



Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program Tribal Entities Informational Webinar

Request for Applications (RFA)

July 10, 2023



Land Acknowledgement

Sarah Caligiuri, CEO/Co-Founder NARS

Western Shoshone



DHCS Office of Tribal Affairs Welcome

Andrea Zubiante

California Department of Health Care Services





DHCS Community Services Division Welcome

Ilana Rub

California Department of Health Care Services



Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program Overview

California's Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will provide a total of \$1.5 billion in funding to county behavioral health agencies and Tribal entities to operate bridge housing settings to address the immediate and sustainable housing needs of people experiencing homelessness who have serious behavioral health conditions, including a serious mental illness (SMI) and/or substance use disorder (SUD).



Purpose and Priorities

- **The BHBH Program provides funding for operational and supportive services, not covered under other funding sources, to expand bridge housing implementation.**
- **The following priorities drive the implementation of the BHBH Program:**
 - **This is a critical need, and the focus is on immediate and sustainable solutions.**
 - **Collaboration will complement ongoing state, county, and Tribal efforts to address homelessness.**
 - **BHBH Program settings will provide supportive services and housing navigation to assist people who have serious behavioral health conditions and are experiencing homelessness.**

BHBH Program Timeline



Round	Eligibility	Timeline
Round 1	County behavioral health agencies RFA	County awards currently in process
Round 2	Tribal Entities RFA Two tracks: Planning and Implementation	Proposals due: September 15, 2023
Future Rounds	Competitive RFA for county behavioral health agencies and Tribal entities	More information to come





Hosted by:

Amanda Barrios Griggs, MSW, MT-BC, and

Deborah (Deb) Werner, PMP, MA

Advocates for Human Potential (AHP)



BHBH Program Tribal Team



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Senior Program Associate II
BHBH Tribal Project Lead



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NARS CEO/
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AHP Senior Program
Manager and Tribal
Liaison

BHBH Program Tribal Team



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Senior Writer



Kurt Schweigman
Subject Matter Expert



Rue Mansour
Program Associate



**Marisa Corriea-
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Program Associate



Agenda

- ✓ **RFA for Tribal Entities**
- ✓ **Track 1: Planning**
 - ✓ Overview
 - ✓ Program Requirements
 - ✓ Allowable Uses of Funds
- ✓ **Track 2: Implementation**
 - ✓ Overview
 - ✓ Program Requirements
 - ✓ Allowable Uses of Funds
- ✓ **How to Apply**
- ✓ **Next Steps**

BHBH Program Tribal Team

**Native Americans for
Restorative Stewardship
(NARS)**



Sarah Caligiuri
CEO/ Principal Consultant

Megan Siaosi
Co-Founder/ Principal
Consultant

Andrew Perera
Co-Founder/ Principal
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Charmin Bailey
Consultant

Antonio Bonilla
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Fernanda Ferrell-Zabala
Consultant

RFA for Tribal Entities

Timeline for Tribal Entities RFA

Event	Date
BHBH Program Round 2 Tribal Entities RFA released	June 19, 2023
SurveyMonkey Apply portal opened	July 6, 2023
Training and technical assistance available through help desk	June 19 – through September 14, 2023 *responses for requests received after September 8, 2023, not guaranteed
Tribal entity proposal deadline	September 15, 2023, 4:00 p.m. PT
Tribal entity conditional awards announced	Fall 2023
Contract executed	Within 60 days of Tribal entity's receipt of contract

Eligibility

- **California “Tribal entities” defined (Sections 1603 and 5304 of USC Title 25) as one of the following:**
- **Federally recognized Indian Tribe**
- **Tribal organization**
- **Urban Indian organization**
- **Health care program operated by an Indian Tribe, a Tribal organization, or Urban Indian organization**
- **Within the state of California**
- **Rural or urban**
- **Applicants are encouraged to form partnerships with other organizations, but the primary applicant must meet the eligibility criteria.**

Questions About Eligibility

If you're unsure whether your organization is **eligible** as a **Tribal entity**, please submit a written explanation how you meet the eligibility criteria to the

BHBH Program [Help Desk](#)

Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program Tribal Entities RFA Help Desk

Please use this help desk request form for any technical or program issues.
Please submit one request per question.

