

SI-01: Community Driven Behavioral Health Grants

Initiative Description Overview

Intent: By directly empowering communities to design service approaches that meet their needs, this initiative seeks to overcome barriers to behavioral health service participation and recovery that ethnic and cultural communities experience.

MIDD Policy Goal: Increase culturally appropriate, trauma-informed behavioral health services.

The goal of this concept is to provide a mechanism for MIDD to invest in locally conceived, community-driven behavioral health services, with a special focus on cultural and ethnic communities.

Procurement and Contracting of Services: require periodic, low-barrier requests for proposals (RFPs) – *no less frequently than annually* – to facilitate the selection of time-limited community-driven projects for funding.

Criteria for possible time-limited renewal of the projects may be developed. When renewed grants are sought for equivalent or substantively similar projects after the first year, *funding will most commonly be renewed partially*.

Funding: Mini-Grants and Mid-sized Grants

- **Mini-Grants** will be awarded at least two times per year. The maximum mini-grant amount will be **\$9,999** per year per organization, subject to change.
- **Mid-sized Grants** are expected to be awarded with amounts between **\$10,000 and \$24,999** per year per organization, subject to change
- **Larger requests** may be considered under certain circumstances for well coordinated community-driven projects that reflect the participation of multiple stakeholders, up to a maximum amount. The maximum mid-sized grant amount is expected to be **\$49,999 per year per organization**, subject to change.

SI-02: Behavioral Health Services in Rural King County

Initiative Description Overview

Intent: By directly empowering communities to design service approaches that meet their needs, this initiative seeks to overcome barriers to behavioral health service participation and recovery that ethnic and cultural communities experience.

MIDD Policy Goal: Improve health and wellness of individuals living with behavioral health conditions. This program will improve health and wellness primarily by promoting access to services and community self-determination in areas of King County that have very little access to publicly funded behavioral health care.

Procurement and Contracting of Services: require periodic, low-barrier requests for proposals (RFPs) – *no less frequently than annually* – to facilitate the selection of time-limited community-driven projects for funding.

Criteria for possible time-limited renewal of the projects may be developed. When renewed grants are sought for equivalent or substantively similar projects after the first year, *funding will most commonly be renewed partially*.

Funding: Mini-Grants and Mid-sized Grants

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MIDD Team Learnings

- Few organizations apply for funding under \$9,999. Most applications are for the larger amount (\$49,999) per year. Feedback has indicated that a two-year funding cycle is more effective
- Evaluation expectations for these grants mirror those of larger agencies that receive significantly more funding
- Requires Matching contributions that may come in the form of funding from other sources or donated time, space, or other in-kind resources. This is not an expectation of other MIDD partners
- Significant workload for MIDD Team with high number of contracts that need to be managed, including monthly invoices, evaluation and program management.
- Funding for Community Driven Grants was increased in 2022 Omnibus process and a proposed increase for Rural grants is included in 23-24 DCHS budget, effective 2024.

Recommended Changes

- Increase funding limit to 100k per year per agency
- Allow for up to two years of funding
- Eliminate Mini-Grants: allow agencies to identify funding amount required for project
- Eliminate expectation of Match
- Other thoughts?