



COHHIO Pandemic Emergency Fund

The purpose of the [COHHIO Pandemic Emergency Fund](#) is to ensure frontline responders to homelessness get the supplies, equipment, staffing and space they need during this crisis.

Categories

Funding will be available in five categories:

- **Category 1:** Help purchase essential supplies
- **Category 2:** Modify existing shelter space to meet public health recommendations for COVID-19 preparedness
- **Category 3:** Provide alternative shelter space with adequate support to meet public health recommendations for COVID-19 preparedness
- **Category 4:** Flexible financial assistance for shelter diversion or rapid exit to support social/physical distancing recommendations for shelter and reduce the number of people living unsheltered in the community
- **Category 5:** Other support to keep services operational and ensure clients have access to medical care and community resources

Rounds

Round 1: Maximum agency award will be \$10,000 for Round 1 proposals. Agencies should submit one application for multiple programs and can apply for funding in one or more categories to the \$10,000 maximum.

Round 2: If COHHIO is successful at obtaining additional funding, there may be an additional round of funding.

Threshold

Organization must:

1. Complete [Statewide Ohio COVID-19 Homeless Response Assessment](#) before submission.
2. Be a nonprofit currently providing homeless assistance and must provide 990 (except if exempt from this requirement) and IRS notice of tax-exempt status.
3. Currently participate in local HMIS, comparable database (if victim service provider), or, if not participating in HMIS, participate in the local CoC's Coordinated Entry process.
4. Complete this application.
5. Agree to provide required reports to COHHIO. (Reporting details to be determined.)

Priorities

Organization must:

1. Have exhausted efforts to obtain funding from local donors and government.
2. Have identified vendors to supply needed materials and/or space.
3. Demonstrate commitment to follow CDC [public health recommendations](#) including:
 - a. [Interim guidance for homeless service providers to plan and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) and
 - b. [Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness](#)

Category 1: Help purchase essential supplies

Eligible uses:

- Disinfectant cleaning products and wipes
- Diapers and baby wipes
- Disposable gloves and masks
- Hand soap and sanitizer
- Oral rehydration fluids and over-the-counter medications like pain relievers, fever reducers, and decongestants
- Sheets, blankets and bedding
- Thermometers
- Toilet paper, paper towels and tissues
- Other (specify in Request Details section)

Considerations: Applicant must have contacted the local public health department and the emergency management agency and either have been denied or have not received response following multiple contacts over 3 days.

Grant awards: up to \$1,000

Category 2: Modify existing shelter space to meet public health recommendations for COVID-19 preparedness

Eligible uses:

- Adapt existing shelter space (e.g. additional handwashing stations), as well as new spaces within your facility, to accommodate social/physical distancing and ability to provide space for isolation and quarantine.

Considerations: Applicant must provide clear explanation on how space will be modified and how modification will impact overall capacity.

Grant awards: up to \$10,000

Category 3: Provide alternative shelter space with adequate support to meet public health recommendations for COVID-19 preparedness

Eligible uses:

- Motel/hotel assistance for:
 - households at high risk due to age, pregnancy, and/or medical condition
 - symptomatic households who need isolation and quarantine space
- Equip other alternative space for:
 - households at high risk due to age, pregnancy, and/or medical condition
 - symptomatic households who need isolation and quarantine space

Considerations: Applicant must provide description of approach and rationale, number of households/people to be served, and planned timeframe for providing this space. Applicant must have contacted local recreation centers, unused church spaces, and other public spaces that have adequate facilities (bathrooms, showers, kitchens) and/or have motels/hotels committed to providing space at affordable rates, ideally with discounted rates.

Grant awards: up to \$10,000

Category 4: Flexible financial assistance for shelter diversion or rapid exit to support social/physical distancing recommendations for shelter and reduce the number of people living unsheltered in the community

Eligible uses:

- Financial assistance to families and individuals who are at high risk due to age, pregnancy, and/or medical condition to avoid entry into the shelter or
- Financial assistance to families and individuals who are at high risk due to age, pregnancy, and/or medical condition exit more quickly by providing access to flexible funding for rent, utilities, and other needs.
- Financial assistance to people who are experiencing homelessness who are living unsheltered and can be moved into alternative housing, including for rent, utilities, and other needs.

Considerations: Applicant must provide description of approach and rationale, number of households/people to be served, planned timeframe for providing this assistance.

Grant awards: up to \$10,000

Category 5: Other support to keep services operational and ensure clients have access to medical care and community resources

Eligible uses:

- Unexpected staffing costs due to shortages caused when older staff and parents are not able to come to work – this includes overtime wages, increased hourly rates to compensate for potential risk and extra duties
- Expanding overnight shelter to operate 24/7
- Purchase phones for clients who are unsheltered and/or high risk due to age, pregnancy, and/or medical condition (e.g. to access telehealth services)
- Food, medical, or other needs that cannot be obtained elsewhere

Considerations: Applicant must provide description of rationale, number of households/people to be served, planned timeframe for providing this assistance.

Grant awards: up to \$10,000