

## **NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

### **STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF DISABILITY SERVICES**

#### **Inclusive Healthy Communities (IHC) Grant Program**

**TAKE NOTICE** that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Division of Disability Services (DDS) hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein.

**Program Name:** Inclusive Healthy Communities (IHC) Grant Program.

**Purpose:** The Inclusive Healthy Communities (IHC) Grant Program provides funding opportunities to communities and nonprofit organizations in New Jersey to promote and implement initiatives that support the health and well-being of individuals with disabilities in the communities where they live.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Disability Services (DDS). Contingent upon available appropriations, with funding and oversight provided by DDS, awardees will undertake initiatives to address the following three mutually reinforcing, specific objectives with a broad focus on all people with disabilities, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration status, and/or income:

1. Adopt processes that are inclusive of people with disabilities as part of efforts to plan and create healthy communities; and
2. Plan and implement sustainable strategies that deliver the benefits of healthy communities to people with disabilities; and
3. Advance sustainable practice, systems, and environmental change that address the pre-existing physical, environmental, social, and economic challenges that prevent people with disabilities from having full access to the opportunities that support health and well-being.

In accordance with the IHC core principles and priority considerations, outlined below, applications should seek to advance policy, practice, systems, and environmental changes to enhance healthy community outcomes for people with disabilities.

**Available Funding Amount:** Total funding available through this RFP is approximately \$1.75 million, plus any additional amounts included in the Appropriations Act, to support the IHC program in the first twelve months. Contingent on the availability of funding, an equal amount will be available for the remaining twelve months of the grant cycle. The grant cycle runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.

Grants may not exceed a total of \$250,000 with a maximum of \$125,000 allocated per twelve month period

**Who Can Apply/Bidder Qualifications:** To be eligible for consideration for an IHC grant, the bidder must satisfy the following requirements:

- The bidder must be a (a) county or municipal government entity, including local and county authorities such as a Board of Education, or (b) an organization with a current status of having IRS approved 501(c)(3) status
- The bidder must be in good standing with DDS if there is an existing grant or contract in place. The bidder must have all outstanding Plans of Correction (PoC) for deficiencies submitted to DDS for approval prior to submission.
- The bidder must be fiscally viable based upon an assessment of the bidder's audited financial statements. If a bidder is determined, in DDS' sole discretion, to be insolvent or to present insolvency within the twelve (12) months after bid submission, DDS will deem the proposal ineligible for grant award.
- The bidder must not appear on the State of New Jersey Consolidated Debarment Report at <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/debarment/debarsearch.shtml> or be suspended or debarred by any other State or Federal entity from receiving funds; and
- Pursuant to DHS Contract Policy and Information Manual Policy Circular 8.05, the bidder shall not have a conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between the private interests and the official responsibilities of a person in a position of trust. Persons in a position of trust include Provider Agency staff members, officers and Governing Board Members. A bidder must have written Conflict of Interest policies and procedures that satisfy the requirements of P8.05, thereby ensuring that paid Board members do not participate in transactions except as expressly provided in the P8.05 circular.

**Proposal Procedure:** Effective January 16, 2025, the Request for Proposal (RFP) is available at <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants/>. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

**Proposal Filing Instructions:** All bidders are required to electronically submit a Letter of Intent no later than 5:00 pm ET on February 14, 2025 which will provide further access to the application portal where each prospective bidder will be required to submit their completed proposal no later than 5:00 pm ET on March 7, 2025.

**Submission Deadline:** Proposals must be received by 5:00 PM on March 7, 2025.

1/16/25

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Sarah Adelman, Commissioner

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Date