



## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

### LEAD AGENCY FOR YOUTH HOMELESSNESS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

The Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness (Coalition) seeks statements of qualifications from interested entities to coordinate and lead the local effort to end youth homelessness in collaboration with the Coalition and other stakeholders. The selected organization will be identified as the lead agency on the Coalition's application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the [Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program \(YHDP\)](#) funding opportunity.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE**

The application for the YHDP has not currently been approved by Steering Committee and submission depends on whether the Steering Committee approves the Youth Committee's and Youth Action Board's request to select a lead agency and apply for the current round of the YHDP.

#### **Purpose of this Request**

The Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County Continuum of Care also known as the Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness seeks to ensure that opportunities to lead the community in its goal to end youth homelessness are fairly accessed by any interested parties. This funding opportunity is known to be highly competitive. The Coalition seeks to improve the score received in the first two rounds of competition and to submit an application that may be selected for funding.

#### **Intended Recipients of this Request**

Housing/service providers with experience serving homeless youth or agencies with experience in leading collaborative efforts.

#### **Potential Budget**

The lead organization may be eligible for HUD Planning Grant funding if the community is selected by HUD as an YHDP participating community.

#### **Review process**

Proposals must be received by **noon, Wednesday, May 1, 2019.**

Proposals will be evaluated by the Coalition to End Homelessness's Youth Action Board and Youth Committee. Upon approval, Lead Agency will be notified immediately of the selection.

#### **Scope of Lead Agency Role**

Coordinate the group's creation of a collaborative community plan with the intent to seek HUD approval of the plan, post-award, if awarded.



### **Threshold Requirements of Lead Agency**

If selected as lead agency, organizations will be required to meet all statutory and regulatory requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and 24 CFR part 578, as referenced in Appendix A Section I.D.1. The selected agency will also have to be able to manage finances in compliance with HUD funding requirements if a planning grant is awarded to the lead agency. Refer to [Appendix A](#) of the YHDP NOFA for additional information.

### **How to apply**

Proposals should include the following information:

- i. Organization Name
- ii. Describe organizational structure and financial resource/staff capacity to support the development of a coordinated community plan to prevent and end youth homelessness as outlined in the YHDP NOFA. Please provide name and position of staff person proposed for main point of contact if selected as lead agency.
- iii. Describe the organization's financial capacity to support a planning grant, including the ability to provide matching funds of 25% as required by HUD if planning grant dollars are applied for by the lead agency.
- iv. Describe the organization's plan and ability to build collaboration among partners and facilitate community-wide conversations regarding youth homelessness.
- v. Describe the organization's experience in leading and building collaborative efforts.
- vi. Describe the organization's approach to conflict resolution and ability to navigate and/or facilitate potentially difficult conversations among partner agencies.
- vii. Describe experience with youth homelessness in the community.
- viii. Provide the organization's history of involvement with the CoC's Youth Committee and Youth Action Board. If there has been little or no previous involvement, describe ability to become involved and actively engaged in those spaces.
- ix. Describe organization's engagement in equity work in the community.

### **Directions for Sending**

Send proposal to [cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org](mailto:cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org) by **noon, Wednesday, May 1, 2019.**

- Send High Importance with the subject line, "YHDP Lead Agency Proposal"

### **Additional Questions**

Contact Courtney Myers-Keaton at [cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org](mailto:cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org) or (616) 752.8624.