HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION
Office of Recovery and Resilience

Kate Brown, Governor

500 Summer Street NE,
Salem, OR 97301-1118

www.oregon.gov/OHA/HSD

DATE: November 16th, 2022

To: Oregon Peer-Run Organizations,
Community-Based Organizations, and Peer
Support Programs

From: Steven J. Allen, Behavioral Health Director

Subject: Funding to increase availability of support, professional development, training, and continuing education for the peer workforce in Oregon, and related to HB 4071.

The Oregon Health Authority's Office of Recovery and Resilience is pleased to announce the availability of funds for one-time investments to increase availability of support, professional development, training, and continuing education for the peer workforce in Oregon. This funding is intended to increase Peer Delivered Services (PDS) workforce capacity in Oregon and provide additional supports to the existing peer workforce. Eligible organizations serving people who are seeking behavioral health or recovery support may apply. These funds are made available from House Bill 4071 (2022).

Funding awards will prioritize peer-run organizations, as defined on page 2 of this announcement. Funding awards will also prioritize programs that serve individuals and groups experiencing inequities in access to health care resources for people from tribal communities and communities of color, veterans/military service members, residents of rural communities, LGBTQIA2S+ people, and/or older adults. All programs and supports must be culturally and linguistically responsive, as defined on page 2 of this announcement. Awarded funds must be spent by June 30, 2023.

OHA is seeking to fund projects that fall under the following categories:

A. Development of Culturally Specific Peer-Certification Curriculums
- Culturally specific peer-certification courses for adults – OHA will distribute up to $100,000 in grants to support development of culturally specific curriculum(s) leading to certification of adult mental health Peer Support Specialists (PSS) or Peer Wellness Specialists (PWS).
- Culturally specific peer-certification courses for youth – OHA will distribute up to $100,000 in grants to support development of culturally specific curriculum(s) leading to certification of youth support specialists (PSS or PWS.)
- Culturally specific peer-certification courses for families – OHA will distribute up to $100,000 in grants to support development of culturally specific curriculum(s) leading to certification of family support specialists (PSS or PWS).

B. Peer Workforce Training (in-person or remote)
- Provision of peer certification training in adult mental health, adult addictions, youth support, or family support. OHA will distribute up to $500,000 in grants to support delivery of PDS certification trainings, to be provided at no cost to attendees. Proposals may include funds to support travel and lodging costs for attendees.
- Provision of continuing education for members of the peer delivered services workforce. OHA will distribute up to $250,000 in grants to support delivery of trainings for continuing education and

professional development. Trainings are to be provided at no cost to attendees. Proposals may include funds to support travel and lodging costs for attendees.

C. Direct Support for Members of the Peer Workforce
- Funds for Employee Wellness Projects. - OHA will distribute up to $1,000,000 in grants supporting Wellness approaches and supports for Peer Workers. Funds can be used to design and implement new employee wellness programs or fund existing programs.
- Funds to support Culturally Specific/Culturally Responsive Professional Development for Peer Workers - OHA will distribute up to $450,000 to support the professional development of culturally specific peer workers. Eligible projects include but are not limited to: training, conferences, affinity or support groups, culturally specific supervision, and employee wellness or support programs.
- Sign-On/Retention Bonus Programs- OHA will distribute up to $1,000,000 in grants to provide pay bonuses for sign-on / new hire of peer workers and retention of existing peer workers.

For the purposes of these grants, "peer-run organization" is defined as an organization:
- In which a majority of the individuals who oversee the organization's operation and who are in positions of control have participated in behavioral health services or have lived experience with mental health or addiction challenges; and
- Is fully independent, separate, and autonomous from other behavioral health agencies; and
- Has the authority and responsibility for all oversight and decision-making on governance, financial, personnel, policy and program issues in the organization.

For the purposes of these grants, "culturally and linguistically responsive" and "culturally and linguistically specific" services are defined as follows:

"Culturally and linguistically responsive services" means the provision of effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs.

"Culturally and linguistically specific services" means provision of culturally and linguistically responsive services (defined above) designed for a specific population by a provider who shares the culture, language, or identity with the individual seeking services.

Eligibility:
- Any 501(c)(3) Organization that provides services to individuals in Oregon. Organizations with 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsors are eligible to apply. Organizations must hold commercial general liability insurance covering bodily injury and property damage of not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and annual aggregate limit not less than $2,000,000 or be able to subcontract with a partner who meets these requirements. Funding awards will prioritize peer-run organizations.
- All Grantees must abide by OHA's nondiscrimination policy, and state and federal civil rights laws, unless otherwise exempted by federal or state law. Specifically, people participating in OHA-sponsored activities or programs may not be treated unfairly because of age, color, disability, gender identity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. Health systems and for-profit organizations are not eligible.

Interested parties may submit a Letter of Intent to access House Bill 4071 funding. The letter must be signed by the individual in your organization who has the authority to commit to the proposed services. The letter must include:

- The name and location of your organization or program
- A contact person including email address and phone number.

