



CoC Super Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Date Issued: October 2, 2023

Date Closes: October 31, 2023

SUMMARY

The Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) is a 501(c)3 non-profit and is the designated lead of the San Diego City and County Continuum of Care (CoC), as designated by The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The CoC Program is designed to promote community wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts that quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families and communities by homelessness; promote access to and affect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness. As the CoC lead agency, RTFH facilitates a community vision and goals for ending homelessness, coordinates with local jurisdictions, promotes and funds best practices and innovative strategies, supports and trains community agencies, plans for and monitors the area's homeless response system, and advocates for effective policies at federal, state, and local levels.

In September 2022, RTFH published the Regional Community Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in San Diego ("Regional Plan"). The Regional Plan sets forth a shared vision and foundation for ending homelessness throughout the San Diego region over the next five years and outlines system changes needed to achieve better outcomes for people and end homelessness across the San Diego region. The Regional Plan identifies people goals, system goals and system strategies which are used to guide priorities, funding, and action.

BACKGROUND

RTFH is the administrative entity of the State of California funds and the direct recipient of other local, state, and philanthropic funding that has been identified to address homelessness in the San Diego Region. RTFH is releasing a Super Notice of Funding Opportunity ("Super NOFO") that includes multiple sources of funding. A Super NOFO is a simplified process that streamlines guidelines, applications, and multiple sources of funding into a single application. The process is intended to support and accelerate strategic goals and ultimately help community partners be more effective by bringing consistency to our funding and application process. This approach is designed to:

- Increase the ability of applicants to consider and apply for funding, specifically grass roots organizations.
- Reduce administrative burdens that applicants would otherwise encounter.
- Increase community awareness of funding available for jurisdictions and identify programs for which they are eligible for.
- Encourage collaborative applications.

The Super NOFO activities and priorities are grounded in the Regional Plan. RTFH is seeking applications from agencies interested in providing critical programs that align with the Regional Plan; focus on access and movement toward housing for people experiencing homelessness; housing



retention to reduce returns to homelessness; values the voices of people with lived and living homelessness experience; and address equity and inclusion. Funding included in the Super NOFO will be administered in accordance with all applicable funding source requirements.

The Super NOFO is open to any legally constituted entities that meet the minimum eligibility requirements. RTFH encourages providers, grass roots organizations, smaller cities, and other stakeholders to apply. *Individuals cannot apply for this funding.*

CURRENT FUNDING

RTFH has identified multiple sources of funding to be included in the Super NOFO. RTFH reserves the right to earmark funding and exclude it from the Super NOFO for specific projects that support the Regional Plan; reserves the right to add additional funding to expand or extend agreements; and reserves the right to negotiate a scope of work and outcomes that aligns with the funding source(s) and the Regional Plan.

HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP)

The State of California established a third and fourth round of one-time funding under HHAP, a \$1 Billion block grant program designed to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges throughout the State. Spending must be informed by a best-practices framework focused on moving individuals and families experiencing homelessness into permanent housing and ensuring those individuals and families maintain their permanent housing. Additional information can be found [Chapter 111, Statutes of 2021, \(AB140\) Cal. Health and Safety Code Sections 50216-50223.](#)

HHAP funding recipients: The City of San Diego; the County of San Diego; the CoC; and federally recognized tribes. **HHAP funding does not identify direct allocations to smaller cities.** HHAP funding identifies eligible uses and thresholds, including administrative costs, systems improvement and youth set-aside. HHAP Round 3 must be fully expended by June 30, 2026 and Round 4 funding must be fully expended by June 30, 2027.

BEZOS DAY 1 FAMILY FUNDS

RTFH was awarded \$5 million to address family homelessness in the San Diego region. This funding can be spent over a five-year period (no later than September 30, 2027), with \$4,500,000 available to be re-granted. The funds are to assist families *currently* experiencing homelessness-unsheltered or sheltered- to help families regain housing. Funds cannot be used to prevent homelessness but can be used to provide rent and support services for homeless families being assisted into permanent housing. This means additional rent and supportive services can be provided to families who are currently connected to a provider and matched to a Rapid Rehousing resource.

