

## FY 2025 Residential Re-Entry Housing Program Announcements of Funding (AOFs) – Submitted Questions & Responses 08/28/2024

Q1: Is there a reason the AOF requires 18 beds per site?

TDMHSAS intends to select infrastructure projects with a bed capacity of 18 beds each, but projects are not necessarily required to establish only 1 residential facility with a total of 18 beds; a proposed project may include, for example, the plan to establish 2 residential facilities with 9 beds each, totaling 18 beds. The decision to allocate a minimum of 18 beds was based on an assessment of the substantial need for support among individuals with serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI) reentering the community from incarceration. After thoroughly evaluating this need, TDMHSAS aims to establish a robust foundation for addressing it. TDMHSAS considers 36 beds per TN Grand Division as an impactful and achievable goal for this initiative.

**Q2:** After reviewing the licensure requirements and seeing that the staff to client ratio is 1:12, I was just curious why the AOF didn't require 12 or 24 beds?

TDMHSAS recognizes the complexities involved in preparing for this type of licensed program. This potentially includes concerns regarding the establishment of a single residential facility with an 18-bed capacity, given the anticipated need for intensive support services for the targeted population. A proposed project, for example, to establish 2 residential facilities to comprise a total 18-bed capacity can be considered to best accommodate the needs of program service recipients. TDMHSAS acknowledges these licensure requirements for staffing and, accordingly, has allocated a substantial budget for each 18-bed RRHP facility to support operational funding for this purpose.

Q3: Any projections to increase the budget on an annual basis?

➤ At this time, future operational budget increases cannot be projected. TDMHSAS recommends preparing proposed operational budgets based on currently anticipated costs for operations, including salaries for planned positions.

**Q4:** Should we prepare an operational budget with the expectation that all clients will not have insurance or disability?

➤ RRHP will serve Tennesseans experiencing Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI). Historically, individuals with an SPMI diagnosis typically qualify for Tennessee Medicaid (TennCare), and often income benefits from the Social Security Administration (namely, Supplemental Security Income and/or Social Security Disability Income). Several behavioral health clinical services are billable to Medicaid. TDMHSAS is also committed to ensuring that services, including RRHP, are accessible to those who are uninsured. We encourage the utilization of appropriate available third-party sources to further support program operations for the benefit of service recipients.

Q5: If an agency missed the "Intent to Apply" deadline, are they still able to submit a proposal?

Absolutely! The "Intent to Apply" is a recommendation, not a requirement. "Intent to Apply" serves as a means to establish communication for interested parties.