**COVID-19 Emergency Funding**

**Reaching Home**

The Government of Canada has recently been given an additional $544,848, for New Brunswick Rural and Remote Reaching Home funding to help those who are most vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Community Entity for Rural and Remote NB, is currently accepting funding applications from organizations in need of obtaining financial assistance to achieve activities specific to meeting the needs of homeless and at-risk people living in Rural and Remote areas in the province of New Brunswick, and specifically related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While other projects may be considered, priority will be given to projects that:

* help individuals with no adequate housing to self-isolate (e.g. in motels, hotels, etc.)
* help shelters & mat programs comply with health recommendations (e.g. adding space between persons, protective barriers, sanitation, etc.)
* help at-risk individuals get access to services and supplies that may currently be limited
* help purchase cleaning supplies and other personal protective equipment for front-line service providers
* take place in communities heavily impacted by the pandemic
* identify opportunities for integration of services and supports
* address a demonstrated need; and
* clearly outline capacity to deliver identified project activities

Eligible Organizations:

* Not-for-profit organizations
* Public health and educational institutions; and For-profit organizations
* Provincial and territorial governments and their entities
* Municipalities
* Indigenous organizations

**Application Start -**

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| --- | --- |
| Organization Name: |  |
| Mailing Address: |  |
| Organization Type: |  |
| Organization Purpose & Mandate |  |
|  |  |
| Primary Contact Name |  |
| Title |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone Number |  |

**Project Overview**

Project Description and Need - What key challenges are your organization(s) facing as a result of COVID-19? Please emphasize the need and the extent of COVID-19 in your community. Your application will be largely assessed based on this information. We are anticipating a large volume of applications, so please provide as many details as possible. This may include reporting statistics and/or providing a detailed description.

**Project Details** - How will the requested funds be used to address the key challenges? Point-form may be used.

Evaluation Strategy - Successful applicants will be required to report on the impact & activities carried out with this funding, including how the money was spent, the impact of the funding on their community and the activities completed. Please describe briefly how you plan to track the results of your project so you can report accurately on what you achieved.

**Project Budget**

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| *Please break down your funding request & tell us how you plan to spend the funds. Please ensure you have detailed these activities/items in question 10) Project Details. Please note: administrative expenses can only amount up to 15% of your proposed project costs. Please refer to appendix for eligible costs.* | |
| ***Activity/Item*** | ***Cost*** |
| *Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)  - (masks, face shields, gloves, etc.,)* | *$500* |
| *Hotel rooms for self-isolation (5 rooms x 2 weeks each)* | *$5,000* |
| **Total Funds Requested:** | **$5,500** |
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| ***Activity/Item*** | ***Cost*** |
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| **Total Funds Requested:** |  |

*How much in-kind support do you or your organization plan to provide?*

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| --- | --- |
| ***In-Kind Contribution*** | ***Value*** |
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*What other COVID-19 related funding do you have access to for homelessness? Please list the funding source, amount of funding and note whether you have received the funding, have applied for the funding, or will be applying for the funding.*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Funding Source*** | ***Amount*** | ***Status of Funding*** |
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**Project Timeline**

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| Please provide a timeline of when you expect to carry out activities from the Project Overview above. *Note: Project activities can be short term or longer term, but must be completed by, with all funds spent, on or before March 31, 2021.* | |
| **Proposed Project Activities** | **Estimated Timeline** |
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| **End of Project Activities** |  |

Due to limited funding, we will be unable to fund all applications we receive. However, all applicants will be notified regarding the status of their application as soon as we have completed the review process.

Please e-mail your completed application to**:** [**byc.melissaharvey@gmail.com**](about:blank) with the header “COVID-19 Emergency Funding Application – (Organization Name)” to be considered for the first round of intake.