RTFH's Bezos Day 1 application, identified the ability to leverage the Bezos Day 1 funding with other local, State, and Federal funding to expand, enhance, and strengthen the following: Diversion; housing; general services; achieve racial equity; and strengthen the integration of people with lived experience in the provision of support and service connection for families. RTFH also identified



populations of focus to include marginalized families who are unsheltered or staying in shelters (including domestic violence shelters) including but not limited to:

- Families with high barriers to housing (i.e. income, legal, undocumented, etc.).
- Non-traditional families, such as grandparents, extended/kinship family units.
- Families who have been in shelter for long periods of time

PHILANTHROPIC

RTFH partners with the philanthropic community to secure additional funding to support efforts to implement the Regional Plan. RTFH intentionally leverages philanthropic funding with other resources to maximize effectiveness of available funding. RTFH reserves the right to include, add, or reallocate philanthropic investments to meet the needs of the community as supported by the Regional Plan.

OTHER STATE/FEDERAL/LOCAL

At times, RTFH secures direct allocations of funding to support and implement strategies that align with the Regional Plan. RTFH reserves the right to include, add, or reallocate other investments to meet the needs of the community as supported by the Regional Plan.

State Funding Allocations	City	County	CoC
HHAP Round 1 (ends June 30, 2025)	\$22.4M	\$9.9M	\$10.7M
HHAP Round 2 (ends June 30, 2026)	\$10.6M	\$4.5M	\$5.1M
HHAP Round 3 (ends June 30, 2026)	\$27.4M	\$12.7M	\$13.7M
HHAP Round 4 (ends June 30, 2027)	\$22.5	\$10.5	\$11.2M
HHAP Round 5 (ends June 30, 2027)	TBA	TBA	TBA

Funding Categories	HHAP Round 3	HHAP Round 4	50% Distribution
Total Award	\$13,709,694.36	\$11,201,870.32	\$5,600,935.16
Administrative Costs (7% maximum)	\$959,678.61	\$784,130.92	\$392,065.46
Systems improvement- (20%)	\$2,741,938.87	\$2,240,374.06	\$1,120,187.03
Youth Set-Aside (10% minimum)	\$1,370,969.44	\$1,120,187.03	\$560,093.52
Flexible Housing Pool	\$3,000,000.00	TBD	TBD
Balance to Award	\$5,637,107.45	\$7,057,178.30	\$3,528,589.15

**HHAP Round 4: 50% of the allocation has been distributed as of the release of this Super NOFO.

CoC REGION WIDE PRIORITIES

RTFH has a regional responsibility as the CoC and is committed to ensure funding is distributed throughout the entire region: East, North, South and Central regions. A combination of factors shall be considered when selecting projects to be funded, including but not limited to: Gap analysis included in the Regional Plan, local investments, leveraging of resources, and commitments to partnerships. RTFH is focused on funding organizations and projects that are committed to intentional outcomes focused on exits to housing, reducing one-time homeless, and reducing returns to homelessness. Priorities, goals, and outcomes are based on the Regional Plan.

RTFH encourages all agencies who meet the eligibility criteria to apply. RTFH also encourages applicants to partner with smaller, grass roots organization; smaller cities; and other stakeholders, identifying funds and resources to be leveraged. Please keep in mind there is limited funding and RTFH intends to fund 2-year contracts. It is recommended to keep proposals within the identified available funding. *RTFH reserves the right to increase, reduce, and/or reallocate funding to meet the outcomes and priorities identified.*

DESIGNATED ACTIVITIES

Activity	Goal	Funding Available Up to:
OUTREACH WITH DIVERSION FOCUSED PRACTICES Programs or initiatives, including safe parking programs, that implement the outreach standards and intentionally practice Diversion.	Reduction in length of time homeless, specifically targeting those identified as first time homeless.	HHAP R3: \$5,637,107.45 HHAP R4: \$3,528,589.15 Bezos Day 1: \$4,500,000.00 TOTAL Available \$13,665,696.60
PERMANENT HOUSING Programs or initiatives that support exits to permanent housing. Specifically, extended rapid rehousing of 18-24 months; shared housing; and increase housing stock, such as the flexible housing pool or acquisition and rehab.	Increase exits to permanent housing.	HHAP R3: \$5,637,107.45 HHAP R4: \$3,528,589.15 Bezos Day 1: \$4,500,000.00 TOTAL Available \$13,665,696.60
HOUSING RETENTION Programs or initiatives addressing long term housing retention.	Decrease returns to homelessness	HHAP R3: \$5,637,107.45 HHAP R4: \$3,528,589.15 Bezos Day 1: \$4,500,000.00 TOTAL Available \$13,665,696.60

