

DEADLINE EXTENSION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Grants for Community Engagement

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) -- through its Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) funding and in collaboration with CaIMHSA -- will award grants to engage communities to foster stronger connections in between individuals within communities to help combat contributing factors to mental health crises.

Community Engagement Grants are intended to:

- 1) Create civic opportunities that promote interconnectedness within diverse cultural communities.
- 2) Distribute resources and messages throughout the county.
- 3) Increase awareness of and access to mental health services and resources.

Background:

Recent studies and reports have focused upon the growing interrelated crises of suicide, opioid addiction, depression and alienation.

While crisis text and phone lines are essential tools for addressing individuals in immediate crises, they are short-term measures utilized at a point of crisis. LACDMH is seeking to focus upon a longer-term preventive solution to the growing suicide epidemic - as well as other serious mental health challenges - by supporting community efforts to build long-lasting foundations of in person interconnectivity. Such efforts, centered on community civic engagement and volunteerism, will help provide the structure and support for meaningful sustained engagement with individuals. That engagement and connectivity will be the bedrock from which to counter isolation, alienation and other risk factors that can lead to depression, despair and risk for suicide.

Individuals who are able to connect with one another in meaningful ways strengthen their own resilience while exponentially benefitting their community. Taking even minimal time to connect can help loved ones, neighbors, colleagues and members of the community in need while weaving a fabric of resilience and belonging to counter the challenges of today's digital interconnected but often personal unconnected world.

Who Should Apply?

Community/Faith-based organizations, non-profit/for-profit, schools, individuals, and other entities dedicated to carrying out diverse community engagement efforts to help promote stronger community ties and civic engagement in the furtherance of individuals' wellbeing. If you are uncertain about qualifying to apply, please contact us at info@calmhsa.org.

What is the Grant Amount and Timeframe?

The grant awards will range between \$1,000 and \$5,000 based on criteria outlined in the application below. The deadline to submit the grant application is **August 24, 2018**. The grant period is September 1, 2018 through and including **November 15, 2018**. There is only one application deadline and grant award date. A more detailed timeline is available in the attached application.

The awarding of grants is anticipated to coincide with International Suicide Prevention Day, Monday, September 10th and the National Day of Service and Remembrance on Tuesday, September 11th.

Who is CalMHSA?

CalMHSA, a Joint Powers Authority, is an independent administrative and fiscal government agency, focused on the efficient delivery of California mental health projects for its members (including Los Angeles County). CalMHSA will be the administrative manager for these grants.

Information and Grant Application is available at [CalMHSA](#) and [Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health](#).

For any questions regarding this grant opportunity, please email info@calmhsa.org

Funded by the voter approved Mental Health Services Act (Prop. 63.) 1

California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA)

3043 Gold Canal Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Office: 916.859.4800 Fax: 916.859.4805

www.calmhsa.org

Grant Program:

Grants will be awarded to engage communities and promote mental health and wellbeing through community and civic engagement. Currently, alienation from community and lack of meaningful connections in an individual's life contribute to at risk factors for depression, opioid and alcohol addiction and suicide. The methods for fostering meaningful connection may take various forms and should be

targeted to engage audiences in a wide variety of ways, including but not limited to: community health fairs, community volunteer efforts, concerts, community picnics, art shows, symposiums, outreach activities, and team sports.

Regardless of the nature of event, the importance of community and meaningful connections with family, neighbors, colleagues and communities should be promoted through messages and resources, using culturally appropriate language (s) and methodology.

In recognition of the importance of giving back to the community and volunteerism in reducing at risk factors for suicide, activities, events and messaging tying together International World Suicide Prevention Day on Monday, September 10th and the National Day of Service on Tuesday, September 11th are encouraged.

The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) is the administrative manager for the grants. Awardees will submit their applications to CalMHSA and will receive funding (based on availability).

Multiple applications from one entity are acceptable.

Funds will be awarded to a wide variety of organizations and individuals and will be disseminated equitably throughout the Los Angeles region.

Application Guidelines:

A wide variety of organizations and individuals may qualify for these grants. Applicants may submit more than one application. Successful applicants will:

- 1) Demonstrate willingness and ability to address health and wellbeing as a key focus for diverse community engagement in ways that encourage individuals to forge stronger ties and connect with one another.
- 2) Confirm operational capacity to facilitate engagement efforts reaching community opinion leaders and/or community target audiences.
- 3) Promote activities through existing or new partnerships as well as local media outlets.
- 4) Illustrate the practical results that the requested grant amount will generate in terms of achieving success.
- 5) Identify the existing community context/circumstances that demonstrate significant interest in the project.
- 6) Utilize and promote materials provided by the LACDMH consistent with related campaigns and messaging.
- 7) Provide the required evaluation (See Terms of Payment – page 5).

Scoring and Grant Amounts:

Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded based on available funding and criteria outlined in this document. A detailed explanation of activities and specific outreach efforts to target populations is required. Award amounts will vary depending on the scope of activities and community engagement/reach proposed in the application.

Grant Application

Use the following prompts to compose an application in Microsoft Word format.

