
Request for Proposals Better Nursing Home Care Fund

Due Date for Applications: November 29, 2019

Purpose

Grant funding is available from the Better Nursing Home Care Fund to ensure better care for nursing home residents in Oregon. The Better Nursing Home Care Fund is a permanent fund of The Oregon Community Foundation, created by the U.S. District Court as partial restitution in a court case involving fraudulent operation of nursing homes. It is one of the first funds of this kind ever created.

The fund's earnings will be distributed in the form of a single grant to one selected recipient. An advisory committee reviews grant applications and makes funding recommendations to the foundation's board of directors. Applicants will be notified by February 28 of funding decisions.

Scope of Proposals Sought

The Better Nursing Home Care Fund is inviting **three-year proposals** that improve the quality of life, health and overall wellbeing of nursing home residents.

One applicant will be selected for funding in 2020, with an invitation to reapply for funding for the second and third year (2020 and 2021). The award size in year one is up to \$25,000, with the potential for up to \$15,000 and \$10,000 in years two and three. Please budget and prepare requests accordingly.

To be considered for renewed funding, the successful applicant will be asked to submit a report on progress and present to the Better Nursing Home Care Fund committee annually at OCF's office in downtown Portland (video conferencing can be made available if travel is not possible).

Projects with potential for replication are preferred, as are projects with plans to share or disseminate results. There should also be a **clear plan for sustaining proposed activities** during and following the three-year grant period.

Funding priorities:

- Implementing innovative methods for attracting and retaining qualified, competent and skilled staff, particularly Certified Nursing Assistants. Examples include, but aren't limited to, improving interdisciplinary relationships, cultivating leadership skills and creating mentoring opportunities.
- Adapting and implementing training, therapy, recreation, or other practices, or integrating new technology, tested as an effective way to improve nursing home care.
- Establishing collaborative relationships among nursing homes, resident organizations, community organizations, advocacy groups, family support groups, and academic institutions to improve nursing home residents' quality of life.
- Adopting evidence-based best practices, especially in the care of older adults with dementia.

Outcomes Sought

Following are some examples of the types of outcomes being sought in connection with nursing home residents, many the result of a shift to person-centered care:

Care of Residents

- Increase resident autonomy and choice
- Increase adequate nutrition and hydration
- Improve continence and skin integrity
- Increase functional independence and mobility
- Avoid or reduce depression by increasing participation in activities meaningful to the resident
- Avoid or decrease behavioral symptoms by identifying and responding to unmet needs

Issues Related to Staff

- Avoid or decrease staff turnover and increase consistent assignment of staff to residents
- Promote improvement by encouraging quick enforcement of regulations
- Develop programs or activities that mentor, empower and offer recognition of staff

Eligibility

Projects may address issues or needs of both nonprofit and for-profit nursing homes. However, applications are accepted only from nonprofits with tax-exempt status and public agencies that operate within Oregon. **The fund is focused solely on benefitting residents of nursing homes** and is not available for projects intended to benefit residents of assisted living facilities or other care facilities. Except as noted above, grants will not be made for equipment or capital projects, or to replace other funding where it is not demonstrated that OCF support will make a significant difference.

Application Procedures

- ✓ Applicants must submit their proposals using the OCF application formats (two documents which can be found on the OCF website (<https://www.oregoncf.org/grants-scholarships/grants/ocf-funds/better-nursing-home-care>)).
- ✓ Completed application must be received at OCF by 5 p.m., November 29

For Additional Information

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