Appendix A – Eligible Expenses

**Eligibility**

Illustrative examples of how funding can be employed to reduce and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 are included under each category of eligible activities. Reference to Reaching Home funding in the examples below includes base funding and investments from the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. **The list of illustrative examples is not exhaustive as any activities that would improve the ability of the community and service providers to respond to the risks posed by COVID-19 to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness warrants consideration.**

**Administration expenditures**

*Projects may only claim up to 15% of their proposed budget in administrative costs.*

In the context of the COVID-19 response, communities may use Reaching Home funds to:

* Support overhead costs, including costs that are central to the functioning of the organization in its delivery of Reaching Home-funded activities or those supported under Canada’s COVID-19 Economic Response Plan
* Provide training to existing staff/volunteers on, for example, appropriate practices to reduce the risk of infection and transmission of COVID-19; and,
* Purchase equipment and supplies.

**Housing Services**

**Reaching Home funding can be used to increase the physical distance between people, particularly those residing in shelters, to reduce the risk of viral spread and support social distancing.**

Communities could for example:

* Place individuals in temporary, transitional, or permanent housing accommodations including for the purposes of self-isolation.
* Communities are encouraged to think broadly about what constitutes temporary accommodations (e.g., motels, hotels, rooming houses, community buildings, schools, tents in sports arenas, RVs etc.).

**Prevention and Shelter Diversion**

Keeping people housed is a key to limiting the spread of COVID-19 as people need to have a secure place to self-isolate.

To help people who are at imminent risk of homelessness maintain their housing, communities may wish to use Reaching Home funds to, for example:

* Provide short-term financial assistance (e.g., rent arrears and utility deposits);
* Deliver in-kind support (e.g., grocery cards, personal hygiene products, gift cards); and,
* Utilize non-financial tools such as landlord-tenant mediation, problem solving with neighbours, and helping individuals or families with budgeting.

Individuals being discharged from public institutions (e.g., corrections, hospitals), where conditions may be crowded, may present an elevated risk of spreading COVID-19. In these instances, Reaching Home funds could be used to, for example:

* Help individuals exiting institutions transition directly to housing and support them in maintaining housing so that they do not need to access a shelter. When it is safe and appropriate to do so, diverting individuals and families requesting shelter to other forms of accommodation is an important tool for communities to reduce overcrowding in shelters.

Shelter diversion programs help individuals and families seeking shelter to explore safe and appropriate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connect them with services and financial assistance to help them find secure housing. Reaching Home funds can be used to, for example:

* Set up new access points to services, such as working with an existing crisis line to offer help over the phone or virtually through a website
* Fund staff at points of shelter inquiry to explore options for individuals and families through problem-solving and leveraging strengths, existing informal and natural supports and community resources; and,
* Utilize tools and resources such as short-term financial support, landlord-tenant mediation, and in-kind support (e.g., groceries, gifts) to offset the costs to individuals and families of moving to alternative accommodations.

**Health and medical services**

* Providing general health and medical services, mental health (including counselling) and addictions support services that ARE already provided by provinces and territories.
* Direct hiring of health care professionals (e.g., nurses, doctors) to provide services directly to clients. Given this a new eligible expense, communities will be asked to specifically identify amounts spent on health and medical services.

**Basic Needs Services**

To reduce the potential for infection and transmission among people experiencing homelessness and those who work with them, communities may wish to use Reaching Home funds to, for example:

* Increase the frequency of cleaning with disinfectants in, for example, shelter facilities and high traffic areas
* Acquiring and/or providing shelter beds and physical barriers to be placed between beds
* Provide individuals moved off-site from a shelter with access to food and transportation
* Purchase personal hygiene products (e.g., soaps), personal protection equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, gowns, shoe covers), cleaning equipment and cleaning/disinfectant supplies.

**Capital Costs**

To reduce overcrowding in shelters and limit the spread of COVID-19 transmission, communities may wish to use Reaching Home funds to, for example:

* Purchase or repurpose existing properties to create new temporary housing (e.g., motel and hotel spaces, community spaces); and,
* Renovate existing facilities (e.g., shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, or non-residential facilities) to, for example, improve ventilation or increase the distance between residents.

**Coordination of resources and data collection**

In determining their COVID-19 response, Reaching Home funding recipients are encouraged to engage widely with other partners to support a coordinated response at the community level. In this context, Reaching Home funding could be used to, for example:

* Develop partnerships with other sectors, as well as gather, share and disseminate information to key partners and stakeholders; and,
* Inform the public and solicit support or feedback on the community’s response (e.g., communication activities such as issuing press releases to solicit volunteers).