

FY2024 SHTF RRH NOFA Information Session

December 20, 2023



Available Funding

Fund Type	Total Amount Available
State Housing Trust Funds (SHTF)	\$7,000,000

- ► Total Statewide funding available is \$7 million.
- Applicants may only submit one application per entity but may elect to cover multiple counties within that single application.

Funding Time Frame

▶ ADOH will award twenty-four (24) month grants to begin approximately January 1, 2024 and end December 31, 2025.

Available Funding Continued

Available funding will be allocated by County/Geography as follows:

Maricopa	\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000 max per award
Pima	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000 max per award
Balance of State	\$2,000,000	Max award based on counties served (see chart)

	Max Award per County for
County to be Served	24 month contract term
Pinal (pop. over 400,000)	\$350,000
Mohave, Yavapai, Yuma (pop. over 200,000)	\$250,000
Cochise, Coconino, Navajo (pop. over 100,000)	\$180,000
Apache, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Santa Cruz (under 100,000)	\$ 60,000

Applicants intending to serve multiple counties may request up to the combined maximums for all counties to be served in a single application/request. (Example: If serving Mohave and La Paz Counties, maximum ask would be \$310,000).

Background Information

Key goals of this RRH program will be to:

- 1. Increase statewide RRH housing options;
- 2. Provide quality housing-focused individualized supportive services to: 1) assist households in RRH attain housing stability to end their homelessness; and 2) ensure households can maintain ongoing rent obligations at the termination of RRH subsidies in the shortest time possible;
- 3. RRH housing should be available to all eligible households regardless of presenting needs or conditions (i.e., mental health, disability, substance abuse history, lack of income). Awarded RRH programs must verify and document participant eligibility.

> Target Population:

The target population for the services described in this NOFA are individuals and/or families who: 1) meet HUD Category One (literally homeless) or Four (fleeing domestic violence) definition of homelessness (24 CFR§578.3); and 2) who qualify for RRH prioritization and are referred by the Continuum Coordinated Entry program of the County in which they are seeking housing.

Eligible Applicants and Qualifications

Eligible Applicants: This NOFA is a competitive process open to verified non-profit, faith-based, and public/governmental entities and agencies.

Minimum Qualifications/ Requirements:

- Must have expertise and experience in providing RRH or other tenant-based rental assistance and related services;
- Currently or agree to accept only clients referred through the local Continuum of Care;
- Must utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for data entry and reporting (Comparable Database for DV centered programs accepted);
- Experience providing high quality housing based individualized case management/ navigation services;
- Must be willing to assist program participants in finding and securing appropriate housing placement based on client preference;

- Housing Program Staff will be expected to complete the following activities in conjunction with establishing participant tenancies:
 - a. Eligibility verification and documentation
 - b. Income verification and Rent Calculation
 - c. Housing (HQS) inspections
 - Lease verification including all necessary addendums
 - e. Rent reasonableness determination
 - f. Housing plans/Move-on strategies
- Must demonstrate history or expertise in working with and coordinating services with other organizations and programs providing services to persons experiencing homelessness including emergency shelters, faith based programs, governmental and mainstream providers, and outreach programs among others;
- Must demonstrate fiscal and administrative capacity to perform the proposed services.

Scope of Work / Eligible Activities

Applicants must provide the following Rapid Rehousing program elements:

- 1. RRH Financial Assistance for a maximum of up to twenty four (24) months.
 - a. Short to Medium term Rental assistance (may include up to six months of rent in arrears, although overall assistance cannot exceed 24 months).
 - b. Rental assistance agreement (between recipient/subrecipient and owner) and written lease agreement (between program participant and owner) are required.
- 2. Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (Homelessness Prevention) including:
 - a. Rental application fees
 - b. Security deposits (not to exceed two months rent)
 - c. Last month rent (applies to 24 month limit)
 - d. Utility deposits
 - e. Utility payments (up to twenty four (24) months including up to six (6) months of arrears).
 - f. One-time Moving costs.
 - g. Housing search and placement assistance
 - h. Mediation
 - i. Credit repair
 - j. Income assistance (securing eligible benefits and/or employment) or other non cash benefits. ADOH strongly encourages use of dedicated SOAR benefit services.

