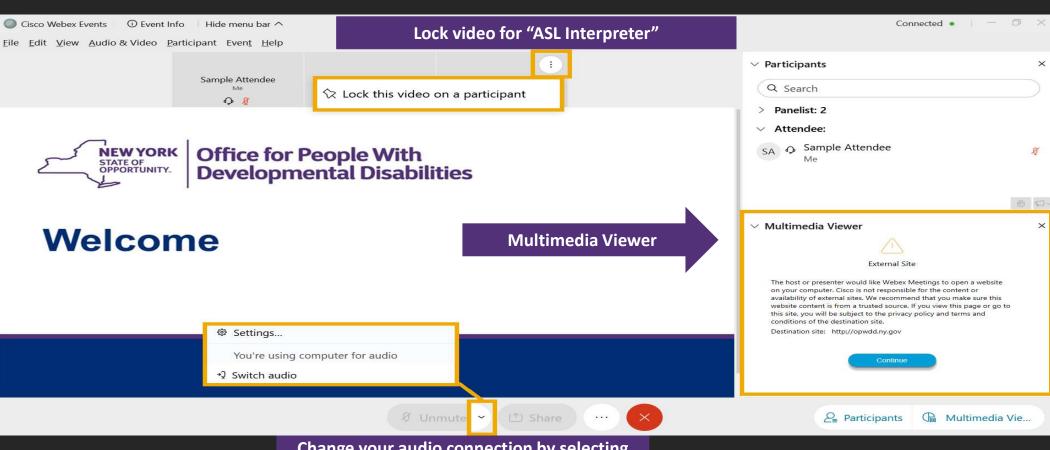
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Supportive Residential Habilitation Transformation Grant April 6, 2022

Supportive Residential Habilitation Transformation Grant - RFA Timeline

- Questions Due: 2:00 p.m. EST, Thursday, April 14, 2022
- OPWDD response to Questions: Monday, April 18, 2022
- Applications Due: 2:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday, May 4 ,2022
- Notification of tentative award: Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- Contract Start date: Wednesday, June 1, 2022

As stated in section 1.2 in the RFA

Summary of Scope

- The purpose of this grant program is to expand Supportive Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA) Residential Habilitation and Family Care opportunities for individuals with I/DD.
- Proposals should demonstrate how the providers will assist people residing in supervised 24-hour residential settings and/or people currently on the CRO in need of housing, move to a Supportive IRA or Family Care opportunity.
- Grant funding should increase the ability of providers to employ flexible strategies to enhance person-centered service delivery and to further incentivize the provision of supports and services that will allow individuals with I/DD to live in a more integrated setting of their choosing.

As stated in section 2.2 in the RFA

Response to Questions

- Questions submitted during the presentation will be documented and formally answered following the conference.
- OPWDD responses to questions will be released on Monday, April 18th, 2022.
- The following questions were submitted prior to the conference.

Is this grant solely for expansion of the program, increasing the number of residents?

The purpose of this grant program is to expand Supportive Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA) Residential Habilitation and Family Care opportunities for individuals with I/DD. Proposals should demonstrate how the providers will assist people residing in supervised 24-hour residential settings and/or people currently on the CRO in need of housing, move to a Supportive IRA or Family Care opportunity.

As stated in section 2.2 in the RFA

Can funds be used for the improvement of services to the residents currently in IRAs? Perhaps new programs that will help them to become more independent?

The grant can support the enhancement of services in existing Supportive IRAs or Family Care homes.

As stated in section 2.2.6.2 in the RFA

Would it include physical improvements to the homes?

The purpose of this grant program is to expand Supportive Individualized Residential Alternative (IRA) Residential Habilitation and Family Care opportunities for individuals with I/DD. Proposals should demonstrate how the providers will assist people residing in supervised 24-hour residential settings and/or people currently on the CRO in need of housing, move to a Supportive IRA or Family Care opportunity.

As stated in section 2.2 in the RFA

Would this grant fund the capital cost of purchasing two new homes for the purpose of providing certified supportive housing?

In accordance with federal requirements, funding for this initiative cannot be used for individuals' room and board costs. Therefore, funding through this grant cannot fund acquisition of property in which the HCBS enrollee will live.

As stated in section 2.2.8. in the RFA

The grant can fund property and start-up costs associated with staffing "hubs" (e.g., locations with 24-hour on-call staff).

