

Heading Home Minnesota Partners Fund

Application Guidelines

Program Overview

The Heading Home Minnesota Partners Fund (the “Partners Fund”) is a flexible pool of private funds intended to support implementation of Minnesota’s Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness. This pool is used to design and test creative ideas for providing services and to fill gaps in human services funding necessary to preserve and create supportive housing for singles (including unaccompanied youth) and families experiencing long-term homelessness.

The Family Housing Fund, acting in its capacity as a 501 (c) (3) and supporting organization of the MHFA, is the depository and administrator of the Partners Fund. Decisions for specific use of the funds are the responsibility of the Minnesota Director for Ending Long-Term Homelessness, with input from an advisory committee that includes representatives of the following organizations: Family Housing Fund, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Department of Human Services, Department of Corrections, Metro Supportive Services Fund administrators, St. Paul/Ramsey Homeless Advisory Board, and Heading Home Hennepin. To every extent possible, spending decisions will be coordinated with decisions for allocating the metro share of the newly created Supportive Services Fund.

Applicant Criteria

Nonprofit agencies serving people experiencing long-term homelessness in the Twin Cities seven-county metropolitan area may apply for grants from the Partners Fund.

Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds may be used for services needed to maintain housing and promote the well-being of individuals, youth and families who are or are at risk of being long-term homeless under the state definition. In awarding grants from the fund, emphasis will be put on the extent to which the grant:

1. Stimulates innovation and system change,
2. Fills a gap in funding that cannot be filled using other resources,
3. Helps access other public and/or private resources,
4. Bridges a gap between existing and future funding,
5. Demonstrates how Minnesota’s human services and housing systems could respond differently to people experiencing long-term homelessness,
6. Makes a visible impact,
7. Builds or sustains capacity in the system,

8. Aligns with the goals and strategies of the state plan, and
9. Preserves existing housing resources.

Application Process

1. Organizations wishing to apply for grants from the Partners Fund should send a letter of inquiry to Laura Kadwell, Minnesota Director for Ending Long-Term Homelessness, with a copy to Tom Fulton at the Family Housing Fund. The letter of inquiry should include:
 - a. Name and nonprofit status of the applicant agency
 - b. A one paragraph executive summary describing the project for which the organization is seeking funding
 - c. Description of clients served
 - d. Description of services provided
 - e. Description of geographic area of service
 - f. Statement of relationship to the Metro Long-Term Homeless Supportive Service Project serving households experiencing long-term homelessness
 - g. Amount and duration of requested funds
 - h. The name, title, address, telephone number, fax and email address of the primary contact person and the chief executive officer, if different than the contact person.
2. Letters of Inquiry should be no more than two (2) pages in length and should be submitted electronically to Laura Kadwell at laura.kadwell@state.mn.us, with a copy to Tom Fulton at tfulton@fhfund.org.
3. Letters of Inquiry are accepted on an ongoing basis and there is no deadline for submitting proposals and no maximum grant amount. The Partners Fund is designed to respond quickly and flexibly to a need for funds that will “make projects work” and maximize resources throughout the system.
4. Within one month of the date of receipt of a letter of inquiry, the Fund will advise whether the applicant may submit a proposal and, if so, may provide parameters for the proposal.

Further information

Direct questions about the Partners Fund to:

Laura Kadwell, Minnesota Director for Ending Long-Term Homelessness, 651-284-0079 or laura.kadwell@state.mn.us