

Biltmore Housing Expanded Services

RFP for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

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Application Form

Question Group

Buncombe County requests proposals for projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts.

Buncombe County has been awarded \$50,733,290 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Recovery Funding), as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. To date, Buncombe County has awarded projects totaling \$23,093,499, leaving a balance of \$27,639,791 available to award.

Visit <http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding><http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding><http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding><http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding><http://www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding> for details.

This infusion of federal resources is intended to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Buncombe County is committed to investing these funds in projects that:

- Align to county strategic plan and community priorities
- Support equitable outcomes for most impacted populations
- Leverage and align with other governmental funding sources
- Make best use of this one-time infusion of resources
- Have a lasting impact

Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP and any addenda issued hereto.

[Click here for the full terms and conditions of the RFP](#)

Organization Type*

Public

Nonprofit documentation

If nonprofit, attach IRS Determination Letter or other proof of nonprofit status.

Name of Project.*

Biltmore Housing Expanded Services

New/Updated Proposal*

Is this a new project proposal or an updated version of a proposal submitted during the earlier (July 2021) Recovery Funding RFP?

New project proposal

Amount of Funds Requested*

\$376,040.00

Category*

Please select one:

- Affordable Housing
- Aging/Older Adults
- Business Support/Economic Development
- Environmental/Climate
- Homelessness
- K-12 Education
- Infrastructure and/or Broadband
- Mental Health/Substance Use
- NC Pre-K Expansion
- Workforce

Workforce

Brief Project Description*

Provide a short summary of your proposed project.

We are proposing to expand our scope to become an integrated multi service residential provider of mental health/substance abuse services that also addresses homelessness, and transitioning recently released probation and parole population. We believe that as a residential facility addressing the multiple needs of it's members we can overcome many of the obstacles faced by similar programs. Providing transportation to medical services, legal obligations, basic life needs such as employment seeking, drivers license and credit re-establishment, in conjunction with housing and on site support will greatly improve the effectiveness of the program. The facility will also provide office space so that probation and parole officers can supervise their clients on site.

Two "drop in" rooms will be available for matriculated clients in crisis on a 24/7 basis.

Project Plan*

Explain how the project will be structured and implemented, including timeframe.

Purchase a 6 Passenger Van.

Van to be available for the above listed off campus needs (medical, employment seeking, drivers lic., etc.) as well as transporting clients to 12 step program meetings.

For the counseling staff:

One supervisor with the following credentials: LMHCS, Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor, NC Certified Criminal Justice Professional.

Three State Certified Peer Support Specialists:

Initial secession with each client will be with the supervisor and the assigned peer support specialist, at which time a treatment plan will be formulated.

Clients will be afforded daily contact with peer support specialists and a monthly meeting with the clinical supervisor, peer support specialist and client to review and update the treatment plan. One counselor will be on call on a 24/7 basis to address emergencies or crises.

Treatment plan:

Phase 1: assessment of the following histories: substance abuse, and recovery, mental health and medications (if any), criminal justice, social support, social skills and needs, work, and credit.

The client will be taken to the necessary social service agencies.

Phase 2: the client will continue working on their treatment plan, join the relapse prevention group twice a week, meet with the peer support specialist daily unless working.

Phase 3: working clients will meet with peer support specialist at least once a week, more if needed, attend relapse prevention groups twice weekly. Recovery plan to be revisited monthly.

We are proposing an 18-24 month program with continued services available on an as need basis for clients who have successfully reintegrated into the community at large for an additional 12 months. Shorter programs ignore the temporal statistics of relapse to drug/alcohol addiction and recovery from incarceration. According to the National Institute of Justice, almost 44% of convicted criminals released return before the first year out of prison. (worldpopulationreview.com/state-ratings/recidivism-rates-by-state). In 2005, about 68% of the 495,000 prisoners were arrested for a new crime within three years. " Factors contributing to recidivism include finding a job to support themselves...steps can be taken during early release to decrease recidivism." (worldpopulationreview.com/state-ratings/recidivism-rates-by-state) In numbers, the statistics indicate that anywhere from 40 to 60 percent of people with addiction will experience a relapse. (www.hazeldenbettyford.org/articles/relapse-risks-stats-and-warning-signs).

As part of the counseling a relapse prevention track will be instituted following the best practices as outlined in "Relapse Prevention and Substance Abusing Criminal Offender"
<https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/Digitization/152332NCJRS.pdf>

Statement of Need*

Describe the need that this project will address. Include data to demonstrate the need, and cite the source of the data.

This project will address the following needs in our community:

According to the Asheville Citizen Times, 1/31/22,
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=buncombecounty>,

"Last conducted in January 2021, the 2021 Point in Time count identified 527 people experiencing homelessness, 116 unsheltered, and 411 sheltered. "

-- Provide housing for individuals with mental health, substance abuse issues.

- Provide housing for homeless.
- Provide transportation to off site providers.
- Provide housing for individuals transitioning from prison/institutional facilities
- <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2020.00767/full>
- Provide for basic living skills and training for the above populations.
- Provide in house peer support and group therapy for the above populations
- For individuals with drug/alcohol abuse problems, provide an intensive relapse prevention track.

Link to COVID-19*

Identify a health or economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency, describe the nature and extent of that harm, and explain how the use of this funding would address such harm.