July 27, 2018	Grant Application Released
August 24, 2018	<p>Applications are due by 5:00 pm to info@calmhsa.org or</p> <p>CalMHSA</p> <p>3043 Gold Canal Drive, Suite 200</p> <p>Rancho Cordova, Ca 95760</p> <p>Applications must be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced with 1" margins, signed by authorized individual, and delivered via email or postal mail.</p>
August 31, 2018	Grant awards announced
September 1, 2018 – November 15, 2018	Grant period

For inquiries submit questions to info@calmhsa.org.

Applications for Community Engagement grants must include the following information (please type in the table below). Please do not submit more content than is requested. **ALL applications must be submitted with a copy of your organization's current W-9 in order to be considered for award.**

Organization Name:		
Organization Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Contact Name:		
Contact Phone:	Contact Email:	

1) Requested Community Engagement Grant Amount*:

\$

*Community Engagement grants from \$1,000 up to \$5,000 are available. The amount of your request will not impact the likelihood of your application being accepted.

2) Brief description of applicant and audiences served. (250 words double-spaced, max.)

3) Do you currently have the capacity to organize a community engagement activity(s)? (Y/N)

3a) If so, describe similar activities organized by your organization. (1 page double-spaced, max.)

4) Implementation of Community Engagement Activities:

Please describe your planned Community Engagement activities that will engage your community to promote health and wellbeing through community and civic engagement. Why do you believe this event will bring in community members that are not already engaged in health and wellbeing programs, events, or services? (1 page double-spaced, max.)

4a) Is the Community Engagement effort a joint effort between multiple groups? (Y/N)

If so, describe how each of the groups will work together to implement the Community Engagement activities and identify the role of each organization in the planning and execution of the activities. (250 words, max.)

4b) Please list the geographic areas (provide zip codes for the location of the event and areas where promotion of the event will occur) served by the proposed activity(s).

4c) Based on the identified Community Engagement plan, describe the audience(s) (cultural, ethnic, and racial) you plan to target and what impact the Community Engagement will have on that audience(s). Include age groups, if appropriate, of the targeted audience(s). Please detail your development efforts to meet the target audience needs including outreach and engagement methods to be used, media outreach, distribution of fliers and posters, social media, etc. (1 page double-spaced, max.)

5) Budget:

Provide an itemized budget that illustrates how the total grant amount will be allocated for the planning and execution of the Community Engagement activities.

Allowable costs include but are not limited to:

- Travel stipends for individuals attending the event
- Stipends for community members supporting the event's operations (day of)
- Food
- Rental costs
- Stipends for key individuals (that will draw in other attendees) to attend
- Media and event promotion
- Social and traditional media for the target audience that increase awareness on wellbeing and health

5a) Provide a brief budget narrative including any relevant considerations that have bearing on these calculations. Please note that figures provided in the text of the proposal will be compared against the figures outlined in the budget to ensure matching totals. (1 page double-spaced, max.)

REPORTING AND PAYMENT TERMS:

Grantees will be required to submit an application and a final report at conclusion of the event(s) to CalMHSa. The terms of each grant will include reporting that details the following:

- 1) Number and types of efforts to implement the Community Engagement activities.
- 2) Approximate number of people reached through Community Engagement activities.
- 3) General demographic information of audience, to the extent applicable.
 - o After the Community Engagement Activities have concluded, collect (verbally, written, or electronically) responses from target audiences using the below (or similar) questions:

- Are you more aware of mental health services and resources in your community?
 - Do you have a better understanding of health and wellbeing?
 - Are you more likely to tell a family member, friend, coworker, or neighbor about mental health services and resources?
 - Are you more likely to seek out mental health services and resources?
- 4) Methods through which Community Engagement was promoted throughout the community, e.g.: news release, distribution of fliers, posters, email campaigns, social media, etc.
 - 5) If applicable, photos, materials, etc. that capture the Community Engagement activity(s). (**Photos and social media posts require a signed media release.**)
 - 6) Event media coverage – both day of and pre-event promotion.
 - 7) Final event report detailing outcomes at the conclusion of Community Engagement activities.

Payment:

- 1) Funding awards will be issued in two installments. 75% of total grant award will be issued **upon approval** of award, with the remaining 25% of funding being issued **upon submittal of final event report and approval.**
- 2) Payments will be issued within 14 calendar days of **notice of approval.**
- 3) Submittal of application and final report(s) does not guarantee payment(s). Both the application and final report must be reviewed and approved by CaIMHSA prior to release of funds.

Awardee Selection(s):

Awardee selection will be based on the quality of the proposal/application and the ability demonstrated to create an environment that improves community and/or individual health and wellbeing. For inquiries regarding selections please submit to info@calmhsa.org.

The grant period is September 1, 2018 through and including **November 15, 2018**. All project activities must be completed by no later than **November 15, 2018**, no exceptions.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Upon receiving a grant award notification, awardees will be required to submit a current, completed and signed W-9.
2. Upon receiving a grant award notification, awardees will be required to execute a mini grant acknowledgement form.

(Important Note: Payment is contingent on the above having been completed and received by CalMHSA.)

By signing this application, you commit to the following:

- 1) Organizing Community Engagement as described in your application.
- 2) Promoting Community Engagement throughout your area.
- 3) Completing reports in an accurate and timely manner.

Signature		Date
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Name	Title	Organization
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