

# GHAP Capacity Building Program

## ARH Partnership Grant

### Grant Summary

The Affordable Rental Housing Partnership Grant (ARH Partnership Grant) provides grants up to \$25,000 to be spent over two-years, to non-profit organizations and Native nations\* in Oregon in support of activities and services provided to residents applying for or living in multi-family affordable rental housing properties.

### CONTACT:

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### Background

OHCS' Housing Stability Council, developers, and community-based organizations (CBOs) have provided feedback to OHCS through one-on-one conversations and through the recent Policy & Partner Engagement series. This feedback has highlighted that a primary barrier to partnership and quality resident services is the lack of planned budget resources, or limited resources, to compensate CBOs for work in lease-up and resident support and services. Some OHCS housing development financing programs currently require applicants to create a budget for partnership and resident services activities while others do not.

By providing this grant funding directly to CBOs for their work in support of current and potential residents living in affordable rental housing, OHCS is providing additional resources to partner CBOs to support their pivotal role in building community and supporting success for individuals living in units within affordable rental housing properties.

### Eligibility

Eligible entities include non-profit organizations and Native nations. (\*For the purposes of this grant, Native nations refers to Federally recognized Tribal Nations in Oregon.) *Please refer to the Request for Applications (RFA) for a full list of definitions for this grant.*

Activities for this grant must be in service of residents of income-restricted multifamily affordable rental housing properties.

Additionally, applicant organizations must also meet **at least five of the following eight** criteria:

1. Organization primarily serves low and/or very low-income individuals
2. Organization is a Culturally Specific Organization
3. Organization is based in a rural community or primarily serves rural communities
4. Organization can effectively serve Black, Indigenous, and/or Communities of Color
5. Organization primarily serves a community historically targeted by discriminatory housing policies in Oregon
6. Organization currently has affordable rental housing within their portfolio of properties **-Or-** Provides ongoing operating support or resident services to an affordable rental housing property
7. Organization has fewer than 10 individual staff – **Or** – Has an annual budget of \$1 million or less
8. Organization primarily serves a community that has been found to be severely rent burdened (paying more than 50% of income on rent) or is at higher risk of eviction due to the COVID-19 pandemic

## Maximum Award Amount

\$25,000

**Application window opens: December 5, 2022**

**Application window closes: January 20, 2023 at 5:00pm PST (Updated Closing Date)**

**Online information session via Zoom: December 7, 2022 at 10:30am PST. [Please register in advance for the online information session.](#)**

[Link to the recorded information session.](#)

## How to apply

Download the RFA and application from the [OHCS Procurement Opportunities webpage](#).

**Application should be submitted electronically to [OHCS.Contracts@hcs.oregon.gov](mailto:OHCS.Contracts@hcs.oregon.gov) as an attachment by January 20, 2023 at 5:00pm PST.** Please reference RFA #7187 in the Subject Line of all e-email communications.

## Eligible resident service activities include (but are not limited to):

- **Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing:** interpretation and translation, partnership in development of outreach strategy, support for reaching underserved populations to build the wait list for an affordable housing project in development, collaboration in creation and implementation of low-barrier tenant screening

- **Inclusive outreach and engagement:** participatory design, listening sessions, collaborative development of resident services plan, addressing cultural and language communication and accessibility needs
- **Resident services:** support for resident asset building strategies, eviction prevention, activities that build resident capacity for self-determination, workforce support, family support services, educational and knowledge-sharing opportunities

## Evaluation

Organizations will apply competitively for maximum grants of \$25,000. Although this is a two-year grant, the department does not intend for the grants to provide an ongoing subsidy for resident services.

Priority points will be awarded to applications with activities in service of:

- Historically underserved communities or those considered not likely to apply for affordable housing without targeted outreach, including marketing materials in other languages for limited English proficient individuals, and alternative formats for persons with disabilities. Reasons for not applying may include, but are not limited to, insufficient information about housing opportunities, past involvement with the justice system, cultural barriers, language barriers, or transportation impediments.
- Affordable housing projects currently in the 4% LIHTC pipeline of projects, and those that were in the pipeline within the last year, that were approved prior to changes to the state's 2021/2022 Qualified Action Plan.
- Native nations and rural communities in Oregon

Additional information about scoring will be provided within the RFA. The review panel will also consider:

- How feasible will this be to implement?
- Who will be served/participating in the project / program?
- How impactful will these activities / efforts be?
- How well does this align with the objectives of the OHCS Statewide Housing Plan and the funding opportunity?
- How strong are the equity and inclusion components of the request and application?
- Is this organization well positioned to provide the proposed housing and/or services to the priority population for this grant?

## Awards, Disbursements, and Reports

OHCS will award these funds through a request for applications process. Organizations can submit applications that outline the resident services and activities they intend to provide to

residents of an affordable rental housing property. Organizations with applications selected for funding will participate in a grant kick-off meeting and receive guidance about disbursement requests and reporting. Grant recipients will be required to provide year-end reports to OHCS on progress, successes, lessons learned, and potential policy opportunities. *Please refer to the RFA for definitions and more detailed information about this grant.*

**Email questions about this grant offering to [OHCS.Contracts@hcs.oregon.gov](mailto:OHCS.Contracts@hcs.oregon.gov)**

**Grant Administrator:**

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*(Grant administrator cannot answer questions related to this grant or your application while the offering is active.)*