Many of the people who rely on the delivery of government programs (social security, drivers licenses, mental health services, food services, etc.) have had difficulty in obtaining needed services. This and the consequences of housing and employment insecurity due to stressors from the pandemic have adversely affected the general population. Individuals with drug/alcohol addiction or mental health issues have been particularly susceptible. According to Frontiers in Psychiatry, <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2020.00767/full>, the Covid Pandemic has caused " (a) changes in levels of drug use—an increase is often seen as a reactive behavior to negative impact of disasters; (b) a shift to other substances if access to those previously used become limited; (c) a relapse, if they had already recovered from alcohol/drug addiction. "

During the pandemic traditional in- person (individual or group) mental health therapy has all but disappeared and those who had benefitted from it have experienced at the least a halt in any positive progress, or at the worst, a reversion to unhealthy behaviors. According to Cedars of Sinai, "national surveys are beginning to show what we expected, which is that there are increased prevalence rates of stress and depression. We're also seeing reduced initiation of treatment for patients with substance use disorders, and a reversal of last year's reduction in overdose deaths." <https://www.cedars-sinai.org/newsroom/long-term-impacts-of-covid-19-your-mental-health/>

Employment for numerous individuals, especially at the lower end of the social scale, had also become either non-existent or precarious as businesses closed due to pandemic protocols. For many this has led to homelessness and increased stressors, a causative factor in mental illness, addiction, and criminal activity.

Finally, cost of living increases during this period have contributed to both housing and food insecurity.

Population Served*

Define the population to be served by this project, including volume and demographic characteristics of those served.

This program will serve a wide cross section of our local population. A variety of demographics are to be served by our program; however, the fact that homelessness is at the core of our program, lower income populations will be most severely affected by the Covid pandemic. Nonetheless, many other demographic groups will be represented: according to Frontiers in Psychiatry, "Our findings identify several demographic and COVID-related worries for increased odds of alcohol intake and co-morbid psychological distress during the COVID-19 pandemic, including identifying as a woman, high income groups, being divorced, separated or widowed, and experiencing financial worries and COVID illness worries. These characteristics should be

considered when developing prevention and treatment programs for adults with problematic alcohol use and comorbid anxiety and depression." <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.680028/full>

Results*

Describe the proposed impact of the project. List at least 3 performance measures that will be tracked and reported. If possible, include baselines and goals for each performance measure.

Objective performance measures that we will track and report on:

- Long term abstinence from alcohol/drug use
- Stable employment.
- Self sufficient living
- Tractability and absence of criminal behavior

Evaluation*

Describe the data collection, analysis, and quality assurance measures you will use to assure ongoing, effective tracking of contract requirements and outcomes.

- For individuals with alcohol/drug related issues, random urine testing will be standard throughout the program to assure compliance.
- The program will track employment and education attendance, medication compliance if applicable, therapy sessions and 12 step program attendance.
- Monthly self reporting covering both objective and subjective parameters
- Monthly reevaluation of treatment plan by peer specialists and LMHCS

Equity Impact*

How will this effort help build toward a just, equitable, and sustainable COVID-19 recovery? How are the root causes and/or disproportionate impacts of inequities addressed?

Societal healing from the impact of Covid-19 is at the root of our program. Consistent with C. Wright Mills theory of Sociological Imagination, by reducing the negative consequences of the pandemic such as homelessness, drug addiction, criminal behavior and recidivism, and mental health disorders our community will become a healthier and more equitable environment. A positive social context is conducive to improved quality of life for all members of a given society. As the majority of our clients will be coming from lower socio-economic strata their elevation into a more middle class lifestyle will address the disproportionate impacts of inequities resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.

From a financial perspective, reintegrating previously unemployed individuals into the work force will have positive effects on our local economy.

Project Partners*

Identify any subcontractors you intend to use for the proposed scope of work. For each subcontractor listed, indicate:

- 1.) What products and/or services are to be supplied by that subcontractor and;
- 2.) What percentage of the overall scope of work that subcontractor will perform.

Also, list non-funded key partners critical to project.

RHA- pay for 30 days for people coming out of jail on pre-trial, IOP for 12 weeks
 October Road- provide MAT
 On Track Financial Services-to help our clients address bad or no credit ratings.
 ABCCM - food clothes
 Western Carolina Rescue Mission - food and clothes
 MAHEC provides continuing client health care, MAT, and supplies Naltrexone
 Dellfell Clinic provides MAT
 Minnie Jones Health Center provides MAT
 Vocational Rehabilitation for job coaching

The above project partners provide services for our clients when they first arrive @ Biltmore Housing Inc.

Capacity*

Describe the background, experience, and capabilities of your organization or department as it relates to capacity for delivering the proposed project and managing federal funds.

Baltimore Housing, Inc. was founded in 2010. Our goal was to have affordable transition housing for clients with mental health issues, substance abuse history, criminal history and or homelessness issues. In the past 22 years we have grown to be able to house 50 people. We will dedicate 30 beds to this program. This program will allow us to better serve our client population in-house. We will hire a Manager to ensure compliance with both JACO standards and the projects funds.

Budget*

Provide a detailed project budget including all proposed project revenues and expenditures, including explanations and methodology. For all revenue sources, list the funder and denote whether funds are confirmed or pending. For project expenses, denote all capital vs. operating costs, and reflect which specific expenses are proposed to be funded with one-time Buncombe County Recovery Funds.

Download a copy of the budget form [HERE](#). Complete the form, and upload it using the button below.

Biltmore Housing Inc.-Funds-budget-template (1).xlsx

Special Considerations*

Provide any other information that might assist the County in its selection.

The cost of housing our clients in jail, mental institutions, and drug rehabs ranges from \$115 per day to \$300. And those figures only account for housing not reintegration into society and 3 year follow-up. We know that the recidivism rate for offenders with substance abuse and mental health issues are even higher than other populations.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Biltmore Housing Inc.-Funds-budget-template (1).xlsx

