



STATE OF TENNESSEE
Department of Finance and Administration, Division of TennCare
REQUEST FOR APPLICATION # 31865-00017
AMENDMENT 1 - COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

DATE: May 22, 2024

RFA # 31865-00017 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- This RFA Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFA dates. Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.

EVENT	TIME (Central Time)	DATE (all dates are State business days)
1. RFA Issued		May 3, 2024
2. Pre-response Teleconference	10:30 a.m.	May 9, 2024
3. Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	May 15, 2024
4. State Response to Written "Questions & Comments"		May 22, 2024
5. Deadline for Applications	2:00 p.m.	May 29, 2024
6. Evaluation Notice Released		June 12, 2024
7. Effective Start Date of Contract		July 01, 2024

- State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFA.

Any restatement of RFA text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFA document.

No.	REFERENCE	QUESTION / COMMENT	STATE RESPONSE
1.	General	<p>It's our understanding that this is for organizations that support those that are TennCare insured. Am I wrong about that? We're a non-profit that specifically serves those that have no insurance.</p> <p>How can we become trained as a Perinatal CHW? Is there an organization in Tennessee who is providing additional training for this specific community as part of the grant?</p>	<p>It is not required for an organization to be a TennCare provider. However, how many TennCare members an organization serves is a factor that will be considered when selecting awardees.</p> <p>Trainings for PCHWs vary by organization. Organizations that are already actively specialized in serving pregnant and postpartum individuals will be considered in the selection</p>

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			criteria. However, grantees will receive technical support through IMPaCT which provides grantees training that aligns with expectations of the grant and CHW evidence-based best practices. Please refer to Grant Contract section A.5.g Service Description for additional details related to IMPaCT.
2.	General	Can TennCare confirm that an organization does NOT have to be a TennCare provider in order to be eligible for this funding opportunity?	It is not required for an organization to be a TennCare provider. However, how many TennCare members an organization serves is a factor that will be considered when selecting awardees.
3.	General	Are CHW salaries allowed? Will part-time salaries be allowed?	Payment for CHW salaries, whether full-time or part-time, is not allowed. Please refer to Grant Application Overview, Section II for full detail on Allowable Expenses.
4.	General	We have a grant for CHW's through the TN Dept. of Health and the scope for this new RFA is different. Does it matter if our CHW's are grant funded through another program?	Funding from other sources is allowed. However, we recommend that you check with the other funding sources to ensure full data sharing capabilities.
5.	General	Our organization has a sibling entity with CHW's - are we allowed to count those?	Yes. If the CHWs working for the sibling entity are included in the grant application, the sibling organization would be required to adhere to the same requirements of this grant. Please note that in the grant applications, organizations that plan to collaborate with other organizations with a different federal tax ID should select "Yes" when responding to the Collaborative Partnership question in the Grant Application and answer any additional relevant questions.
6.	General	Could we count other similar and existing roles, such as Patient Navigators, which have intersecting roles with CHWs in their similar scopes of work?	We are aware that there are many roles with similar scopes of work as CHWs. For this grant, we are following the APHA definition that a Community Health Worker (CHW) is "a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served."
7.	General	Budget: Is there a maximum amount for Administrative Overhead or may we use the 10% de minimis rate?	Fifty percent (50%) of the total of award can be attributed to allowable expenses as detailed in the Grant documents, including Administrative Overhead. Please refer to Section II, Grantee Eligibility and Requirements, within the Grant Application Overview for more details on Allowable Expenses. See also Reference Table 1 CHW Organization Size and Funding Amounts within the Grant Application Overview for additional information on funding.
8.	General	How will special consideration be given to organizations that have a direct focus on maternal health and provide services to pregnant and postpartum individuals (eg, bonus points)?	As described in Request for Application Overview Section II, we encourage organizations with a maternal health focus to apply along with all other grantees that meet eligibility requirements. Please see Item #3 below for amended Request for Application Overview Section VI
9.	General	What is meant by "targeted salary support for program management"?	While funding may not be used to pay for salaries of CHWs, targeted salary support from grant funds may be used for compensation of individuals supporting the CHW program management (e.g. CHW supervisors, IT or data

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			administrators) who experience increased scope of work from additional CHW positions.
10.	General	Are TennCare dental providers who employ Community Dental Health Workers (CDHWs) eligible for this grant?	Dental providers who employ CDHWs are eligible and encouraged to apply. They would be required to adhere to all the same expectations in the grant as outlined in section A.5 of the Grant Contract.
11.	General	Are Divisions/Departments within TDH eligible to apply for the CHW grant to incorporate CHWs into their efforts and programs?	Other state agencies are not eligible to receive awards through this grant.
12.	General	What does amount of funding directed to IMPaCT for technical assistance cover? Does this include membership fees and training costs? We do see the membership fees and training is under the Allowable expenses category however we unclear what is included in technical assistance. The Grant payment structure indicates " IMPaCT will receive 50% of the funds for their technical support services."	Grant Contract Sections A.5.b and A.5.g outline the services provided by IMPaCT through their technical assistance and ongoing support throughout the Grant Contract period.

3. **Delete RFA Overview Section VI and insert the following in its place (any sentence or paragraph containing revised or new text is highlighted):**

VI. APPLICATION EVALUATION

An evaluation committee made up of at least three (3) representatives of TennCare will be established to judge the merit of eligible applications.

The committee shall review applications on the basis of the information requested in the RFA. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Level of projected impact
- Number of TennCare members served
- Appropriate ratio of CHWs to supervisors
- Organizational capacity and commitment of staff involved to implementing best practices
- Organizational commitment to growing the CHW program
- Commitment to implementing IMPaCT model
- Collaboration with relevant partners
- **Organizational capacity to serve pregnant and postpartum individuals.**

The committee will evaluate and recommend for selection the application that most aligns with the State's goals and responds to the State's needs.

Any application that is incomplete or contains significant inconsistencies or inaccuracies shall be rejected. The State reserves the right to waive minor variances, reject any or all applications, and request clarifications from all applicants.

4. **RFA Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFA not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.