



## Saint Louis MHB FY24-26 CMHF Community Meeting

November 2, 2022—10:00 AM

### Presentation Questions & Answers

#### St Louis MHB Overview

- NONE

#### MHB's Theory of Change

- NONE

#### CMHF Fund Overview

- SLIDE 7: What category does mental health/therapy fit into? *It would most likely fall into Category 4- Diagnostic and treatment services, or if you are working with a specific population (e.g., substance use), it could fall into other categories. We can offer project specific guidance on funding categories during office hours.*

#### CMHF Priorities & Outcomes

- SLIDE 9: **Would case management would fall under follow up care?** *It could. We can offer project specific guidance on funding categories during office hours.*
- SLIDE 9: **Would PLT (parents learning together) services be eligible under prevention or follow up services if working with the courts for family reunification?** *It could, but this is an example of the type of questions you can bring to office hours. During office hours, staff will offer guidance on whether the idea fits the CMHF funding and priorities.*

#### Application Process

- SLIDE 13: **Can currently funded agencies participate in office hours?** Yes.
- SLIDE 14: **If services are accredited by the Council on Accreditation, must they also be DMH certified?** No.

#### Community Investment Policies and Reporting Requirements

- NONE

#### Disclaimers and Assurances

- NONE

#### Closing

- NONE

## Question & Answer Session

- **Where and how can we learn more about the hybrid applications?** *In the Community Children's Service Fund cycle earlier this year, MHB offered the opportunity to organizations that served both children and their families/caregivers with the same or complimentary programs/services to apply for intergenerational grants. The next time the opportunity will be offered is in the CCSF cycle for funding in FY2026-2028.*
- **If our organization had a project previously funded by MHB but was not funded in the last cycle, will an application for that project count as a new application?** *When we say, "currently funded," we mean in the most recent FY2020-2022 CMHF funding cycle. If your program was funded in previous cycles, but not the most recent one, it is considered a new project.*
- **For currently funded projects, will you consider funding the same activities, or do you prefer that we add/change activities for the new cycle?** *Absolutely. This is not a funding source where you must do something new each cycle.*
- **For new projects, is the \$100,000 max for the entire project or is \$100,000 for each of the 3 years?** *It is important to make the distinction between new and startup. The \$100,000 limit is for a startup project. Startup Projects are those where if you do not receive the MHB funding, the program will not exist. If MHB has never funded you, you can apply as a new project as long as the services you are requesting funding for already exist. For new projects, you are not limited to the \$100,000 threshold. The maximum amounts given in the slide are per year.*
- **If our organization is not ready to apply for funds during this cycle, but want to share project information with the MHB team, should we schedule office hours? Or is it best to schedule time after this funding cycle is complete?** *You should not schedule office hours unless you have submitted a Letter of Intent for this funding cycle. Instead, you should schedule time during First Fridays. First Fridays allows organizations who are not funded to get time with an MHB staff members to go over ideas, plans, documents, etc. However, First Fridays will likely be paused during the funding cycle to allow staff members to focus on the application review. You can find more information on upcoming First Fridays opportunities at <https://stlmhb.com/calendar>.*
- **Did MHB commission a Community Needs Assessment for this upcoming funding cycle as it did in past CMHF cycles?** *No, we had a few local assessments that were done recently that we used when crafting our funding priorities. The City of St. Louis Department of Health put out their [St. Louis Mental Health Data Report](#). The Regional Health Commission put out their [Access to Care Databook](#). We also used a national resource, [The University of Pennsylvania's Center for High Impact Philanthropy](#), when developing our Theory of Change.*
- **Do we submit the Letter of Intent through the MHB grant portal?** *You will submit your Letter of Intent through the MHB website. It does not require grant portal access/log in at this stage. There will be a pop up on the [MHB home page](#) to direct you to the location of the Letter of Intent submission green button on Monday (11/7/22).*

