

Domestic Violence Shelter Grants Guidelines Oil Producing Counties

Purpose: To provide grants to organizations that provide domestic violence shelters.

Allocation: \$2,000,000 for oil producing counties. Oil producing counties consist of Adams, Billings, Bottineau, Bowman, Burke, Divide, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, McHenry, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Mountrail, Renville, Slope, Stark, Ward, and Williams.

Grant Term: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

Application Deadline: Applications due by December 1, 2015.

Match Requirement:

Oil producing counties: Two dollars of nonstate funds for each dollar of state grant funds. Match funding can be cash and/or in-kind.

Award Range:

Oil producing counties: Up to \$750,000 to a qualifying organization servicing a community in an oil producing county.

Eligible Organizations:

- Private, nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to provide emergency housing, twenty-four-hour crisis lines, advocacy, supportive peer counseling, community education, and referral services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault (as defined in section 14-07.1-01). Must also comply with NDAC 33-28 North Dakota Adult Abuse Programs.

Qualifications:

See links on website:

<http://www.communityservices.nd.gov/communitydevelopment/Programs/DomesticViolenceShelterGrantDVSG/>

- Projects to construct, renovate or purchase facilities to provide shelter to victims of domestic violence.
- Provide documentation for the match requirement.
- Must adhere to Public Improvement Bids and Contracts in NDCC 48-01.2.
- Must adhere to NDAC 33-28 North Dakota Adult Abuse Programs.
- Must adhere to NDCC 14-02.4 Human Rights.
- Must adhere to 14-02.5 Housing Discrimination.
- Must adhere to Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Must adhere to local jurisdiction building codes.
- Applications must include a business plan that includes the following items.
 - Timeline for project progress
 - Engineering/Architecture Report (including blueprints)
 - Start-up (if applicable) and operational budgets
 - Information relating to ensuring adequate staffing including the number and qualifications of individuals
 - Letters of commitment from other funding sources.
- Should consider guidelines from other domestic violence shelter funding sources (i.e. Family Violence and Prevention Services, STOP Violence Against Women, Domestic Violence Prevention Funds, and Domestic Violence State General Funds) when designing shelters including:

- Ensuring shelters are accessible to victims who are male or transgender in order to provide comparable services.
- Considering the needs of culturally specific communities including immigrants, American Indian, LGBTQ, etc.
- Ensuring facilities are accessible to victims that have disabilities or who are Deaf.
- Consider the needs of program participants with pets.
- Providing a trauma informed environment sensitive to the needs of all victims.

Guidelines:

- Proposals that meet the qualifications will be awarded after scoring of the applications concludes.
- Projects completed prior to eighteen months before July 1, 2015, will be eligible for paying down a mortgage.
- Commerce reserves the right to deny projects in which the amount of benefit to the recipient is deemed to outweigh the amount of benefit to the State.
- Priority will be given to communities with the greatest need.
- If there is sufficient deviation from the proposal's timeline, the award may be cancelled.
- Funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis with appropriate supporting documentation. Final reimbursement requests must be submitted by June 15, 2017.
- Awardees must continue to provide domestic violence services for a minimum of 5 years after receiving funds, or repay grant award. Repayment will be based on a pro-rated percentage, with the rate being 20% for each full year of operation. Exceptions to this repayment requirement will be considered on a case by case basis and will be at the sole discretion of the Department of Commerce.
- Awardees must report the number of sheltered nights, services provided for participants and number of participants served once per year for five years to the Department of Commerce.
- This is a one-time grant and the State will not be responsible for any on-going costs associated with the recipient's project.

Application Scoring Process

- **Community Need** –Up to 100 points awarded based on the community's current resources as compared with potential demand.
- **Program Description:**
 - Explain why you need new construction/renovation/facility for domestic violence (10 points);
 - Details of the types of assistance and services that will be provided to the individuals/households in the program (10 points);
 - Describe any unique or innovative ideas you would incorporate into the shelter (i.e. kids room, play area, separate doors for pets, etc.) (10 points);
 - Explain specific triage and intake processes that will be used (10 points);
 - Explain how LGBTQ, men and pets would be served in your shelter (10 points);
 - Describe the safety features of the domestic violence shelter (10 points);
 - Explain how the program will shorten the length of time that households are homeless (on streets, in emergency shelter, and/or transitional housing) (10 points);
 - How service will be coordinated with other programs within the agency and within the larger community (including mainstream services) (10 points).
- **Business Plan Components:**
 - Timeline proposed (50 Points) – This should show a reasonable expectation for work to be completed within the grant period. Benchmarks should be noted and deadlines must be adhered to. All work and reimbursement activities need to occur in the time period from July 1, 2015 until the final reimbursement request deadline, June 15, 2017.
 - Timeline for project progress

- Engineering/Architecture Report (including blueprints)
- Start-up (if applicable) and operational budgets
- Information relating to ensuring adequate staffing including the number and qualifications of individuals
- Letters of commitment from other funding sources.
- Staffing Plan (50 Points) – This section should reflect thoughtful and constructive ways in which the facility will address staff acquisition and retention in an industry market dominated low unemployment, fierce competition for qualified workers, and high turnover numbers.
- Budget and Finance Statements (50 Points) – This section should show the financial viability of the plan and include information about all project funding sources.