

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY  
CLACKAMAS COUNTY OPIOID SETTLEMENT GRANTS  
RESPONSE TO CLARIFYING QUESTIONS #4  
INFORMATION SESSION QUESTIONS  
APRIL 15, 2024

Note that these are questions submitted by interested organizations to the above referenced Notice. The below answers are for clarification purposes only and in no way alter or amend the Notice as published.

1. Looking at the application document, section 2 goal, one of the core strategies is listed as “enrich prevention strategies”- could you elaborate on this – what does “enrich prevention strategy” mean?

**Answer:**

“Enrich Prevention Strategy” means to improve or enhance the quality or value of an evidence-based prevention strategy. Exhibit E presents a variety of evidence-based prevention strategies, including primary prevention for substance use and strengthening families. The strategy overview document, a two-page summary, summarizes listening sessions and other strategies from various stakeholders.

2. Is there a cap on Admin costs?

**Answer:**

The administrative cost limit is not a criterion in NOFO; therefore, an exact figure cannot be specified. Any restrictions on administrative costs specific to the settlement funds would be passed through to any subsequent awardees.

3. The document indicates that schools are potential applicants. When the County is considering schools as an applicant, is that a specific school, like a high school, or a district? Could a high school and middle school each apply?

**Answer:**

Yes, a high school and a middle school could each apply.

4. Question about longevity of money- could reapply again, but would that mean that money could go for 18 years?

**Answer:**

The County expects to receive additional Settlement funding for the next 16 years. The NOFO allows for one or two year program/project periods with the potential for an additional year of financing if the applicant shows satisfactory performance in the first year in addition to other factors referenced in the NOFO. The grant agreement can be extended without additional procurement. The program is not intended for 18-year funding. Results and Metrics are crucial for assessing success and providing justification for funding, and the program will provide an account of what is proving successful.

5. Structure of Funding: Funding on the infographic about \$600 million statewide, \$24M dedicated to Clackamas County and in addition, each of the cities are receiving city specific allocation. Mostly noticing cities to the NW in the county. Is there a prioritization for the \$24 million of the county for the remainder of the county or do cities have the opportunity to double dip?

**Answer:**

In the budget section, there is language that indicates that we will be paying attention to cities that already receive opioid settlement funding as opposed to those cities that do not receive any other opioid settlement funding. Priority will be given to the cities that have not received any other opioid settlement funding. What we mean by priority is that rural cities with lower populations that did not qualify to get the direct opioid settlement funding, the County Commissioner's desire is that those rural locations receive some level of opioid funding. Cities that did receive direct opioid settlement funding from the State, are eligible to apply for funding through this Notice of Funding, however county funding should be used to expand or enhance a current opioid reduction program/project. The Commissioner's intent is to promote investments throughout the whole county.

In addition, the Geographic Burden document contains information that we can learn about areas of our county that are experiencing significant gaps in services and have definitely been hit harder with opioid crisis. It is recommended that applicants refer to that document. The geographic areas experiencing higher levels of burden will be considered during the review process.

6. Local that don't already receive other funding, is there additional weight in the scoring for partnership across agencies or cross sector partnership?

**Answer:**

We have not listed "partnerships" explicitly as scoring higher; however, the overall service model and organizational capacity is where you might see higher scores for partnerships.

7. We have a great idea to present for a missed areas of opportunity, and the passion to do the work, but we are not experienced in grant writing. How do I get help with grant writing?

**Answer:**

Unfortunately, once the NOFO is published, we have to be equally fair to everyone involved, so county staff involved with this NOFO cannot assist with writing your grant application.

Some other ideas shared by the participants:

- Clackamas Community College often provides grant writing training.
- You could find a friend in the nonprofit world that has been successful and mirror their application.
- Grant writing consultant directory: <https://grantprofessionals.org/search/custom.asp?id=5900>
- Review the information contained on scoring in the NOFO. Thoroughly review the application carefully. We would be glad to provide feedback once the evaluation process is complete.



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8. If we do request funds to hire additional staff, what are the steps to request additional funding for the FTE after fiscal year 2025?

**Answer:**

If the application is for the duration of one year, that is the extent of our commitment. If you apply for a duration of two years, the County will provide funding for the same duration.

9. Is a faith-community partnership okay? If so, is there application guidance regarding how faith and religious communities may adhere to the principle of separation of church and state?

**Answer:**

The Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners is in favor of participation from all community-based organizations, inclusive of faith-based organizations. Nevertheless, organizations are prohibited from proselytizing – they cannot ask or invite them to attend a sermon. It must remain open irrespective of religious affiliations. They cannot compel participants or clients to embrace certain religious beliefs. As an example, we currently fund a multitude of church-affiliated initiatives that provide assistance with food, clothes, and other necessities. A recipient of these services does not have to attend and/or subscribe to that church's teachings.

10. Populations of focus for LBGTQ community?

**Answer:**

Currently, we do not have local data that captures the impacts to this population; however, you are free to incorporate and focus on this population in your application if you have other data to support it.

11. Metrics – what is the county looking for as far as people helped?

**Answer:**

What we are looking for is results, which will require collecting data to tell a story of what is happening in the community, what is effective, what is not effective, and if something is not effective, it is ok we just need to document that. Results and Metrics are crucial for assessing success and providing justification for funding. The metric would be captured in the evaluation/required reporting requirement (section 5 of the NOFO).

12. Can the funds be devoted to treatment for substance abuse? Is it sufficient if it is an opioid?

**Answer:**

Provided that it contains opioids. Things have shifted to polysubstance drug use as we have entered the fourth wave of the opioid crisis.



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13. Budget section – Allowable activities or programming. Is there a separate page that lists allowable expenditures?

**Answer:**

No. While we have the eligibility worksheet, it does not specify which items are allowable or unallowable. It does state that food and funding to individuals are prohibited (i.e. incentives to participate such as food and/or gift cards will not be funded at this time).

14. Could you please clarify what you mean by “language accessibility”?

**Answer:**

Language accessibility would relate to access to bilingual services.

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End of Clarifying Questions #4