



Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming Shelters

SCHEDULE

Issued: September 15, 2023

Proposals Due: October 13, 2023 5:00PM Local Time

MaineHousing Contact Person: Lauren Bustard

E-mail: warmingshelterrfp@mainehousing.org

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

Maine State Housing Authority ("MaineHousing") does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, age, familial status or receipt of public assistance in the admission or access to or treatment in its programs and activities. In employment, MaineHousing does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability or genetic information. MaineHousing will provide appropriate communication auxiliary aids and services upon sufficient notice. MaineHousing will also provide this document in alternative formats upon sufficient notice. MaineHousing has designated the following person responsible for coordinating compliance with applicable federal and state nondiscrimination requirements and addressing grievances: Lauren Bustard, Maine State Housing Authority, 26 Edison Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330, Telephone Number 1-800-452-4668 (voice in state only), (207) 626-4600 (voice) or Maine Relay 711.

I. PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE

Maine State Housing Authority (MaineHousing) is an independent quasi-state agency. The mission of MaineHousing is to assist Maine people in obtaining and maintaining quality affordable housing and services suitable to their housing needs. Additional information concerning MaineHousing can be found at www.mainehousing.org.

Governor Mills and the Maine State Legislature have provided funding to MaineHousing, through an appropriation in the State of Maine's FY2024/2025 General Fund budget, to address the continuing crisis of unsheltered homelessness during the winter months of 2023-24. This Notice of Funding Availability ("Notice") invites applications for funding of overnight warming shelters to become operational by November 15, 2023 and operate until April 30, 2024. This funding should only be used to expand beyond existing shelter services and should not act to replace current funding for existing shelter services.

II. POPULATION TO BE HOUSED

Warming Shelters should be designed to meet the needs of individuals and families experiencing literal homelessness.

III. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Funding will be available to municipalities, Native American tribes and nonprofit organizations ("Applicant(s)"). Nonprofit organizations must be working in conjunction with the municipality where the shelter will be sited.

Applicants must have site control of the proposed building/facility where services will be performed. The site must be able to accommodate shelter guests with accessibility needs.

IV. REQUIREMENTS

Scope of Services:

- Provide overnight or a combination of overnight and day shelter spaces for the intended population, creating as few barriers as possible to access shelter.
- Provide staffing and meals adequate to the space/number of people served.
- Coordinate with service providers in your area's Homeless Service Hub (Homeless Service Hub information and contact information for Hub Coordinators provided in Appendix C) to offer housing navigation and stability services that will assist shelter guests in obtaining permanent housing solutions.
- Report monthly on participants served and expense tracking.
- Participate in information sharing/training sessions as requested.

Provider Qualifications:

- Experience providing shelter and/or services to individuals/families experiencing homelessness.
- Familiarity with the homeless response system and housing providers/resources.

V. TERM OF CONTRACT

Any contract awarded pursuant to this Notice will be for a term beginning as early as feasible after the award of the contract and will end on April 30, 2024. MaineHousing will have the sole right and option to extend the contract for one (1) additional short term given any unforeseen circumstances that require additional Services.

VI. FORMAT AND DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS AND QUESTIONS

All Applicants must submit the following, in PDF format, to warmingshelterrfp@mainehousing.org

1. Narrative, including:
 - a. Applicant's Experience providing shelter/services to people experiencing homelessness
 - b. Proposed Site Address and Description (including evidence of site control)
 - c. Number of Individuals/Families to be Served
 - d. Staffing Plan
 - e. Services to be provided, including information on partner organizations who will be collaborating on the project.
 - f. Admissions Policies and Rules (i.e., in what circumstances you would deny a bed to an individual).
 - g. Total Funding Request, along with operating budget.
2. Applicant Information Sheet in Appendix A.
3. Applicant Certification Form in Appendix B.

All applications must be submitted electronically to Lauren Bustard, Senior Director of Homeless Initiatives, by email at warmingshelterrfp@mainehousing.org, no later than 5:00 p.m. local time on October 13, 2023. Please include in the subject line of the email "Response to Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming Shelters."

Questions concerning this Notice must be directed to the email as noted above no later than 5:00pm on September 29, 2023. Responses will be posted to the MaineHousing webpage for the Notice on a regular basis, and responses to all questions will be posted by Friday, October 6, 2023.

VII. SELECTION CRITERIA

No formal scoring of applications will be done. Submissions will be reviewed and evaluated by MaineHousing based on its assessment of each Applicant's capacity to meet the Scope of Services outlined herein. Upon such review, MaineHousing may schedule interviews with select Applicants. Any contract awarded by MaineHousing will be based on applications deemed by MaineHousing to be most advantageous, taking into account the ability to begin services by November 15th, the number of people served, the services provided and the cost.

VIII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Rights Reserved by MaineHousing

In addition to the rights reserved by MaineHousing elsewhere in this Notice, MaineHousing reserves the right to:

Adjust the timetable for this Notice as deemed necessary.

Waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received.

Reject and not consider any or all Applicants who do not meet the requirements of this Notice, including but not limited to incomplete responses and/or non-responsive proposals.

Reject any or all proposals received and not to award a contract pursuant to this Notice, or to cancel or terminate this Notice process at any time, whether before or after any proposals have been submitted or received, if deemed by MaineHousing to be in its best interest.

Negotiate price or other factors included in any proposal submitted to MaineHousing, and in the event MaineHousing is unable to negotiate a mutually satisfactory contract with the successful Applicant under this Notice, MaineHousing may, in its sole discretion, negotiate with another Applicant or cancel this Notice and not award a contract to any Applicant.

Reject the Applicant selected pursuant to this Notice and to offer a contract to another Applicant in the event the selected Applicant does not enter into the required contract to provide related services described in this Notice.

Negotiate directly with one Applicant if the responses to this Notice demonstrate a lack of competition.

Correct or amend this Notice. In no case will this Notice be amended within seven (7) days of the proposal submission deadline unless the amendment includes an extension of time. MaineHousing will not be liable for any costs incurred as a result of changes to this Notice.

Other Terms and Conditions

Conflict of Interest. The Applicant, any principal or affiliate of the Applicant, or anyone who will be paid for work on the Contract, that has business ties, familial relations, or other close personal relations with a current MaineHousing employee or a commissioner, or anyone who was a MaineHousing employee or a commissioner within the past year must disclose this information under **Appendix A - Applicant Information Sheet**.

Applicant Certification Form. As a mandatory requirement of this proposal, **all** Applicants must complete and submit the Applicant Certification Form attached to this Notice as **Appendix B**, along with their proposal submission.

Confidentiality and Nondisclosure. Applicant shall maintain in trust and confidence and shall not disclose to any third party, except as such disclosure may be authorized in writing in advance by MaineHousing, and shall not use for any unauthorized purpose, any and all information, documents and data received or obtained from or on behalf of MaineHousing. Applicant may use such information, documents and data only to the extent required for the purposes described in this Notice. Applicant shall adhere to all security, confidentiality and nondisclosure policies and procedures required by MaineHousing for the protection of such information and data from unauthorized use and disclosure and from loss.

Maine Freedom of Access Act. Information submitted by an Applicant in any proposal becomes public information, and is subject to disclosure in accordance with the requirements of law, including without limitation the Maine Freedom of Access Act, 1 M.R.S.A. Section 401 et seq. ("FOAA"), except as provided therein. Applicant acknowledges that MaineHousing is required to comply with FOAA.

Protest Procedures. Protests of any award made pursuant to this Notice must be submitted in writing to MaineHousing at the address given on the cover page of this Notice, to the attention of: Director. To be considered, protests must be received by MaineHousing within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of notification of the contract award and provide specific reasons and any supporting documentation for the protest.

Women and Minority Owned Businesses. Women and minority owned businesses are encouraged to apply. To subcontract any of the work, Applicant must follow the steps outlined in 2 CFR 200.321.

APPENDIX A

APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

for

MaineHousing Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming Shelters

Please provide the following information, completed and signed, and place this form at the front of the application:

General Information	
Applicant Name:	
Federal Tax ID:	
Street Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Telephone#:	
Homeless Service Hub Where Shelter will be Located (See Appendix C.)	
List of Partnering Organizations and Role in Shelter Program	
Contact Person for Questions	
Name:	
Title:	
E-mail Address:	
Telephone#:	

Description of Capacity	
Summarized Narrative of Applicant's ability to provide the services required under this Notice	
List of planned resources to be assigned to meet the obligations of this Notice	
Conflict of Interest. Does the Applicant, any principal or affiliate of the Applicant, or anyone who will be paid for work on the contract have business ties, familial relations, or other close personal relations with a current MaineHousing employee or commissioner, or anyone who was a MaineHousing employee or commissioner within the past year? If yes, please describe here:	

APPENDIX B

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION FORM

for

MaineHousing Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming Shelters

Applicant Name	
Applicant Address	

The undersigned Applicant represents and certifies as follows:

1. The prices in this Application have been arrived at independently and without consultation, communication, agreement or disclosure with or to any other Applicant or potential Applicant.
2. No attempt has been made at any time to induce any firm or person to submit any intentionally high or noncompetitive Application or to otherwise submit or refrain from submitting an Application for the purpose of restricting competition.
3. Applicant has not given, and will not give at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to any employee or representative of MaineHousing in connection with this Notice.
4. Applicant acknowledges that MaineHousing will determine whether a conflict of interest exists and that MaineHousing reserves the right to disqualify any Applicant on the grounds of actual or apparent conflict of interest.
5. Applicant has not employed or retained any person or entity to solicit or obtain any contract resulting from this Notice and has not paid or agreed to pay to any person or entity any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of any such contract.
6. Applicant understands and acknowledges that the representations in its Application are material and important and will be relied on by MaineHousing in evaluating the Application. Applicant certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, all of the information contained in its Application is true, correct and complete and acknowledges that any intentional misrepresentation by Applicant will disqualify Applicant from further consideration in connection with this Notice.
7. The undersigned individual is legally authorized to sign this Applicant Certification Form for and on behalf of Applicant and to bind Applicant to the statements made herein.