As stated in section 2.2.7.2 in the RFA

Our agency has both 24/7 IRA and ICF residential beds and a smaller number of Supportive Apartment beds. Our current Supportive apartment beds are full and we do not anticipate a meaningful number of vacancies in the near or distant future. We have been contacted by many family members on behalf of individuals residing in the community and/or in our current 24/7 housing program that would benefit from a Supportive Apartment. Can we apply for and use the Transformation Grant money to "develop new capacity" by increasing our number of Supportive Housing beds by, for example 10-15 additional beds, and thereby enable more individuals from the community and/or our own 24/7 housing to live in a more independent and integrated setting

Preference will be given to grant applications that clearly document how expansion of the number of certified Supportive IRA Residential Habilitation or Family Care opportunities (or expansion of the number of individuals receiving these services) will be achieved within the provider's current approved capacity.

Any new certification/capacity has to follow established development processes, including the approval of a CON, as well as the PPA process. The Prior Property Approval (PPA) request/application must be accompanied by key documents depending on whether the site is leased or acquired. Development reps at the local DDRO will be made available to assist providers with process/request.

As stated in section 2.2.2, in the RFA

We currently operate supervised IRAs. We do not operate any supportive IRAs. We are interested in expanding our housing to include supportive IRAs. How would the rate be calculated?

I did not see a discussion of rates or rate setting in the RFP.

Can you please detail that process for us?

If an agency does not currently operate Supportive IRAs, newly created Supportive IRA Residential Habilitation services would be reimbursed at the regional average rate which effective 4/1/21 is:

■ Region 1: \$3,964.99

■ Region 2: \$2,871.71

■ Region 3: \$2,457.60

Region 4: \$1,862.72

If we are able to add the Supportive apartment beds as described above, what types of related expenses could be included in the grant submission?

Examples of proposed activities may include, but are not limited to:

- 2.2.7.1. Leveraging new tools and technologies to maximize available Direct Support Professional (DSP) staffing;
- 2.2.7.2. Investing in property and start-up costs associated with staffing "hubs" (e.g., locations with 24-hour on-call staff);
- 2.2.7.3. Consultant costs for planning and development of service delivery options;
- 2.2.7.4. Training and certifying staff;
- 2.2.7.5. Developing protocols to identify, hire, and train a paid-neighbor, live-in caregiver, or developing other staffing models that will support DSPs and address staffing shortages;
- 2.2.7.6. Creating clinical infrastructures to support individuals receiving services with high clinical support needs;
- 2.2.7.7. A resource fund for the Supervised IRA provider to offset lost service revenue when a Supervised IRA opportunity is held vacant for a period of three months, while the resident has moved to a newly created Supportive or Family Care opportunity made available through this grant opportunity.
- 2.2.8. In accordance with federal requirements, funding for this initiative cannot be used for individuals' room and board costs. Provider seeking new development will be required to work through the PPA process.

(When) can new clients on the CRO be moved into the beds vacated by clients transitioning to IRAs/Family Care homes?

Upon approval of the proposal, the provider would be expected to begin screening individuals on the Emergency Need (EN) list and identify the intent to serve to the regional office CRO lead.

Currently the CRO process at the DDRO level prioritizes individuals with significant support needs. The development and expansion of an enhanced supportive IRA model would provide an opportunity for individuals on the CRO list with less significant support needs to transition into community living options. Will DDRO's have the latitude to share information with providers on this group of people?

This grant opportunity seeks to help address these barriers and expand options for people who choose to move from a supervised 24-hour residential settings and/or people currently on the CRO in need of housing, to move to a supportive IRA or Family Care opportunity. Based on the CRO protocol, the goal would be to first prioritize those on the EN list, to the extent that an opportunity could not be created in a supervised setting to support someone on the EN list or someone on the EN list could not be supported in a Supportive IRA/Family Care, the DDRO would work with the provider to advance to the SN list.

Can existing costs – salaries, rents – be covered by this grant?

In accordance with federal requirements, funding for this initiative cannot be used for individuals' room and board costs.

As stated in section 2.2.8, in the RFA

Grants Gateway Technical Assistance

Live help desk:

- Hours: Monday Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Phone: (518) 474-5595
- Email: grantsgateway@its.ny.gov

After-hours support desk:

- Hours: Monday Friday; 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Phone: (800) 820-1890
- Email: helpdesk@agatesoftware.com

Questions?

Questions must be submitted by 2:00pm on April 14, 2022

Submit questions to: fmapcontracts@opwdd.ny.gov

OPWDD will respond to questions on April 18, 2022