Tribal entity *

Contact Name *

Please provide contact information for the individual submitting the help desk ticket.

Title *

Email *

Phone Number

Technical or program issue? *

- Program Question
 Technical Question

How can we help you?

Please use this space as needed to ask a question about the BHBH Program, RFA, or application process, or to provide related information.

Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program Round 2

This round of BHBH Program funding will make available up to \$50,000,000 total to California Tribal entities for use in the planning and implementation of bridge housing services for individuals in Tribal communities experiencing **homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions** (serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder).



Definition of Homelessness

An **individual** or **family** experiencing **homelessness** is **defined** as any of the following:

- An individual or family that **lacks an adequate nighttime residence**
- An individual or family with a **primary residence** that is a public or private place **not designed** for or ordinarily used **for habitation**
- An individual or family **living in a shelter**
- An individual **exiting an institution** (including incarceration) into homelessness
- An individual or family who will **lose housing** in the next 30 days
- **Unaccompanied youth, homeless families, children and youth** defined as homeless under other federal statutes
- Individuals **fleeing intimate partner violence**

Definition of Serious Behavioral Health Condition

Individuals with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders are eligible for services through BHBH programs:

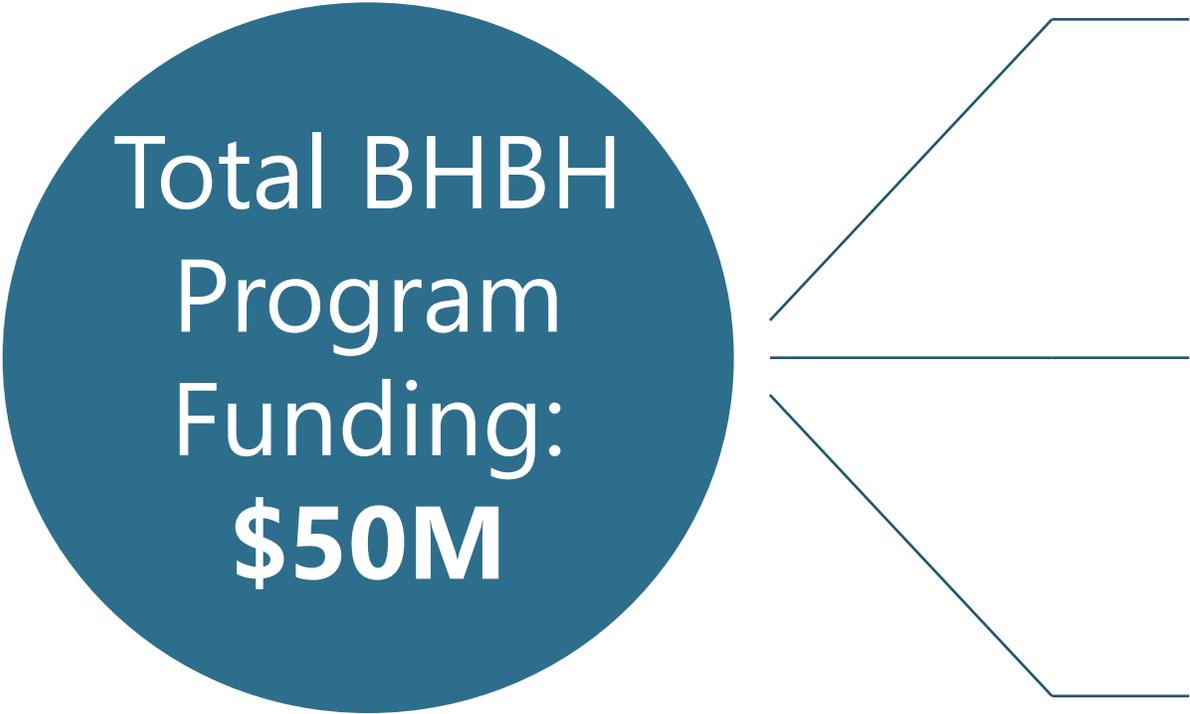
- ✓ The individual is experiencing significant impairment, **or there is a reasonable probability**, of significant deterioration in an important area of life functioning

AND

- ✓ The individual has at least one diagnosis, **or a suspected diagnosis**, from the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* for a mental disorder or a substance-related and addictive disorder, with the exception of Tobacco-Related Disorders and Non-Substance-Related Disorders

For further details on BHBH Program definitions, see RFA Attachment C.

