

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TELEHEALTH EXPANSION PROJECT

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
JULY 2021



THE CENTER
at Sierra Health Foundation

MAT access
points
project

This funding opportunity is provided by The Center at Sierra Health Foundation with funding from the State of California's Department of Health Care Services.

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization bringing people, ideas and infrastructure together to create a collective impact that reduces health disparities and improves community health for the underserved living in California.

For information about The Center, visit www.shfcenter.org.

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND CRITERIA CAREFULLY

BACKGROUND

Sierra Health Foundation: Center for Health Program Management (The Center) was founded by Sierra Health Foundation in 2012 as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. With offices in Sacramento and Fresno, The Center pursues the promise of health and racial equity in communities across California. Leveraging leadership, operational and funding support from Sierra Health Foundation and its partners, The Center establishes investment partnerships with public and private funders; community members; community organizations; national, state and local government agencies; nonprofits; and businesses to advance health equity.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act Telehealth Expansion Project funding opportunity is part of the Department of Health Care Services' Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Access Points Project, which is funding a network of organizations throughout California to address the opioid and stimulant crises by supporting prevention, education, stigma reduction, harm reduction, treatment and recovery services for people with opioid use disorder (OUD), stimulant use disorder, and substance use disorder (SUD), and by increasing access to MAT.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

This project is funded through the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) Behavioral Health Response and Rescue Project (BHRRP), which is funded by supplemental grants to the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG), awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Funding was made available to SAMHSA through passage of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan Act. All SABG and MHBG restrictions apply to grant recipients of this funding opportunity. Additionally, contract agreements will include standard federal rules and regulations, notably [2 CFR 200](#), [45 CFR Part 75](#), and applicable rules and regulations from the State of California. The Center will incorporate the applicable federal and state rules and regulations into the terms and conditions of the contract agreements.

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation will assist DHCS with the administration of the funds to organizations to develop, enhance and/or expand their facility's telehealth infrastructure. The purpose of this behavioral health telehealth infrastructure improvement project is to address the needs of individuals with substance use disorder (SUD), and/or serious mental illness (SMI), or with serious emotional disturbances (SED).

There are two individual funding opportunities available: 1) SUD Telehealth Activities, and 2) Mental Health (MH) Telehealth Activities. If more applications are received than funding is available, DHCS will look at adding extra scoring points for providers in counties with the highest mortality rates related to SUD and MH disorders and to providers who serve patients in predominantly rural areas.

ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

Eligible organizations are those that provide direct treatment and recovery support services and must:

- Be a nonprofit SUD and/or MH provider licensed and/or certified by the State of California as of July 1, 2021 (for SUD or MH telehealth activities, depending on funding opportunity applied for)
- Eligible Substance Use Disorder licenses include:
 - Active Drug Medi-Cal certification (for SUD services)
 - Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP)
 - Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
 - Adult Residential Treatment Facility
 - Alcohol and Drug Certification
 - Outpatient/Intensive Outpatient Treatment
 - Partial Hospitalization Services
 - Adolescent Residential Treatment Facility
 - Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospital
 - Freestanding Psychiatric and General Acute Hospital
- Eligible Mental Health licenses include:
 - Active Drug Medi-Cal certification (for mental health services)
 - Psychiatric Health Facility (PHFs)
 - Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRCs)
 - Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSUs)
 - Outpatient Clinic
 - Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)
 - Children’s Crisis Residential Program (CCRP)
 - Social Rehabilitation Program (SRP)
 - Community Treatment Facility (CTF)
 - Skilled Nursing Facility with Special Treatment (SNF/STP)
- **In addition, all applicant entities must have a current contract with the county Behavioral Health Department for SUD/MH/BH services and currently serve ‘safety net’ clients.**
- *Previous Telehealth Expansion RFA grantees are eligible to apply. However, new and highly qualified applicants will be prioritized for this funding opportunity.*

FUNDING AMOUNTS AND CONTRACT PERIOD

For both funding opportunities, contracts will cover activities for 12 months beginning **October 2021** (exact contract dates will be finalized once grantees are selected). Sites may request up to **\$100,000** under each funding opportunity.

Individual sites* are limited to submitting one application per funding opportunity (i.e., one application for SUD Telehealth Activities and one application for MH Telehealth Activities).

ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES AND EXPENSES

Telehealth Infrastructure

Funding may be allocated to support telehealth infrastructure enhancement and/or expansion for **providers only**, which may include the following:

- Laptops
- Desktops
- Monitors
- Software licenses (including EHR) – may be paid in advance for one year
- Internet subscription – may be paid in advance for one year
- Webcams
- Headsets
- Cellular telephones
- Provider-focused telehealth training

Grants funds may not be used to purchase telehealth equipment or Internet subscriptions for clients.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The online application is available on [The Center's portal](#). Completed applications are **DUE by 11:59 p.m. PT on August 1, 2021**.

Organizations operating as a single legal entity that wish to apply for more than one site or for both funding opportunities must submit separate applications for each site/funding opportunity. If you are submitting multiple applications, please use the above link to initiate an application for each of the individual applications you want to create – this will create separate applications under your online account. Individual applications are viewable in the “in-progress applications” section of your account. Once you have created the individual applications with the link above, you then would use the link in the automated e-mail received (after you click “save and finish later”) to return to those applications. If you use the above link, it will create a new application each time instead of returning you to your in-progress applications.

