



Office of Mental Health

Housing First SSSH for Homeless Adults in NYC RFP#OMH152

Questions & Answers

Q1. For the letter to the LGU (county director) - NYC has one central health department - NYC DOHMH. Can the notification be made to DOHMH in lieu of notifying the county/borough and still receive maximum points.

A1. Yes.

Q2. Are we eligible to apply for the Housing First Scattered Site Supportive Housing for Homeless Adults opportunity if we will exclusively target participants with criminal-legal histories?

A2. Awarded applicants will be expected to accept referrals for individuals experiencing homeless regardless of criminal-legal history.

Q3. The RFP notes that applicant agencies "will be required to accept referrals from any Safe Options Support (SOS) Team, Intensive Mobile Treatment (IMT) team and/or Shelter Partnered Assertive Community Treatment (SPACT) team."

a. Are applicants accepting referrals exclusively from these teams, or may we also accept referrals from other sources?

b. May we work with the referral sources listed in the RFP to only accept referrals of cases with criminal-legal system involvement?

A3. Part a. Referrals will come exclusively from the SOS, IMT and/or SPACT teams. Part b. See the response to question 2.

Q4. We recognize and appreciate OMH's continued investment in supportive housing, particularly in high-need areas like New York City. That said, we would like to better understand the funding structure in light of current market conditions.

The FY2025 Fair Market Rent (FMR) for the New York Metro area is \$2,529 for an efficiency and \$2,655 for a one-bedroom, and in practice, market rents often exceed these levels. With the current stipend of \$35,554 per bed annually, and even with the enhanced rate of \$2,057, the budget becomes quite constrained once staffing, services, and operational expenses are factored in.

Is OMH considering any adjustments to the per-bed stipend or enhanced rate to reflect current housing market conditions and rising program costs in NYC? Any additional guidance would be greatly appreciated as we work to ensure program sustainability while meeting service expectations.

A4. OMH strives to maintain a Scattered Site Supportive Housing budget model and level of funding to support the cost of services as well as 1-bedroom FMR. Increases in funding are determined annually and based on COLA/TII, FMR updates, and availability of funding in the NYS budget.

Q5. Could you please clarify whether the enhanced rate of \$2,057 per unit will be provided as an upfront payment per unit?

A5. Enhanced funding will be built into initial contract allocations and payments will be advanced quarterly.

Q6. Will these units be eligible for enrollment in the Medicaid Rehabilitative and Tenancy Support services (RTS) program and to receive the RTS stipend?

A6. Yes.

Q7. Will referrals only come from SOS, IMT and/or SPACT teams or will awarded agencies be able to accept referrals through pre-established relationships with community partners, self-referral and/or word of mouth?

A7. See the response to question 3, part A.

Q8. What discretion will the awarded agencies have in the screening process of referrals?

A8. Awarded agencies are expected to develop processes which align with Housing First principles which screen applicants in and maintain a low barrier to admissions to promote a rapid housing.

Q9. Will referrals already have started the process of applying for benefits/entitlements prior to being referred? Will the referring teams (SOS, IMT, SPACT) assist in benefits applications?

A9. Individuals will be in various stages of applying for benefits/entitlements. A supportive housing plan should include who is responsible for advancing goals.

Q10. Page 17 states "The SOS or other teams will remain involved with the individual for up to a year to ensure that linkages are in place." What determining factors will dictate how long those supports continue after program admission? What specific services will those teams continue providing post-move in and to what extent can awarded agencies expect the referring teams to be involved in tenant support/care?

A10. Factors determining the length supports will be in place from a referring team and specific services provided are based on individual needs and should be addressed collaboratively with the awarded provider, individual and referring team.

Q11. Will an organization be allowed to operate this project within a single building if space is available, or must each unit be spread across various locations? Are clusters allowed (e.g., one site with 3-6 residents within the same building)?

A11. Apartments are expected to locate across various locations and noted in section 5.1, "clustering apartments around a building "hub" should be considered, if possible, to bring residents together for socialization and support."

Q12. Will this project be inclusive of undocumented individuals?

A12. There are no exclusionary criteria associated with this RFP, all individuals experiencing homelessness are eligible.

