Community Development RFP Q&A

1/21/2021

- 1. Q: What is the maximum award amount per proposal?
 - A: \$50,000
- 2. Q: Can CDBG Entitlement communities apply for this funding?
 - A: Yes.
- 3. Q: How much money is available in this program?
 - A: \$250,000
- 4. Q: Do you anticipate enough flexibility in the program to fund lower-cost programs that meet only one of the activities?
 - A: While multiple priority areas will increase a proposal's score, applicants with projects under only one priority area are still encouraged to apply.

1/29/2021

- 5. A: Would an expansion of initiatives that bring internet access to communities fit under the program priorities?
 - Q: Yes. However, RIHousing will soon release an RFP that is focused on bridging the digital divide. We encourage applicants interested in this programmatic area to keep an eye on the RFP page for this posting, as your project may be better suited under this fund.
- 6. A: Would the Equitable Development Planning process and implementation phase happening in Newport be a fit for funding?
 - Q: Yes, this initiative would likely be eligible under the following priority area: "Programs/projects that would broaden inclusivity and create opportunity within low-income and/or racially and ethnically diverse communities by bringing investment and resources to initiatives that would complement housing to increase qualify of life, such as health-related initiatives or placemaking projects " or other priority areas, depending on the implementation activities outlined in the plan.
- 7. A: Would this grant cover hiring a part time staff person for a homeownership counseling program?
 - Q: Yes.
- 8. A: What is the grant period timeline?
 - Q: It is anticipated the timeline will be July 2021- June 2022.

- 9. A: If a proposal does not involve homeownership, will it still be eligible? I'm working with an agency in South County that works with people who are facing multiple barriers to stable housing. Stable, safe, affordable housing is the greatest need they face, although homeownership is likely a ways away.
 - Q: Yes, proposals that do not involve homeownership are eligible. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals for projects/programs that would stabilize housing for Rhode Islanders.
- 10. A: Could you provide some clarity around the final eligible activity described on the RFP: "Programs/projects that would broaden inclusivity and create opportunity within low-income and/or racially and ethnically diverse communities by bringing investment and resources to initiatives that would complement housing to increase quality of life, such as health-related initiatives or placemaking projects?"
 - Q: This is a wide ranging priority which many activities may fall under. This priority provides an opportunity for applicants to propose projects that may not fall under the other priorities, but that they feel would benefit and complement housing in their community.

2/8/2021

- 11. A: Can funds be used to provide participant incentives?
 - Q: Yes.

2/22/2021

- 12. A: Is there anyway to find out how much RIHousing financing housing is in Cranston and Providence?
 - Q: Over the past 15 years, we have financed nearly 800 new units in Providence and Cranston. For additional information on RIHousing's investments, please visit https://www.rihousing.com/policy-map/