



## **Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)**

# **FY 2022 Adolescent Hospital Overstay Grant Program (AHOGP)**

Dennis Schrader, Secretary

June 29, 2021

# GRANT PROGRAM PURPOSE

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The MDH has developed the Adolescent Hospital Overstay Grant Program (“AHOGP” or “Program”) to provide support for the provision of additional services for adolescents experiencing extended and repetitive stays in hospitals and whose clinical needs are beyond the capacity of the current residential treatment settings licensed by MDH, the Department of Human Services (“DHS”) and/or Department of Juvenile Services (“DJS”) and as such have been denied, or are reasonably expected to be denied acceptance by these programs. MDH has developed this Program to provide funding in support of short-term enhanced stabilization treatment services to enable these youth to move from the hospital to the least restrictive supportive environment.

# MEETING GOALS

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Discuss the Adolescent Hospital Overstay Grant Program (AHOGP)

# PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

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Providers interested in submitting a grant application shall either

- (a) hold one of the active program licenses described below or;
- (b) submit a proposal to create a new licensed program in support of the Program objectives.

1. Therapeutic Group Homes (MDH licensed facilities regulated under COMAR 10.21.07)
2. Psychiatric Residential Treatment Centers for Emotionally Disturbed Children and Adolescents (RTCs - MDH licensed facilities regulated under COMAR 10.07.04) - The grant funds would be for services provided outside of the Medicaid RTC payments.
3. Developmental Disabilities Administration Community Residential Services Models (MDH licensed facilities regulated under COMAR 10.22.02).

# PROGRAM POPULATION

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- Youth with multiple developmental, psychiatric, and behavioral challenges, including youth with significant cognitive disabilities, those pursuing a Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion, or autism;
- Youth with history of severe aggression/assaults, history of significant neglect and trauma, reactive attachment disorders, fetal alcohol effects, and serious fire setting behaviors;
- Youth with serious co-occurring substance-use disorders;
- Youth with sexually reactive behaviors, youth who have been sexually trafficked and others with increased flight (AWOL) risk;
- Youth who are chronically suicidal and/or with severe self-injurious behaviors; and
- Youth in agency custody or with agency involvement who are over age eighteen and/or who have completed a GED.

# PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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- Participation in the Program and award of funding is contingent upon providers agreeing to a 'no reject, no eject' policy. Providers participating in the program must be able to provide immediate access to services. The intention of the program is to develop beds and services that are ready for youth placement to avoid medically unnecessary hospital overstays.
- Providers participating in the program will be funded at levels necessary to provide required services and to meet required patient environment of care standards for safety and security. Once these services are in place and the environment of care has been certified for use, providers must accept youth placements that align with the service line expertise available for their licensed program.

# FUNDING

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- \$5 million annually BEGINNING FY 2022
- Funding is available to support multiple award years with an option for commitment by the Department for up to five years to eligible providers contingent upon future funding appropriation.
- Program funding may be considered to support the contracting of patient 'beds' to guarantee revenue streams for providers establishing stand-alone programs

# FUNDING

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- Providers selected for guaranteed revenue stream support shall not accept youth outside of the Program and shall provide services suitable for placement of multiple patients of varying age, gender, and diagnoses.
- Providers interested in developing dedicated stand-alone programs shall work with the Department to develop program parameters and contractual agreements for multi-year award of funding for a period of up to five (5) years



# FUNDING

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- Capital program improvements are not the focus of the grant program. Providers with substantial infrastructure in place may be selected for grant funding to support limited improvements for Patient Environment of Care to enhance patient safety and welfare.
  - a. Installation of anti-ligature mitigation equipment to address suicidal and self-injurious behavior;
  - b. Security improvements to prevent patient elopement;
  - c. Elimination of materials that can be weaponized including removal and replacement of dangerous finish material, installation/securing of furniture; and
  - d. Improvements to support educational/day program infrastructure.

# IMPORTANT DATES

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June 30, 2021: Grant Application posted to BHA Website

July 21, 2021: Date for Application Technical Assistance Webinar

August 12, 2021: Deadline to Submit an Application

September 13, 2021: Intent to Fund/Denial Letters Emailed

# OPEN DISCUSSION

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Questions?

# GRANT APPLICATION RESOURCES

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