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Subject: Urban County News, December 19, 2017: Request for Applications for Community Mental Health Grant Funding (HB 13) Released

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Request for Applications for Community Mental Health Grant Funding (HB 13) Released

To All Urban Counties:

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has issued a Request for Applications (RFA) ([link](#) and attached) for the Community Mental Health Grant Program, as directed by House Bill 13, 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017. HHSC was appropriated \$10 million for FY18 and \$20 million for FY19.

Through the Community Mental Health Grant Program, HHSC will award grants to Texas communities to address the mental health needs of individuals with mental illness. HHSC will be hosting a webinar on the application process on January 10th from 10am-12pm CST. Register here – [link](#).

To be awarded a contract as a result of this RFA, an applicant must be a nonprofit organization or a governmental entity excluding Local Mental Health Authorities and Local Behavioral Health Authorities. A county can apply to the RFA even if they did not respond to the Needs and Capacity Assessment.

Responses are due to HHSC by January 31, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Central Time

Match Requirements:

- Equal to 50 percent of the grant amount if the community mental health program is located in a county with a population of less than 250,000;
- Equal to 100 percent of the grant amount if the community mental health program is located in a county with a population of at least 250,000; and
- Equal to the percentage of the grant amount otherwise required by this subsection for the largest county in which a community mental health program is located if the community mental health program is located in more than one county.

Match may include cash or in-kind contributions from any person. However, match may not include money from state or federal funds.

Grants distributed under the Community Mental Health Grants Program must address gaps in services identified in the Fiscal Year 2017-2021 Texas Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan, and align with the goals and strategies associated with selected gaps. The Fiscal Year 2017-2021 Texas Behavioral Health Strategic Plan may be found at <https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/050216-statewide-behavioral-health-strategic-plan.pdf>

Special consideration may be given to programs that:

- Align with the Comprehensive Plan for State-funded Inpatient Mental Health Services Report as published on HHSC's [website](#);
- Enhance crisis hotline services to include infrastructure to answer and respond to National Suicide Prevention Lifeline calls;
- Address the needs of individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) or Substance Use Disorders; and
- Address the needs of individuals living in rural areas who access services in urban communities. These programs may include, but are not limited to transportation and enhanced crisis response.

Please contact me if I may be of additional assistance on this or any other matter.

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