<p>PEOPLE WITH LIVED/LIVING EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS Projects or initiatives specific to organizations established by people with lived experience or directly support the development and or inclusion.</p>	<p>Initiatives or projects that engage those with lived experience or expertise of homelessness in leadership roles; decision making processes.</p>	<p>Up to 5% of total available funds</p>
<p>ADDRESSING RACIAL EQUITY Projects or initiatives specific to the core principles of the Regional Plan: Centering Racial Equity and Social Justice.</p>	<p>Initiatives or projects that address supports the homeless system of care centering equity, addressing racial disparities, dismantling racist policies, and ensuring equitable response to those experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p>Up to 5% of Total Available funds</p>
<p>OTHER INITIATIVES</p>	<p>Initiatives or projects that address one or more people goals, system goals, and identifies system strategies.</p>	<p>HHAP R3: \$5,637,107.45 HHAP R4: \$3,528,589.15 Bezos Day 1: \$4,500,000.00 TOTAL Available \$13,665,696.60</p>

SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. RTFH is working on a number of strategies to support implementation of the Regional Plan. Other strategies and projects may be identified to receive direct funding and/or included in a future NOFO(s).
2. RTFH also administers the Flexible Housing Pool and has a 3-year contract with Brilliant Corners to operate the Flexible Housing Pool (FHP), with options for renewal. RTFH utilizes HHAP funding for the FHP, and continues to seek additional funding for long-term sustainability. The FHP meets the designated activities as it focuses on permanent housing and housing retention.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. Only 50% of HHAP 4 funding is currently available. Cal ICH only distributed 50% of the allocation. Cal ICH will provide guidance at a later date on the disbursement of the remaining funds. HHAP R3 and HHAP R4 may be combined in the Super NOFO.
2. Bezos funding has a 5-year spending period, funding amount and availability will depend on projects submitted.
3. The CoC does not fund emergency shelter. Emergency shelter proposals will not be accepted.



SUPER NOFO PROCESS

Super NOFO responses are due by 11:59pm (PST) on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

Please read this section and the Timeline carefully.

All interested parties must submit a Request for Information ([RTFH 2023 Super NOFO RFI](#)) in order to receive a link for the ZoomGrants application portal and Dropbox link. Applications cannot be submitted without the link. **The deadline to submit a Request for Information and receive a link is October 23, 2023 by 11:59pm (PST). RTFH will provide a link to both Dropbox and ZoomGrants within two (2) business days of the RFI submission. Requests submitted after this date and time will not be eligible to apply.**

All application packets must be submitted to Zoom Grants and required documents in Dropbox by the deadline to be considered for funding. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications early, as ZoomGrants can experience problems. Late applications will not be accepted. RTFH recommends downloading confirmation of application submission date and time.

A NOFO office hours will be held via Zoom conference call on **Wednesday, October 11, 2023**. The link for the conference call will be available on the RTFH website. Please email questions in advance to grants@rtfhdsd.org

SELECTION PROCESS

The Super NOFO is a competitive process. Proposals must meet the threshold requirements and must respond to each of the selection criteria listed below. Proposals for activities other than the designated activities listed in the NOFO will be rejected. All completed applications submitted on or before the deadline and that meets the agency eligibility requirements will be reviewed and individually scored by members of a review committee.

Applications not meeting requirements of minimum eligibility or application completeness will be deemed ineligible and will be eliminated from further consideration. RTFH reserves the right to:

- reject any or all proposals and to waive any informality in proposals received whenever RTFH determines that such rejection or waiver is in its best interest.
- contact the primary contact person listed on the agency's application to clarify application contents.
- schedule and conduct interviews and/or site visits with some or all applications prior to final award decisions are made.

Applicants will be required to acknowledge the following in ZoomGrants (required criteria):

- Applicants must agree to the Regional Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in San Diego ("Regional Plan")
- Applicants must agree to the CoC Action Plan: Addressing Homelessness Among Black San Diegans.



- Applicants must agree to the CoC Written Standards, HMIS Standards, and CES Standards.
- Applicants must agree to adopt Standards including but not limited to: Rapid Rehousing, Outreach, Diversion, and Shared Housing.
- Applicants must acknowledge a policy addressing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- Applicants must comply with California’s Housing First policy in all aspects of program design and implementation.
- Projects must participate and contribute client-level data to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

A successful application should also include the following:

- Clearly articulate how the project will align with the Regional Plan’s people goals; system goals; and system strategies.
- Project promotes cross jurisdictional or regional collaboration and cross-sector partnership, including but not limited to leveraging funds and other resources.
- Projects that demonstrate pathways to permanent housing.

SELECTION CRITERIA

EXPERIENCE (25 POINTS)

Applicants should describe in 750 words or less, their experience in providing the proposed activity, including past performance on relevant HUD or similar system performance measures. If the organization does not have direct experience, please indicate the ability to address the proposed activity.