Scope of Work / Eligible Activities Continued

- 3. Supportive services (<u>24 CFR §578.53 Supportive Services</u>) including personnel and program costs.
 - Annual Assessment of Service Needs (§ 578.53(e)(1))
 - Moving costs (§ 578.53(e)(2))
 - Case management (§ 578.53(e)(3)) (Housing case management should provide maximum 20:1 ratio of case manager to program participants/households)
 - Childcare (§ 578.53(e)(4))
 - Education services (§ 578.53(e)(5))
 - Employment assistance and job training (§ 578.53(e)(6))
 - Food (§ 578.53(e)(7))
 - Housing search and counseling services (§ 578.53(e)(8))
 - Legal services (§ 578.53(e)(9))
 - Life skills training (§ 578.53(e)(10))
 - Mental health services (§ 578.53(e)(11))
 - Outpatient health services (§ 578.53(e)(12))
 - Outreach services (§ 578.53(e)(13))
 - Substance abuse treatment services (§ 578.53(e)(14))
 - Transportation (§ 578.53(e)(15))
 - Utility deposits (§ 578.53(e)(16)) (only if not using Homelessness Prevention)
- 4. Applicants can request up to 10% of total award for administrative or overhead costs.

Program Data and Performance Outcomes

If awarded a contract, applicants will be expected to achieve and report on the following performance measures:

Performance Metric	Goal
Number of households/participants served	
Participant demographics (i.e., HUD Universal Data Elements)	
Average Length of Time to Housing Placement	<90 Days
Returns to Homelessness from RRH Placement	<8%
Maintenance of RRH placement or exit to other Positive Destination at end of rental subsidy.	>75%
Households will increase annual income	>55%
Project accepts referral from Coordinated Entry	>85%

Proposal Timeline

PROCESS STEP	Date/Time
FY24 RRH NOFA Request for Proposals Issued	Friday, December 8, 2023
Pre-submission Informational Webinar	2:00p.m. Wednesday, December 20, 2023
FAQ Released	Friday, December 22, 2023
Proposal Due	4:00p.m. Monday, January 8, 2024
Scoring and Review Panel	Week of January 15th, 2024
Anticipated Notice of Award	Friday, January 26, 2024

Proposal Submission

- The complete proposal under this request is due Monday, January 8, 2024 by 4:00 p.m. and must be submitted via the State HTF Special Projects Portal
- A complete application will include completed Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Notice of Funding Availability Application (see Attachment 1) not to exceed <u>8</u> pages including short narratives for all questions. Completed application must include a detailed proposed budget (*Question #15*) and detailed proposed schedule of completion (*Project Timeline Question #11*). Additional pages may be added as necessary not to exceed <u>8</u> total pages. The Application (Attachment 1) form can be found on the ADOH Special Needs website under the Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Programs
- By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, the respondent implicitly agrees to comply with the provisions in the ADOH standard Funding Agreement.
- Upon notification that the applicant has been selected for funding, participation at a meeting with ADOH is required. The contract meeting will include preparation of any additional forms and negotiation of a final Scope of Work.

Threshold Review

To be eligible for evaluation and scoring, proposals must meet the following threshold requirements. Proposals that fail to comply with all instructions may be considered incomplete.

- 1. Application is submitted on time and complete.
- 2. Application meets the proposal format requirements.
- 3. Applications responds to all questions in proposal document including the budget
- 4. The project must be ready to start immediately upon receipt of a contract.
- 5. Disclosure: Entities are not eligible to apply under this NOFA if it has had a state contract terminated or suspended, and/or are currently debarred by any federal or state debarment agency. If suspension or debarment is currently pending, a detailed description of all relevant circumstances must be provided.

ADOH may make inquiries in order to verify the information submitted, and applicant may only provide missing information to specifically address a request for information from ADOH. Applicants must respond by the deadline included in the inquiry to avoid disqualification. ADOH may verify representations, information, and data in an Application with public information, independent reports, and statistics available through recognized subscription services.

Scoring Criteria

► The Evaluators will review and score all submitted applications based on the following criteria (100 possible points):

Scoring Criteria	Weight (out of 100 total points)
Program Experience and Expertise	30 pts
Agency Capacity and Implementation	15 pts
Collaboration/Alignment with Coordinated Entry and CoCs	10 pts
Service Methodology	25 pts.
Budget Reasonableness	20 pts

QUESTIONS and Contact Information

David Bridge, Special Needs Program Administrator

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Please contact Melissa Swain, <u>Melissa.Swain@azhousing.gov</u> with all questions regarding this NOFA.