Q13. Can this project be specific to women, or must it serve both men and women? (We ask this to clarify whether organizations like ours can continue to serve women, consistent with our mission.)

A13. See the response to question 12.

Q14. Is there a generalized list or directory of SOS, SPACT and IMT teams?

A14. IMT Teams:

Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Bronx IMT I
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Bronx IMT II
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Brooklyn IMT I
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Brooklyn IMT II
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Brooklyn IMT III
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Manhattan IMT I
Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services	CASES Manhattan IMT II
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Bx/Man I
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Bx/Man II
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan I
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan II
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan III
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan IV
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan V
Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)	CUCS IMT Manhattan VI
Community Access	Community Access IMT Bx III
Community Access	Community Access IMT Bx I
Community Access	Community Access IMT Bx II
Community Access	Community Access IMT Bx IV
Community Access	Community Access IMT Manhattan I
Goddard Riverside Community Center	Goddard-Riverside Manhattan IMT
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Brooklyn
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Brooklyn/Staten Island I
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Brooklyn/Staten Island II
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Bx I
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Bx II
Institute for Community Living	ICL IMT Queens
The Bridge, Inc	The Bridge Manhattan IMT
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNS Brooklyn/Staten Island IMT
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNS Queens IMT III
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY IMT Brooklyn I
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY IMT Brooklyn II
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY IMT Manhattan
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY IMT Queens I
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY IMT Queens II

Promesa

PROMESA Bronx IMT

SPACT Teams:

Community Access
Institute for Community Living
Institute for Community Living
Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, Inc.
New Horizon Counseling Center
Samaritan Village
The Bridge
The Bridge
The Bridge
Visiting Nurse Service of New York

Community Access Shelter ACT
ICL Chapel Street Shelter ACT Team II
ICL ENY Hub Shelter ACT Team I
JBFCS Shelter ACT
New Horizon Shelter ACT
Samaritan Village Shelter ACT
The Bridge Shelter ACT Team I
The Bridge Shelter ACT Team II
The Bridge Shelter ACT Team III
VNSNY Shelter ACT

New York City SOS Teams:

OMH Targeted Response Team
BronxWorks
Argus Community, Inc.
ACMH
Services for the Underserved
The Bridge
Breaking Ground
RiseWell Community Services

Times Square
Bronx
Bronx
Manhattan
Manhattan
Manhattan
Queens and Staten Island
Brooklyn and Queens

Q15. RFP mentions that the SPACT teams will have longer than one year of involvement with participants once they are enrolled. How much longer than one year will they be involved?

A15. See the response to question 10.

Q16. What is OMH's position on enrolling undocumented immigrants into this scattered site program. Are there any restrictions on funding?

A16. See the response to question 12.

Q17. Section 1.1 of the RFP states that: "*The individuals may have a mental illness diagnosis, a substance use disorder, physical health care needs, or a combination of all three*" and further states, "*Mental health or other diagnostic criteria are not required to access housing through this initiative.*" What is the process for verifying program eligibility?

A17. The only eligibility criteria is an individual will currently be experiencing homelessness, and the referring team will be able to confirm this.

Q18. Not clear whether MWBE requirements are part of this RFP or only upon award to develop a utilization plan. Please advise.

A18. MWBE requirements are not required as part of the RFP and will be developed as part of the utilization plan upon award.

Q19. On page 23 under DEI and Recipient Input there is a question that refers to section 5.4.2. This section does not exist in the RFP. Please advise.

A19. The reference to section 5.4.2 in question 6.4d was made in error. The question should read, "Efforts to adequately engage underserved foreign-born individuals and families in the project's catchment area."

Q20. Please provide more detail or instructions on uploading. These documents appear to be in a variety of formats, (PDF, Word, and Excel), but I find it difficult to understand how to upload them in the requested formats which don't appear to be requested in the same formats all of the time.

A20. Please refer to the SFS Attachment Guide [here](#) as referenced throughout the RFP. All documents EXCEPT the Budget must be converted to PDF before uploading into SFS. Any supporting attachments must be included in the upload of the Proposal Template as one continuous PDF and be labeled specific to the question number it is associated with. The Budget must be uploaded in Excel format.