveraged partnerships.

This funding opportunity provides a timely and creative window to test the development of debt-free housing locally, with the potential to bring to scale and affect larger scale housing gaps regionally and potentially statewide.

Building Community Funding Portfolio

The purpose of the Building Community Funding portfolio is to support organizations working to change conditions for communities of color, Oregonians living on low incomes, and other traditionally marginalized populations.

Rooted in the principles of the nationally recognized Family Independence Initiative (FII), DCHS proposes to advance methods for low-income families to organize into peer groups, re-ignite resource sharing, provide mutual support, shift control to families and provide peer role modeling. The initiative focuses on family strengths and models organic self-sufficiency processes historically seen in immigrant and indigenous communities.

The proposed initiative was chosen for four fundamental strategic and impactful reasons:

1. To test an innovative approach for lifting families out of poverty locally with the possibility to scale, influence, and redirect statewide programming.
2. To leverage and partially match awarded Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) funding for this initiative. The requested Meyer Memorial Trust budget provides a critical opportunity for adding flexible funding to the secured DHS funding of \$280,000 for the project. This important blend of funding provides a timely window to expand the pool of participants and include low-income families and individuals beyond those already in the DHS TANF system, as required by the DHS funding.
3. To model a new way for human services to work in Multnomah County, positioning program participants as central deciders, influencers, co-creators, and research partners for implementation.
4. To test an innovative approach to enhance equity and reduce multigenerational poverty. The proposed project is anchored in cash transfer and social network literature. Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) literature highlights the potential short-term impact of UCTs on reduced hunger, academic achievement, and reduced poverty. Further research demonstrates that people are highly motivated by the ability to choose their own path, to direct their own lives and to learn, grow, and do better. When social isolation and lack of hope are interrupted and replaced by real choices, people begin to identify self-determination and self-efficacy as their new normal.

Unlike many proposed programs requiring heavy funding dedicated to program staff, indirect and administrative support, this initiative bypasses those costs and reinvests funds directly into the communities most in need. The proposed initiative challenges families to take actions they believe will lift them out of poverty; shifting the locus of control from service providers to the families experiencing a myriad of hardship and stress.

2. Brief overview of how proposal is aligned with Department's strategic direction.

The MMT funding opportunities align directly with the DCHS Strategic Business Plan and the newly designed DCHS North Star vision. If funded, the grant would directly impact and influence the following departmental goals and/or strategy areas:

DCHS Strategic Business Plan

- Racial and ethnic justice
- Community engagement

DCHS North Star

- By 2025 in Multnomah County, every person – at every stage in life – has equitable opportunities to thrive.
 - Supporting a thriving economy
 - Supporting quality of life

3. Describe any community and/or government input considered in planning for this grant.

Housing Opportunity: A number of planning meetings, discussions, and workshops were conducted to test the feasibility of the A Place for You housing idea and leverage political will, existing resources, and respond to low housing vacancy rates. The following meetings were conducted over the past six months to informally test the idea:

- In anticipation of submitting an application for the Oregon Innovation Award, the DCHS Multnomah Idea Lab (MIL) developed a design brief for the project, and participated in a design session with state partners to refine the design concept, calculate project opportunities, and identify potential constraints.
- Meeting with Mayor Hales, Commissioner Saltzman, their respective staff, and the Portland Housing Bureau to discuss the opportunity, especially in response to the recent emergency housing declaration.
- Completion of an informal ideation session with key industry stakeholders to pitch early ideas, gather feedback, and identify considerations. Participants included representatives from construction, building development, energy efficiency experts, nonprofits, and funders.
- Initial meeting with Rapid Results 100-day organization to discuss how to model rapid results and harness an expedited model for multi-sector project implementation.

Building Community Opportunity: Similarly, a number of planning discussions were completed to prospect the idea of implementing FII locally. These included conversations with the following:

- DHS District 2 partners to discuss opportunity and assist in submitting an application for state funding to support FII implementation locally.
- Phone conversations with Family Independence Initiative (FII) to explore model and understand potential translation to Multnomah County.
- Internal meetings with Public Health to identify potential collaborative opportunities.

4. What partners may be included in program activities?

Housing: Non-profit organizations, modular housing providers, homeless services representative, local government partners, and other stakeholders, as needed and relevant to the project.

Building Community: Non-profit organizations, participating families with low-incomes, state partners, and other stakeholders, as needed and relevant to the project.

5. Generally, what are the grant's reporting requirements?

The grant submission process included an initial call for Letters of Intent and, if requested, an invitation to submit a full competitive application. On the basis of the submitted Letter of Intent, DCHS was asked to submit a full application for both grant portfolios.

Grant reporting requirements are not outlined in the application materials, and will likely be specified in any award documents, pending receipt of funding.

Please complete for NOIs on the Regular Board Agenda ONLY:

6. When the grant expires, will your Department continue to fund the program? If so, how?
7. Are 100% of the central and departmental indirect costs recovered? If not, please explain.
8. If the proposal is not aligned with your Department's strategic direction, explain why you are pursuing it at this time.
9. If the grant requires a cash match, how will you meet that requirement?
10. Are there policy issues and/or legal implications related to this proposal that may warrant a public dialog? If so, please explain.

Required Signatures

Elected Official
or Department/
Agency Director: _____ Liesl Wendt /s/ _____ Date: 08/01/16

Budget Analyst: _____ Adam Brown /s/ _____ Date: 08/02/16

Note: Please submit electronically. We are no longer using actual signatures. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/. Please insert date approved