- A description of your organization and the geographical area(s) you serve.
- If you are applying on behalf of a peer-run organization, please describe how your program meets the definition of "peer-run organization," as defined in this announcement. Please include a description of your organization's leadership structure or an organizational chart.
- A description of how your organization promotes health equity. Please include a description of how your program ensures equitable, inclusive, and culturally and linguistically responsive services and supports to those you serve. Please discuss how your program ensures access to services for people from tribal communities and communities of color, veterans/military service members, residents of rural communities, LGBTQIA2S+ people, and/or older adults.
- Optional question: If you will be providing culturally and / or linguistically specific projects or programs, please let us know and describe who you will serve with this programming.
- A description of each proposed project.
  - **For (A), Development of Culturally Specific Peer-Certification Curriculums**, please give a description of the curriculum you intend to create. Please include information about the focus of the curriculum (youth support, family support, or adult mental health peer support), whether it's intended to certify peer support specialists or peer wellness specialists, who will be included in the creation and design of the curriculum, and the community or communities who will be served with the curriculum.
  - **For (B), Peer Workforce Training (in-person or remote)**, please give the name and a description of each training or trainings you intend to deliver. Please include information about the geographical location where any in-person trainings will be held; the target audience for the training, including the section(s) of the workforce who you expect to attend (youth, family, adult mental health, or adult addictions); the benefit, outcome, or learning objectives for training participants; the section(s) of the peer workforce invited to participate; and the approximate number of people you will train.
  - **For (C), Direct Support For Members of the Peer Workforce**, please give a description of the proposed project, who you expect to participate, and approximately how many people you expect to serve. Please describe how your project will create safe and supportive environments for peer workers and support wellness and cultural resilience for the peer workforce. For culturally specific projects, please describe the specific community or communities you will support.
- An itemized budget for the proposed project.
- A list of key deliverables and intended outcomes that you propose to track and report.

Requests for funds will be accepted until December 16th, 2022 at 11:00 pm. Awards will be made based on the availability of funds as well as the adequacy of the information submitted by respondents. The criteria which will be used to determine awards is attached. Applications should be sent to beau.rappaport@dhsoha.state.or.us. Please include the subject line: **Behavioral Health Workforce Initiative/PDS.** Awardees will be notified of funding decisions by no later than December 31st, 2022.

If you have questions, please contact Beau Rappaport by email at beau.rappaport@dhsoha.state.or.us or by calling 503-309-3567.

Thank you,

Steven Allen

SCORING SHEET - PDS Workforce Grants

Organization Name:

Reviewer Name:

		Points awarded	
Basic Project Requirements:			*Note to reviewers: These 2 questions are not point based, but funding eligibility requires a "yes" answer*
Has the program demonstrated that they will provide equitable, inclusive, culturally and linguistically responsive services? (YES/NO)			
Is the applicant a 501 (c)(3) or organization with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor? (YES/NO)			
Program Type (40 points)		**Points awarded**	
Is the applicant a peer-run organization, as defined in the funding announcement? If yes, give 20 points. If no, give 0 points.			
Is the applicant a culturally specific organization or program, as defined in the funding announcement? If yes, give 20 points, if no, give 0 points.			
Program description (50 points)		**Points awarded**	*Note to reviewers: type numeric score for each category in the appropriate box. Total score for project narrative will be calculated in this cell automatically.*
MAX 15 POINTS, Organizational commitment to equity and cultural responsiveness: Does the application fully explain how the organization provides equitable, accessible, gender affirming, culturally and linguistically responsive supports to every person they serve? Does the response reflect a sincere commitment to equity, inclusion, and anti-racism? Is the organization taking meaningful steps to ensure access to services for people from tribal communities and communities of color, veterans / military service members, residents of rural communities, LGBTQIA2S+ people, and older adults.			
MAX 10 POINTS, Potential impact of project on health inequities: Does the project primarily serve people or groups experiencing inequities in access to health care resources for people from tribal communities and communities of color, veterans/military service members, residents of rural communities, LGBTQIA2S+ people, and/or older adults?			
MAX 5 POINTS: Project outcomes. Do the outcomes the program proposes to track seem realistic, measurable, and meaningful? Will these outcomes promote health equity? How well do these outcomes align with peer values and recovery principles?			
Category A: Development of Culturally Specific Peer-Certification Curriculums. (If evaluating a project outside of Category A, skip this section and enter N/A in the points awarded column.)			
MAX 20 POINTS, Overall project description: described, is the project likely to produce a high-quality, culturally specific curriculum for youth support, family support, or adult mental health peer support certification? Is the focus of the curriculum aligned with current community needs? Will people with lived experience be the primary designers and developers of the proposed curriculum?	As		
Category B: Peer Workforce Training. (If evaluating a project outside of Category B, skip this section and enter N/A in the points awarded column.)			
MAX 20 POINTS, Overall Project Description: described, will the proposed training(s) deliver high-quality, relevant training to members of the peer workforce. Will the proposed training(s) uphold and promote the delivery of fidelity peer support? Will the proposed training(s) align with peer values of mutual support, individual choice, and self-determination?	As		
Category C: Direct Support for Members of the Peer Workforce. (If evaluating a project outside of Category C, skip this section and enter N/A in the points awarded column.)			
Max 20 POINTS, Overall Project Description: described, will the proposed project increase the capacity of the PDS workforce to deliver high-qualified, fidelity peer support? As described, will the proposed project create a safe and supportive environment for the peer workforce, promote professional development, and support wellness and cultural resilience for the peer workforce?	As		
Project Budget (10 Points)			
MAX 5 POINTS, Feasibility: Does the budget seem reasonable in light of the proposed program?			
MAX 5 POINTS, Completeness: Was the budget template fully completed, including narrative explanations where applicable?			
TOTAL SCORE (Maximum 100):			*Note to reviewers: Total score will be calculated based on above values assigned for narrative, work plan and project budget.*

(Left margin label: Application scoring criteria)

Application Strengths:

Concerns or Areas for Improvement

Other comments:

Add other thoughts here
Use alt+enter to start a new line

Final Recommendation: Reviewers should determine if the proposal is Exceptional, Good, Fair or Poor based on the numerical value out of 70 points, reflections on application, and concerns/ areas of improvement.

Reviewers Initials	Final Recommendation (Fully fund, partially fund, or do not fund.) Please explain your reasoning.	