Name, Title and Signature of Individual with Authority to Bind Applicant	
Name	
Title	
Signature	
Date	

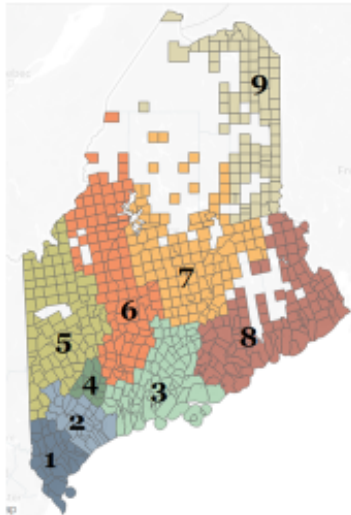
APPENDIX C **INFORMATION ON HOMELESS SERVICE HUBS**

for MaineHousing Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming Shelters

REGIONAL HOMELESS SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

The nine Homeless Service Hubs operate from a framework from which coordination of activities such as provider training, coordination, referrals and distribution of housing resources can be efficiently deployed. This new structure allows homeless service providers to effectively implement the new Coordinated Entry System, standardize training, engage other mainstream systems such as justice and healthcare and remove access barriers for individuals seeking support. Coordinated Entry is a consistent, streamlined process for accessing the resources available in the homeless crisis response system. Through Coordinated Entry, a Continuum of Care (CoC) ensures that the highest need, most vulnerable households in the community are prioritized for services and that the housing and supportive services in the system are used as efficiently and effectively as possible. Each Homeless Service Hub determines its own governance structure and process for system engagement, but with commitment to similar driving principles of person-centered care.

Maine Homeless Response System Service Hub Structure



- Hub 1: York
- Hub 2: Cumberland
- Hub 3: Midcoast: Sagadahoc, Knox, Lincoln, Waldo and Towns of Brunswick and Harpswell
- Hub 4: Androscoggin
- Hub 5: Western: Oxford, Franklin and Towns of Livermore and Livermore Falls
- Hub 6: Central: Somerset and Kennebec
- Hub 7: Penquis: Penobscot and Piscataquis
- Hub 8: Downeast: Washington and Hancock
- Hub 9: Aroostook

Hub	Hub Coordinator Name	Hub Coordinator Organization	Email	Phone
1	Abigail Smallwood	York County Community Action Corporation	abigail.smallwood@yccac.org	207-502-9415
2	Nakesha Warren-Colbry	United Way of Southern Maine	nwarrencolbry@uwsme.org	207-347-2345
3	Amy Holland	United Way of Southern Maine	aholland@uwsme.org	207-317-2895
4	Julia Kimball	Lewiston Housing Authority	jkimball@lewistonhousing.org	207-240-8265
5	Emily Meade	Western Maine Community Action	emeade@wmca.org	207-860-4469
6	Nicole Frydrych	Volunteers of America Northern New England	nicole.frydrych@voanne.org	207-751-8288
7	Jen Weatherbee	Community Health and Counseling Services	jlweatherbee@chcs-me.org	207-922-4600 ext. 6403
8	Jace Farris	Community Health and Counseling Services	jfarris@chcs-me.org	207-922-4600 ext. 6101
9	Anna Robinson	Presque Isle Housing Authority	arobinson@hub9community.org	

APPENDIX D

KEY PROPOSAL DATES

for

MaineHousing Notice of Funding Availability for Winter Overnight Warming
Shelters

All dates are subject to change at MaineHousing’s discretion. All proposal documents, correspondence, and/or questions must be emailed to: warmingshelterrfp@mainehousing.org

Notice Issuance:	
Date Issued:	<u>September 15, 2023</u>
Questions & Answers:	
Questions:	Questions will be received: Until: <u>September 29, 2023 no later than 5 p.m. EST</u> Questions must be emailed directly to: warmingshelterrfp@mainehousing.org
Answers:	All questions, and their subsequent answers, will be posted on the MaineHousing website for public viewing. Questions will be answered no later than <u>October 6, 2023</u> <i>To locate these postings, go to the MaineHousing website located at:</i> https://www.mainehousing.org/rfp
Pertinent Proposal Dates:	
Deadline for Proposal Submission:	<u>October 13, 2023</u> , no later than 5:00 p.m. EST <i>**Please be sure emailed proposal is in PDF format, as well as all supplemental documentation.</i>
Proposal Evaluation Review and Demonstration Phase:	From: <u>October 16 – 20, 2023</u>
Contract Offering:	<u>Week of October 23, 2023</u>