

**Kane County ARPA SLFRF Working Group
Strengthening Behavioral Health through Meeting Basic Needs
Considerations for Notice of Funding Availability**

Notice of Funding Availability: Strengthening Behavioral Health through Meeting Basic Needs

Description: This document will serve as the public funding announcement and should be consistent with the requirements per [2 CFR 200.204](#)

Program Title: Strengthening Behavioral Health through Meeting Basic Needs

Assistance Listing: Assistance Listing Program Title is Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, and Assistance Listing Number is 21.027

Key Dates: Cost allowability period January 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026; Application opening date of 10/28/2024, closing date of 11/06/2024 at 11:59pm CST

Availability Period: 10 days

Funding Availability: \$200,000.00 total. Each organization may apply for between \$25,000.00 and \$100,000. There will likely be multiple awardees throughout the County.

Program Description:

The ability to meet basic essential needs is foundational to enhancing one’s mental health. It is a critical aspect of overall well-being and ensuring that individuals are equipped to cope with the everyday stressors associated with living a full life. In Kane County, Illinois, mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and suicide are prevalent, mirroring trends seen across the state and the nation. Meeting basic essential needs is shown to enhance mental health in the following ways.

1. **Reduced Anxiety:** When basic needs like food, shelter, and safety are met, individuals experience less anxiety and stress, allowing them to focus on other aspects of life.
2. **Increased Stability:** A stable environment fosters a sense of security, which is crucial for emotional well-being. This stability helps individuals feel grounded and less overwhelmed.
3. **Improved Physical Health:** Good nutrition, adequate sleep, and healthcare contribute to overall physical health, which is closely linked to mental health. Physical ailments can exacerbate mental health issues.
4. **Enhanced Relationships:** Meeting social needs through connections and support networks can combat feelings of loneliness and isolation, promoting a sense of belonging.
5. **Boosted Self-Esteem:** Having basic needs met can improve self-esteem and a sense of worth, enabling individuals to pursue goals and engage in positive activities.
6. **Better Coping Mechanisms:** With their basic needs addressed, individuals are more equipped to handle stressors and challenges, enhancing their resilience

Creating a supportive environment where basic needs are fulfilled, will improve mental health and overall quality of life for residents in Kane County. To that end, the Kane County Health Department proposes an initiative aimed at assisting local organizations better meet the essential needs of their clients through directly eliminating barriers to meeting those needs thereby improving mental health. Barriers may include, but are not limited to access to costs such as access to nutritious food, stable housing, dependable transportation, childcare, healthcare, medication, disability accessibility socialization, etc.

Possible expenditures may include, but are not limited to, paying for medication, hearing aids, glasses, medical equipment, utilities assistance, rent/deposit assistance, respite costs, legal aid, housing/property improvements for access and stability, costs associated with ensuring reliable transportation, filing vital paperwork, childcare, and medical visits.

The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) is seeking proposals from qualified organizations located in Kane County to provide these basic needs in addition to the services they are providing for their clients. The purpose of this award is to provide support for individuals in order to prevent mental health problems and intervene in crisis situations. The selected organizations will utilize this funding as a tool to better support their clients overall mental, physical and emotional health.

This funding is limited to a maximum possible award amount of \$100,000.00 and a minimum award amount of \$25,000.00 per organization for eligible expenses. All awards under this program shall be issued as grants and shall be disbursed to grantees on a reimbursement basis. Grantees will be expected to enter into a funding agreement with the County of Kane and shall be required to present appropriate documentation in order to substantiate their request(s) for reimbursement.

All awarded grant funds must be spent before 9/30/2026. Documentation to request reimbursement should be submitted by 10/31/26. Any organization needing an extension for grant fund expenditure must submit such request to the Kane County American Rescue Plan Program Manager in writing forty-five (45) days prior to the 10/31/26 deadline. Any request for extension must be approved by the Kane County Board prior to the end of the funding agreement's period of performance.

Eligibility Criteria:

- State and Local Government Agencies
- 501(c)3 Non-profit organization
- Tribal Organization
- Community-based organization
- Healthcare Provider
- Deliver services from a facility that is physically located within Kane County.
- Be in good standing with all applicable federal, state, and local standards and requirements.
- Ability to work with diverse populations, low-income groups, minorities, and individuals with limited access to these services

Evaluation Criteria:

The County will evaluate applications to determine if the applicants meet the eligibility requirements. Awards will be made at the County’s discretion based on the evaluation criteria.

Award amounts will be evaluated based on need demonstrated by budget information submitted as part of the application. Applications must be complete to be considered. Award amounts are subject to funding availability.

The County will consider the following evaluation criteria for applications.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria and Rating System:

1. Organizational Background (20 points)

- 20: Extensive Experience (5+ years), demonstrated success working in the community
- 10: Good experience (3-5 years), some evidence of past success addressing needs in the community.
- 5: Limited experience (under 1 year), minimal evidence of past work.
- 0: no relevant experience

2. Program Plan (50 Points)

- 50: Clearly and concisely describes need, program implementation, timeline, key performance outcomes, and evaluation methods
- 25: Defines plan but lacks clarity and performance outcomes/metrics and/or evaluation methods
- 10: Plan is unclear and incomplete
- 0: Plan is not sufficient

3. Budget (30 Points)

- 30: Budget is highly detailed, reasonable, and cost-effective with a clear, achievable timeline including specific milestones.
- 20: Detailed budget with minor gaps, generally cost-effective, timeline is feasible with a few minor concerns.
- 10: Budget is incomplete or lacks rational, timeline is vague or unrealistic.
- 0: No budget or timeline provided.

Total Possible Points: 100

This evaluation criteria and rating system assess proposals on their organization background, proposed approach, staff qualifications, and the combined budget and timeline to effectively serve our county.

Eligible Expenses

Expense Type	Description	Detailed Description
Operational Expenses	Expenses related to the operation of the program.	This may include costs associated with the operation of the program including payroll, occupancy, and administration.
Programmatic Expenses	Expenses for essential basic client needs.	This will include expenditures associated with direct goods and services as described in above examples.

Application Preparation & Submission:

Proposals must be submitted electronically to Kim Peterson, Director of Community Health, Kane County Health Department petersonkim@kanecountyil.gov . Please include “Strengthening Behavioral Health through Meeting Basic Needs” in the email subject line. Late submissions will not be considered.

Appeals: If your application is deemed ineligible, an appeal may be submitted to the Kane County ARPA Program Manager within three (3) calendar days of notification to KaneARPA@co.kane.il.us. Appeals must be on organizational letterhead and signed by an authorized representative of the applicant. Information should include a description of how your organization meets the eligibility requirements and any supporting documentation you deem relevant. Awarded amounts are considered final and the County will not consider appeals requests for awarded amounts.