PROPOSERS' WEBINAR

A webinar reviewing the opportunity and application process will take place on **Thursday, July 8, at 11 a.m. PT**. [Please register for the webinar on The Center's web site](#).

Important Application Guidelines

To help us process your application, please follow these submission guidelines:

- We encourage you to submit your application before the deadline date in case you need help with any of the RFA components or need technical assistance.
- Applications are due no later than 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time) on August 1, 2021.
- Submit the application via [The Center's online portal](#). New users of the portal will need to create an account as the first step in the application process. You will only use this link one time to initiate your application. After you have started working on your application, use the link below or received via e-mail to continue working on your saved application(s).
- In the portal, for optimal functionality, use Internet Explorer as the browser when working on a PC and use Safari as the browser when working on a Mac.
- Respond to all required fields (marked with an *).
- In the portal, you may click "Save & Finish Later." You will receive an e-mail with a link to return to your in-progress application. You may also use [this link](#) to return to your in-progress application.
- Click "Save & Finish Later" any time you will not be working on your application.
- You may submit your application only once. Be sure your application is complete and accurate, including required documents, before submitting it. Revised applications will not be accepted.
- If you are unable to submit your application online or need help, please contact us at mataccesspoints@shfcenter.org with the subject line: Application Online Help.

Send questions and inquiries related to this funding opportunity
to mataccesspoints@shfcenter.org with the subject line:
Telehealth RFA Question

APPLICATION AND ATTACHMENTS

See page 6 for an overview of application questions, requirements and attachments.

FUNDING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Progress narrative report (accomplishments, barriers, detailed summary of progress) – due March 30, 2022
- Final narrative report (accomplishments, barriers, detailed summary of project) – due at end of activity period (30 days after contract end)
- Final Financial Report

If you have questions, please reach out to mataccesspoints@shfcenter.org.

**Definition of "Site": If an organization has separate physical locations/sites that individually meet all of the eligibility criteria for each opportunity (primarily around licensing/County contracts), then each individual site/location may submit an application under each opportunity if desired. A separate application is required for each site and each opportunity. For example, if organization A has a location in City B and City C and would like to submit an application for each site and for each opportunity, they would submit four applications: 1) Organization A site in City B for SUD application, 2) Organization A site in City B for MH application, 3) Organization A site in City C for SUD application, and 4) Organization A site in City C for MH application.*

FOR REFERENCE ONLY
SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION USING THE ONLINE PORTAL

Application Outline

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION INFO

Organization name

Site name

Address

County

Phone

URL (optional)

Director/CEO Contact Name

Director/CEO Contact Title

Director E-mail address

Director phone

Application Contact

Application Contact E-mail Address

Application Contact Phone

Applicant Organization Tax ID #

DUNS #, if applicable

SAM expiration date, if applicable

Congressional District of applicant organization's primary location

Congressional District(s) where organization's beneficiaries live

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name (10 words maximum):

Brief Summary and Purpose of Project (300 words maximum):

TOTAL Amount Requested: \$ _____

Up to \$100,000

Start Date: October 1, 2021

End Date: Organizations may expend funds until September 30, 2022.

Opportunity Applying For

Please indicate which opportunity you are applying under:

- SUD Telehealth Activities
- MH Telehealth Activities

Geography

Please indicate in which county your site is located. Please check below if you serve patients in rural areas.

List of all 58 Counties with percentages

- Serving patients in rural areas

Focus Populations (classifications)

Please select all the populations served. Only one box must be checked.

- Youth with SUD
- Adults with SUD
- Youth with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
- Adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
- Youth with serious emotional disturbances (SED)
- Adults with serious emotional disturbance (SED)

Focus Populations (Race/Ethnicity)

For the racial and ethnic populations that will be affected, provide your best estimate of the percentage of the total people of each population (Total must add up to 100.)

- African-American/Black: %
- Asian-American/API: %
- Latino/Hispanic: %
- Native American: %
- White: %
- Mixed race: %
- Other: % [please specify]

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Need

Please briefly describe the need to improve your facility's telehealth infrastructure, especially as it relates to the impact of, and recovery from, COVID-19. Please include a description of your facility's existing telehealth infrastructure and capacity to provide telehealth services. (300 word maximum)

Desired Outcomes

Please describe your organization's desired outcome of improving your telehealth infrastructure. (300 word maximum)

Population Served

Please describe how your organization will utilize this funding to serve individuals with health disparities, including those living in rural areas. (200 word maximum)

Assurances

- The applicant organization has a current contract with the county Behavioral Health entity.

Attachments

- Proposed Itemized Budget (required)
 - Applicants must use the provided budget template
- Proposed Corresponding Budget Narrative (required)
 - Applications must include the type and quantity of budgeted telehealth equipment
- Copy of eligible license and/or certification (required)
- Copy of county Behavioral Health Department contract (required)
 - Please do not attach the entire contract – front page/signature page is sufficient (please only include the pages that allow reviewers to confirm a current contract is in place)
- Applicant organization's W-9 (required)