- **Can MHB grant funds be used as match dollars on other grants?** *It depends on the other funding source. The other funder will let you know what can and cannot be used as matching dollars. Because MHB is a taxing authority, in most cases, MHB funding will be considered a local tax match. Please consult your funding providers to find out if MHB funds are allowable match dollars.*
- **Will grant budgets be up for negotiation if a grantee requests more than the staff and trustees believe a project would need?** *The simple answer is yes, but historically the MHB Trustees place a lot of trust in the applicant to simply state what amount of funding is needed to complete their program and reach their outcomes. There are instances where less money might be available as the MHB Trustees get to the end of the funding allocation process. If that happens, MHB staff may come back to you and ask if you can still complete the project for the lesser amount that is available. At that point, you will have the opportunity to accept or decline that lesser amount.*
- **Can we apply for under the 100k?** *Yes. In the current CMHF funding cycle, the lowest award is funded for \$31,800. You should apply for what you need for your program. We encourage people to consider the administrative costs associated with the MHB reporting requirements. You should consider whether the administrative burden is worth the amount you will get from your application to MHB.*
- **We will be submitting a LOI. As part of our program model, we have several collaborators located onsite including one who provides counseling to our members. We do not hold DMH certification; however, the counselors are accredited. Would we be required to hold the DMH certification? In addition, the agency provides a variety of wellness (such as yoga, a health clinic, nutrition, gardening, etc.) and career services. Would these services fall under prevention? Please proceed with submitting an LOI. During office hours we can discuss the specifics of your program. If there are no DMH standards for the services you provide, DMH will provide you with an exemption letter. If there are standards, then we would just ask you to begin the process for applying for certification. Either way, you would be eligible to submit an LOI so that we can learn more about your program and provide specific advice on how to proceed with DMH. We also use office hours to determine which funding category is the best fit for your project.**
- **We are not certified with the Dept of Mental Health although we are more than willing to apply for this certification. I'm not sure that it pertains to us because dementia and the associated behavioral and psychological symptoms are not always considered behavioral health issues in traditional definitions. We do employ OTs and LCSWs who maintain all necessary state and board licensures and certifications. And we are also credentialed with CMS and MoHealthnet. Are these licensures and credentials sufficient to submit an LOI for this funding? Please proceed with submitting an LOI. During office hours we can discuss the specifics of your program. If there are no DMH standards for the services you provide, DMH will provide you with an exemption letter. If there are standards, then we would just ask you to begin the process for applying for certification. Either way, you**

would be eligible to submit an LOI so that we can learn more about your program and provide specific advice on how to proceed with DMH.

- **What is the average fund amount per year?** *The average grant award per year is \$167,222.*
- **I am a currently funded organization and have logged into the grants portal am having trouble locating the green Letter of Intent button to submit my letter of intent for funding.** *Because the funding opportunity is open to those who are currently funded and who are not funded, the green Letter of Intent button can be found on the Sign In / Apply page of the MHB website BEFORE you sign in.*
- **Can you please clarify if an organization that is currently funded will require a “formal invitation” before submitting a full proposal/application? On the slides from the community meeting earlier this month, the graphics for “Step 4” of the process has a bullet that says: “By staff invitation” before “Submit final application narrative.”**  
*The steps are summarized below –*
  1. *Letter of Intent – Any organization can submit a letter of Intent.*
  2. *Office Hours – Projects that are eligible for funding as determined by their Letter of Intent will be invited to sign up for office hours.*
  3. *Technical Assistance – Projects that meet the MHB funding criteria as determined during office hours will be provided application materials so that they can receive assistance from MHB staff in preparing draft budgets, logic models, and narratives.*
  4. *Final Application – Projects that meet the MHB funding priorities as determined during TA will be invited to submit a final application.*

Email any additional questions to [stlmhb@stlmhb.com](mailto:stlmhb@stlmhb.com) by 5:00 PM, December 16.