

## CCH Bezos Bezos Day 1 Families Fund Sub-Recipient Selection Process 2022-2024

The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) is soliciting applications to be Bezos Day 1 Families Fund program sub-recipients. Submitted Applications should be no more than 3 pages with an additional attached budget proposal.

The Bezos Family 1 Fund funds are received from the Bezos Family 1 Fund Charity Arm of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos to implement permanent housing activities to house families (households with young children or that include members with disabilities) who are experiencing homelessness.

The majority of Bezos Day 1 Families funds are meant to be leveraged with existing rental assistance vouchers or permanent housing programs along with navigation services so that the maximum number of eligible program families can achieve housing stability. In addition, CCH will be evaluating the sustainability of the proposed use of funds once the Bezos Day 1 Families funding is depleted. **All Letters of Interest should explain the programs goals/vision and numbers of vouchers or housing opportunities that will be leveraged by the sub grantee agency as well as the proposed number of households served**

The values underlying the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund are: (1) Help the neediest families first, such as those who are unsheltered, have young children, or include members with disabilities. (2) Advance equity for systemically oppressed populations (Black, Indigenous, Latin(a),(o)(x), and other People of Color, generally abbreviated as BILPoC), with a focus on racial equity, LGBTQIAA+ populations, people with disabilities, minority religions, etc.) and use resources to address racial disparities. (3) Establish families in housing – shelter, alone, is not the goal. (4) Ensure families have access to the services and resources they need to end their homelessness and achieve well-being.

### Family 1 Fund Criteria & Activities Eligible for Funding:

- *The focus of this funding opportunity is for families with children.* CCH will have further discussions with the funding source about broadening the definition of family. Currently the following are examples of family types:
  - Nuclear family
  - Single-parent family
  - Extended family
  - Joint family
  - Blended family
- All families served with these funds should be *currently* experiencing homelessness – unsheltered, sheltered, or in the process of exiting homelessness and stabilizing in permanent housing. Funds are not to be used for prevention of homelessness, only for diversion as explained in the bullets below.
- Funds can be used to provide rent and support services for homeless families currently being assisted to enter permanent housing.
- Help Unsheltered Families: Funds could assist in (1) Quickly identify families living outside, in cars, and other unsheltered locations. (2) Meet families' immediate service and basic needs. (3) Provide unsheltered families immediate access to a safe place to stay.
- Divert Homeless Families from Shelter: Funds could assist in (1) Helping families who have lost their housing find safe alternative places to stay (e.g. provide financial assistance, mediation support, bus tickets) to avoid entry into shelter or unsheltered settings. (2) Connect families to services and resources in the community.
- Re-house Homeless Families Quickly: Funds could assist in (1) helping families obtain rental assistance (e.g. rapid re-housing, housing voucher, Emergency Housing Voucher, Emergency Rental Assistance, permanent supportive housing, shallow rent subsidy, HUD-VASH, SSVF) if needed. (2) helping

families find, negotiate, and move into housing through housing navigation and move-in assistance. (3) connecting families with significant challenges to long-term rental assistance and services such as through permanent supportive housing.

- **Connect Families to Needed Services:** Funds could assist in (1) ensuring navigation and outreach for families so they are linked to services in the community that will help them exit homelessness, stabilize in housing, and achieve well-being. (2) ensuring that families have access to employment, health care and children's services. (3) helping families establish and strengthen their informal support networks.
- **Advance Equity:** Funds could assist by investing in data analysis as well as staff development and training to identify and address equity and disparities for systemically oppressed groups, with a focus on racial disparities in assistance and outcomes.

**Match:** The Bezos Day 1 Families Fund program does not require any Match from the sub grantee agencies, but please note that CCH will be focusing on the sustainability of programs and leveraging these funds with current permanent housing options.

**Eligibility:** Sub-recipients must be a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization or a unit of local government with demonstrated experience in providing services to homeless families. Sub-recipients must demonstrate experience in: file compliance, providing case management and housing navigation services to the intended population, and financial management that meets federal reporting requirements.

**Regional Collaboration:** If proposing a Regional Collaboration amongst multiple agencies please include the relevant information in your Letter of Interest.

**Coordinated Intake, Assessment and Evaluation Process:** For Balance of State applicants, CCH will work with selected sub-recipients to ensure compliance with the statewide and regional BoS CoC Coordinated Entry Systems, HMIS utilization, along with their assessment and evaluation process/tools.

**Request for Funding Timeline:** CCH is implementing a rolling application process to provide as much flexibility to local communities as possible. It is suggested that agencies apply for funds sooner rather than later to have a better chance of being funded. CCH will review applications at the end of each month for funding consideration until all the monies are allocated. Eligible entities interested in applying for a sub grant from CCH under the Family 1 Fund Program can submit a Letter of Interest (no more than 3 pages plus an attached budget) to Deanne Witzke, Vice President of Community Services, at [dwitzke@coloradocoalition.org](mailto:dwitzke@coloradocoalition.org)

The requests should include the following content areas:

1. Entity Name
2. Proposed Geographic or Special Population Service Area
3. Proposed Activities to be Provided
4. Describe Proposed Populations to be Served and Number of Households Served
5. How Eligibility for Family 1 Fund Program Will Be Determined
6. Describe Other Housing Subsidies or Resources to be Leveraged
7. Briefly describe Administrative Experience of Entity and Providing Proposed Services
8. Briefly Describe Anticipated Outcomes from Proposed Services
9. Proposed Budget Requested and Activities

**Criteria and Process for Selection:** The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless will review submitted Letters of Interest and make determinations based on a review of such, taking into account the sustainability and impact of the proposed use of funds.

**Selection Criteria will include:**

1. Agency experience and capacity to provide proposed services
2. Strength of collaboration in proposed geographic or special population area
3. Overall experience in assisting homeless or at-risk families or individuals
4. Experience in administering funds and meeting reporting requirements.
5. Cost effectiveness of proposed services.
6. Creativity of program design in concert with regional and statewide-based efforts to make homelessness rare, brief and one-time.
7. Commitment to utilizing an equity lens; prohibiting discrimination in housing and community development programs and activities and providing services with appreciation for, but regardless of, race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability.

CCH may choose sub-grantees and fund agency requests on a partial basis to ensure that families across the state are served to the best extent possible.

**Funding Amounts:** Please submit a Proposed Budget with a Letter of Intent no longer than 3 pages. CCH will review and negotiate final funding amounts with selected entities based on available funding and demonstrated need in the proposed service area.

**For information and technical assistance regarding the Letter of Interest contact:**

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