CAPACITY (25 POINTS)

Applicants should describe in 750 words or less, their organizational capacity to administer the awarded funds in compliance with applicable regulations, including experience administering similar State and Federal funds, timely invoices for reimbursement, and reporting requirements. Please also address the organization’s ability to expend all funds toward the activity in the next two years. Explain the financial controls and oversight in place to ensure proper use of funds. Attach your most recent annual independent financial audit, if requesting \$250,000 or more.

SPECIAL NOTE

If the applicant identifies as a grassroots organization or a new agency, please include this in your response. The applicant may receive full points and may be required to participate in technical assistance or other support to ensure fiscal capacity and compliance. RTFH will review each applicant and may reach out for further information.

COST EFFECTIVENESS/LEVERAGE (25 PTS)

Provide a budget detailing:

- activity costs,
- proposed # of persons served,
- proposed # of persons served by subpopulation (Veteran, Youth, Older Adult, Chronically Homeless, Families),



- proposed # of households housed,
- address scalability of the activity, whether it could be a smaller or larger project, and
- leveraging of other funding sources.

When available, please cite prior success in addressing inflow (those becoming homeless for the first time), length of time homeless, outflow (those housed), two-year recidivism or other outcomes. If current data is unavailable, please cite best practices to be used to support projected outcomes of the proposed activity. Please describe your organization’s ability to support feedback loops, through tracking and monitoring to meet activity goals, and adjust as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (25 PTS)

Applicants should provide a project narrative in 750 words or less explaining the proposed project(s), service area, target population(s), and implementation plan.

- Describe how the project aligns with the Regional Plan, specifically identifying people goals and system goals the project will address.
- Describe how this project will increase exits to housing and housing retention.
- Describe how the project will collaborate with other organizations and stakeholders.
- Describe phases of implementation and sustainability, given this is one-time funding.

BUDGET (NOT SCORED)

Applicants must provide a budget detailing the costs for the activity and any leverage of other funding sources. Proposals must fully describe all costs for the entire term of the service/project. Applicants shall include a budget narrative.

AWARDS

Organizations selected to implement designated activities will enter into an agreement with RTFH. Funding will be reimbursed to the contracted organizations monthly, upon submittal of the required documentation of eligible expenses. Organizations can request a one-time funding advance equal to 20% of the budget.

Applicants will be required to utilize Pulse for Good Kiosks for a broader community initiative to receive feedback from program users; review recommendations and feedback; and identify how to implement recommendations and feedback, when appropriate.

Final agreements may include additional provisions, depending on the funding source contributing to the designated activities.

EXPENDITURE DEADLINES

50% of the funding must be spent by December 31, 2024 and 100% by December 31, 2025.

RTFH reserves the right to reallocate funds between activities if a designated activity is at risk of not meeting expenditure deadlines or outcome goals.



SAN DIEGO
**Regional Task Force
on Homelessness**

This is one-time State funding and organizations should not expect the funding to be renewed or extended in the future.

CONTACT PERSON

All questions related to the Super NOFO should be submitted at grants@rtfhsd.org.

RTFH will host at least one office hours to review the Super NOFO and answer questions. FAQs will be updated weekly. Applicants are responsible for checking the RTFH website for updates.

Super NOFO FY2023 Timeline

October 2, 2023	Super NOFO Release RTFH strongly encourages applicants to read the NOFO and Regional Plan in its entirety.
October 11, 2023	Super NOFO Webinar (Recorded version will be available) RTFH G&C Team will review questions submitted, processes and deadlines. *Opportunity to ask questions.
October 18, 2023	Upload Webinar and Publish FAQs on RTFH website
October 20, 2023	Questions for Super NOFO Due Questions can be submitted to grants@rtfhdsd.org . RTFH to address public questions in NOFO webinar and FAQs.
October 23, 2023 11:59 PM PST	Request for Information (RFI) Due (Required) Submit via Google Form: Letter of Interest for RTFH Super NOFO FY 23 (google.com)
October 31, 2023 11:59 PM PST	Project Application Due Submit to RTFH: 1. NOFO Application 2. Required Documentation Uploaded in Dropbox
November 1-15, 2023	RTFH Reviews Applications RTFH reviews application; scoring and ranks projects.
November 21, 2023	RTFH Posting and Notification of Awards
Week of December 4, 2023	Grant Kick Off Webinar (Recorded) RTFH reviews grant agreements and contract compliance *Opportunity to ask questions.
December 4, 2023	ZoomGrants Project Setup Open
December 11, 2023	Release FAQs from Grant Kick Off Webinar
December 15, 2023	Fully Execute Grant Agreements
January 1, 2024	Project Start