

GRANT GUIDELINES

Fund for Homeless Women

ABOUT THE FUND FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

The *Fund for Homeless Women* is a field of interest fund of the Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC) established in 2012 to support programs and services for homeless women. The Fund increases awareness of the causes of homelessness and the challenges confronting women living without shelter in our community. The *Fund for Homeless Women* is made up of contributions from community members who share a deep concern for the plight of homeless women, particularly the many older, single women for whom few options for safety and secure housing exist. A true community effort, concerned residents, the faith community and local businesses have contributed to the *Fund for Homeless Women* to address women's immediate needs and invest in long-term solutions through both non-endowed and endowed gifts.

Grant Applications Due: By 5:00 PM, first Friday in October (or earlier)

Grant Decisions: late November

For questions, contact Janet Shing at 831.375.9712 or janet@cfmco.org

Please visit cfmco.org/fhw for more information.

Only [online applications](#) will be accepted.

GRANTMAKING PRIORITIES

The Fund's grantmaking focuses on reducing the number of women on the Monterey Peninsula who are in danger of harm each night by increasing their access to shelter and safety.

The *Fund for Homeless Women* seeks proposals that address one or more of the following grantmaking priorities. Innovative strategies and inter-agency collaborations are strongly encouraged. Applicants may apply for grants in both categories within the same proposal.

1. Small grants for emergency assistance. *The Fund for Homeless Women* will consider awarding grants up to \$10,000 per year to support emergency shelter (e.g., hotel/motel vouchers), transportation (e.g., bus passes, car repair) and personal care (e.g., laundry, showers, health/dental care) for homeless women. Distribution sites could include: faith- and other community-based homeless service providers on the Monterey Peninsula. Funded organizations must have or put in place a process/mechanism to offer this assistance and monitor its use.

2. Support for innovative ideas that expand emergency/temporary shelter, permanent housing options and/or case management services. *The Fund for Homeless Women* will consider awarding grants in the range of \$10,000 to \$50,000 per year for initiatives designed to provide emergency/temporary shelter, permanent housing, day program or case management services for homeless women. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Increased access to shelter (e.g., temporary, transitional and/or permanent) with client-focused services (e.g., access to case manager or system navigator who provides guidance in completing forms and alert them to services; build on women's existing skills through peer education and leadership);

- Accessible services in Monterey or Seaside with knowledgeable, approachable staff as requested by clients in need, (e.g., shower, laundry, storage, safety, etc.);
- Collection, management and dissemination of data regarding homeless women on the Monterey Peninsula, for planning and advocacy purposes;
- Other related services that increase shelter options and support services, such as medical/dental care, illness prevention, mental health services, (housing/benefits/legal) counseling, financial education, job training and transportation support.

GUIDELINES FOR PROSPECTIVE GRANTEES

Grant Awards: We expect to grant up to \$140,000 from the *Fund for Homeless Women* to fund innovative, collaborative projects that address the above priorities. Grants will be awarded for an 11-month grant period (December through October).

Eligibility Criteria:

- Grants are open to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations and public agencies.
- Only one grant application per organization will be considered.
- Only proposals serving homeless women on the Monterey Peninsula will be accepted.
- All organizations applying for a grant must be current on reporting obligations for past CFMC grants.

What grant funds will support:

- Planning and start-up costs for new programs or expansion of existing programs to fill a gap or support a new approach. Consideration will be given to operating costs for existing programs where a small amount of funding can make a difference.
- Personnel expenses that relate to specific program goals; equipment, materials or facilities costs that directly benefit participants or are an identifiable part of the proposed project.
- For emergency assistance small grants, funding will support only direct assistance to homeless women, such as hotel vouchers or personal care expenses.
- Internal capacity building efforts such as volunteer development and management.

What grant funds CANNOT support:

- Religious organizations that exclude services based on religious beliefs or promote a religious doctrine.
- Funding to schools and public agencies that would supplant tax-supported, mandated services.
- Expenses incurred prior to the grant award date.