

## **DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

### **NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY RFA No. RM0 POC OUD 061419**

#### **DC Peer Operated Centers (POC) Supporting Individuals with Opioid Use Disorders and Providing Awareness about Opioid Misuse**

##### **Purpose/Description of Project**

Live. Long. DC is a part of the District's response strategy to reduce opioid-related deaths by 50% by 2020. The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is seeking to use District of Columbia Opioid Response Grant (DCOR) funds to expand peer recovery supportive services in an effort to increase access to Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment and improve care coordination through Peer Operated Centers (POC). Peer-to-peer recovery support services are critical to address the needs of those with serious and persistent mental illness and chronic substance use and addiction. Supports such as pro-social activities, recovery coaching, job readiness, self-help and support groups, faith-based support, and educational information for individuals with OUD, and prevention activities for individuals at-risk of OUD promote a comprehensive person-centered approach. Furthermore, aggressive peer-led outreach and engagement to current behavioral health providers (mental health and substance use), shelters and other places persons with OUD congregate complement existing resources in the community.

DBH is committed to the development of POC(s) for consumers of behavioral health services who reside in the District of Columbia. A POC is a network of non-clinical services developed and mobilized to help attain and sustain long-term recovery for consumers and families impacted by behavioral health treatment. Activities will provide an environment that will promote a lifetime of wellness for consumers, families and the community. DBH believes those who have "lived experience" in the mental health and substance use system play an integral role in the design, development, and implementation of behavioral health services. By providing infrastructure, recovery capital and other referral resources within the District, the recovery and resilience-oriented systems will expand the role of Certified Peer Specialist and Recovery Coaches from an expert model to a partnership/consultation model in which everyone's perspective, experience and expertise is welcomed and considered.

This solicitation will include two application opportunities:

COMPETITION #1 – OUD – Focused Peer Operated Centers

COMPETITION #2 – OUD – Focused Special Population Peer Operated Centers

##### **Eligibility Requirements**

**All applicants (Competition #1 and Competition #2) must:**

1. Be a legally-authorized entity within the District of Columbia.
2. Have at least one POC located physically within the District of Columbia.

3. Have a leadership team with lived experience in the behavioral health system.

### **Implementation Requirements for Competition #1**

1. Have programming in which peers can support one another in formal and informal ways and provide opportunities for identified support for a minimum of 6 months.
2. Establish respectful and collaborative relationships with behavioral health agencies, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) providers/prescribers, and the service structures of local recovery agencies (i.e. establish Memoranda of Agreement with behavioral health providers regarding referrals and enrollment of individuals in need of care).
3. Have a team of Certified Peer Specialists and Recovery Coaches with experience navigating the behavioral health system. This team should have diverse lived experiences and educational backgrounds.
4. Have administrative processes (i.e. intake, referral, daily sign-in procedures, evaluation process, data tracking, etc.).
5. Have experience providing and tracking assertive linkages to services and supports for individuals with OUD or prevention activities with individuals at-risk of OUD (i.e. provide documentation that the individuals has been enrolled in services).
6. Hire Peer Outreach Coordinator(s) to plan, coordinate, and execute all outreach activities.

### **Implementation Requirements for Competition #2**

1. Have programming in which peers can support one another in formal and informal ways and provide opportunities for identified support for a minimum of 6 months.
2. Have a team of Certified Peer Specialists and Recovery Coaches with experience navigating the behavioral health system. This team should have diverse lived experiences and educational backgrounds.
3. Have administrative process (such as, intake, referral, daily sign-in procedures, evaluation process, data tracking, etc.)
4. Have experience providing and tracking assertive linkages to services and supports for individuals with OUD or prevention activities with individuals at-risk of OUD (i.e. provide documentation that the individuals has been enrolled in services).
5. Clearly identify returning citizens community, LGBTQ community, and/or immigrant community as populations of focus. Establish programming specific to the populations identified.
6. Establish respectful and collaborative relationships with behavioral health agencies, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) providers/prescribers, and the service structures of local recovery agencies (i.e. establish Memoranda of Agreement with

behavioral health providers regarding referrals and enrollment of individuals in need of care).

7. Hire Peer Outreach Coordinator(s) to plan, coordinate, and execute all outreach activities.

### **Length of Award**

The grant awards for Competition #1 and #2 will be made from the date of award through September 29, 2019. The grant may be continued for one (1) additional year based on documented project success and availability of funding.

### **Available Funding**

#### **Competition #1**

Approximately \$210,000 is available to fund three (3) grant awards. Each grant award is \$70,000. Grants will be awarded by DBH utilizing funds provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), State Opioid Response Grant, CFDA #93.788. The grant award is contingent upon available funding.

#### **Competition #2**

Approximately \$210,000 is available to fund three (3) grant awards. Each grant award is \$70,000. Grants will be awarded by DBH utilizing funds provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), State Opioid Response Grant, CFDA #93.788. The grant award is contingent upon available funding.

### **Request for Application (RFA) Release**

The RFA will be released June 14, 2019. The RFA will be posted on the DBH website, [www.dbh.dc.gov](http://www.dbh.dc.gov) under Opportunities, and on the website of the Office of Partnerships and Grants, [www.opgs.dc.gov](http://www.opgs.dc.gov) under the District Grants Clearinghouse. A copy of the RFA may be obtained from the DBH Community and Family Affairs Administration, located at 64 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, from Terri Harrison during the hours of 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. beginning June 14, 2019.

### **Pre-Application Conference**

A pre-application conference will be held at DBH, 64 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, 20002, 2nd Floor, DBH Training Room 242 on June 18, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Terri Harrison on (202) 673-4377.

### **Deadline for Application**

The deadline for submission is July 15, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. ET.