Track 1 and Track 2: Overview



Total BHBH
Program
Funding:
\$50M

Track 1: Planning Grant

- **Funding Request:** \$150,000
- Term: through December 31, 2024

Track 2: Implementation Grant

- **Maximum Funding Request:** \$5M
- Term: through March 31, 2027

If you want to do both planning and implementation:

- Apply under **Track 2: Implementation**

Track 1: Planning

Purpose of Track 1: Planning Grants

The Planning Grant is intended to facilitate engagement and community conversations about locally defined Tribal and/or Urban Indian housing and behavioral health practices, from the Indigenous worldview.

Planning grants will be awarded in amounts of \$150,000.

- **Community-defined best practices can be explored by grantees conducting planning activities to best address the needs of members of their population who are experiencing homelessness and have serious behavioral health conditions, including SMI and/or SUD.**

Track 1

Planning activities may include but are not limited to:



Relationship building

Community engagement and/or community assessments

Identifying potential housing sites

Action planning to expand access to housing and behavioral health care

Building partnerships

Subcontracting with experts

Track 1: Administrative Requirements



Track 1: Planning Grants - Allowable Uses of Funds



Expressly intended for **planning, predevelopment,** and **capacity building.**



May not be used for **direct services** or **housing.**



Allowable Costs

Personnel
Subcontractors or consultants
Other direct costs
Indirect costs

Track 2: Implementation

Purpose of Track 2: Implementation Grants

This track is intended to support grantees in launching and operating a BHBH program to address the immediate housing needs of individuals in their communities experiencing homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions, including SMI and/or SUD.

Applicants may request any amount up to \$5 million in funding.

Larger projects including BHBH start-up infrastructure are eligible; however, eligible entities that have small projects that focus on addressing the immediate housing needs of a few individuals are also encouraged to apply.

- Applicants who are interested in both planning and implementation activities should only apply under Track 2: Implementation Grant.

Possible Settings

Bridge housing settings may be existing facilities, leased or owned by either a Tribal entity or a provider/partner, that can be converted for use faster than a new capital project.

Tribal entities are encouraged to explore innovative models using existing real estate that can be leased or quickly converted to create new BHBH program settings.



Tiny homes

Master-leased units or buildings

Office, school, or warehouse conversions



Hotels and motels

Converted churches and other community settings

Duplexes or large single-family homes



Modular buildings

Converted SNFs, assisted living, hospital conversions, etc.

Scattered-site individual units

Bridge Housing Activities

For purposes of the BHBH Program, “bridge housing” is defined as short- and mid-term residential options and serves as a bridge to longer-term housing.



SHELTER/ INTERIM
HOUSING



RENTAL
ASSISTANCE



HOUSING
NAVIGATION
SERVICES



AUXILIARY FUNDING
IN ASSISTED
LIVING SETTINGS



IMPLEMENTATION
AND PLANNING



OUTREACH AND
ENGAGEMENT



START-UP
INFRASTRUCTURE

Track 2: Administrative Requirements Overview



Track 2: Allowable Uses of Funds



Implementation

Planning
Pre-development
Capacity Building
Reporting



Bridge Housing

Shelter/Interim Housing
Rental Assistance
Auxiliary Funding in Assisted
Living Settings
Navigation Services
Outreach and Engagement



Allowable Costs

Personnel
Subcontractors or
consultants
Other direct costs
Indirect costs
Start-Up Infrastructure

Bridge Housing Start-up

Examples of allowable start-up infrastructure costs include:

- ✓ the initial purchase of furniture, equipment, and appliances
- ✓ minor renovations to make necessary accessibility modifications for people who have behavioral health conditions
- ✓ the purchase and placement of tiny homes and related utility hookups and supportive facilities
- ✓ costs related to facility renovations, including allowable adaptive reuse
- ✓ bridge housing, as long as the start-up is expected to be completed and the bridge housing brought online within one year of contract execution

All of these allowable expenditures must fit within the \$75,000 per-bed limit.

