**COVID-19 Response Funding - Special Request for Proposals**

With the increasing cases of COVID-19/coronavirus in Minnesota, Open Your Heart is especially concerned with the vulnerability of those experiencing homelessness who sleep together in close quarters in shelters, have limited ability to wash their hands and already struggle with underlying health conditions which make the virus much more harmful if contracted.

In an effort to ensure that homeless service providers are able to plan, prepare, and respond to this emerging public health threat, Open Your Heart is providing funding to support response planning by overnight emergency shelters, day shelters, and meal service providers who do not have the financial resources necessary should the virus become more prevalent in Minnesota. **Please note that priority will be given to agencies without significant operating budgets/unrestricted reserves.**

**Eligible Activities**

* Plans to protect the homeless and give them a place to recover in isolation
  + Possibilities include:
    - Installing module units where infected homeless people can recover
    - Shelters to prepare large spaces to isolate those who may become sick
* Deployed street teams to work with those living in encampments to get people with symptoms treated
* Bringing in hand-washing stations
* Hotel vouchers to be provided to those who have yet to contract the illness but have been identified by outreach workers as highly vulnerable (over the age of 50 years with a history of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease)
* Costs accrued to protect staff and those you serve not usually covered by operations budget
  + Appropriate personal protective equipment provided for staff, volunteers, and residents responsible for cleaning and maintenance of facility (e.g. gloves, dust mask, protective clothing, eye protection, etc.)
  + Soap, alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol, tissues, trash baskets, and disposable facemasks
* Sanitation and hygiene training provided during onboarding process for new staff and volunteers
* Additional activities to help prepare and respond to the coronavirus

**Grant Amount**

Up to $3,000

**Grant Deadline**

Given the urgency of the situation, grants will be reviewed as they are received through the end of day on Friday, March 27, 2020

**Organization Eligibility**

* Agencies must serve hungry or homeless Minnesotans as the agency’s primary function.
* Agencies must have 501(c)3 status OR be recognized as tax exempt by the IRS (i.e. units of government or tribal governments) OR use a fiscal agent with 501(c)3 status.

**How to Apply**

Submit the attached proposal by email to [grantapplication@oyh.org](mailto:grantapplication@oyh.org) by 11:59 PM on Friday, March 27, 2020.

**Questions**

Please email [grantapplication@oyh.org](mailto:grantapplication@oyh.org) with any questions.

**Please Note**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided interim guidance based on what is currently known about the coronavirus. Information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html> and will be updated as needed and as additional information becomes available.

**Thank you!**

**Coronavirus Response Funding - Special Request for Proposals**

1. **Agency name:** Click or tap here to enter text.
2. **Employer Identification Number:** Click or tap here to enter text.
3. **Total agency annual operating budget for current fiscal year:** Click or tap here to enter text.
4. **Project name:** Click or tap here to enter text.
5. **Location:** Click or tap here to enter text.
6. **Main contact for follow-up questions about the project:**

**Name:** Click or tap here to enter text. **Phone:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Email:** Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Brief description of project (what this funding would support and how clients would be impacted):** Click or tap here to enter text.
2. **Dollar amount requested:** Click or tap here to enter text.
3. **How many people will be served?** Click or tap here to enter text.
4. **What population does this project serve (youth, families, individuals, etc.)?** Click or tap here to enter text.
5. **What is the immediate financial gap that needs to be filled to begin?** Click or tap here to enter text.
6. **How soon could the project begin?** Click or tap here to enter text.
7. **Any other information regarding this request that you would like to share:** Click or tap here to enter text.