See RFA Attachment B, pages B6-B9, for additional requirements.

Requesting an Exception to the Budget Specifications

The following are the only funding requirements for which applicants may request an exception. No other exceptions will be approved:

- \$75,000 per-bed limit on BHBH start-up infrastructure
- BHBH start-up infrastructure completion within one year of contract execution

The BHBH Program is committed to supporting the successful implementation of the BHBH program in a manner that meets the needs of the communities served. In recognition of this, applicants may choose to request an exception from some of the requirements.

How to Apply



Tribes & Tribal Entities



Request for Applications Documents and Resources

[Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#)

[Attachment A: RFA Track 1 - Planning Grant](#)

[Attachment B: RFA Track 2 - Implementation Grant](#)

[Attachment C: RFA Definitions](#)

[Budget Template: RFA Track 1 - Planning Grant](#)

[Budget Template: RFA Track 2 - Implementation Grant](#)

[Help Desk](#)

[Apply Now](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) - Coming Soon](#)

New Funding Opportunity for Tribal Entities

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is pleased to announce the release of the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program Tribal Entities Request for Applications (RFA).

The BHBH Program Tribal Entities RFA will make up to \$50 million available for use in the planning and implementation of bridge housing services for individuals in Tribal communities who are experiencing homelessness and have serious behavioral health conditions, including serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

DHCS has engaged Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP), a consulting and research firm focused on improving health and human services systems, to serve as the BHBH Program administrative entity. AHP and partners will offer technical assistance during the application process and throughout the course of this grant.

An informational webinar on July 10, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. PT will provide details about both the BHBH Program and this RFA and application process. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to attend. Registration is required.

[Register for the Informational Webinar](#)

Applications are due no later than September 15, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. PT.

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[Attachment A: RFA Track 1 - Planning Grant](#)

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Application Procedures



Application Portal

The BHBH Program application uses a fillable form on an online application portal hosted by [SurveyMonkey Apply](#).

You will be asked to upload documents including:

- organizational chart
- budget
- budget narrative
- necessary supporting documentation

We recommend downloading the application and drafting responses prior to working in SurveyMonkey Apply.

Application Procedures



Accommodations

DHCS will provide assistive services such as reading or writing assistance and conversion of the RFA, questions and answers, RFA addenda, or other Administrative Notices to Braille, large print, audiocassette, or computer disk as needed. To request copies of written materials in an alternate format, please send an email to BHBHinfo@ahpnet.com or call (323) 545-6202.

➤ Portal and Budget Demonstrations

Questions and Scoring

Area	Track 1: Planning (points)	Track 2: Implementation (points)
Community/Need for Assistance	10	10
Experience	30	25
Proposed Planning Process/ Proposed Implementation	35	35
Project Management/ Project Management and Sustainability	20	25
Budget (pass/fail)	5	5
Total	100 points	100 points

Next Steps

Need Help?

- ✓ [FAQs](#) will be posted on the [BHBH Program website](#). If you are not able to find an answer to your question, please submit it to the [Tribal Entities RFA Help Desk](#).
- ✓ You may also request a consultation through the [Tribal Entities RFA Help Desk](#) form.
- ✓ Visit the [BHBH Program Website Resources Page](#) and searchable library.

[Behavioral Health Bridge Housing \(BHBH\) Program](#)
[Tribal Entities RFA Help Desk](#)

A hand is shown holding a purple paper house with a heart-shaped cutout in the center. The heart is illuminated from within, creating a warm, glowing effect. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise sky with a city skyline visible in the distance.

**Housing for health.
Housing today.
Housing tomorrow.**

[Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Website](#)



Thank You