

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS COMPETITION INFORMATIONAL MEETING

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT AND CHALLENGE GRANT

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9/3/2025

GOALS OF THE RFP

1

Expand community capacity to address homelessness

2

Support housing-focused, person-centered, outcome-oriented projects

3

Align projects with CoC Strategic Plan and HUD/DCF priorities

4

Encourage evidence-based and innovative practices

Budget Line Item	FY 25 – 26
Total	\$ 623,527.59
Admin	\$ 49,882.21
Housing Heed	\$ 330,469.62
Program Need	\$ 162,117.17
Service Need	\$ 81,058.59
Deliverable	206

CHALLENGE GRANT

- **FLORIDA STATE APPROPRIATIONS FUND THIS PROGRAM.**
- **FUNDS PASS THROUGH DCF TO OPENING DOORS (RECIPIENT).**
- **OPENING DOORS IS CHARGED WITH HOSTING A LOCAL COMPETITION TO AWARD SUBRECIPIENTS FUNDS TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM AND MEET PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.**

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)

- **THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD).**
- **FUNDS PASS THROUGH HUD -> DCF - > OPENING DOORS.**
- **OPENING DOORS IS CHARGED WITH HOSTING A LOCAL COMPETITION TO AWARD SUBRECIPIENTS FUNDS TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM AND MEET PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.**

Budget Line Item	FY 25 - 26
Total	\$ 188,724.75
Admin	\$ 9,436.24
SO	\$ 37,744.95
ES	\$ 66,053.66
HP	\$ 37,744.95
RRH	\$ 28,308.71
HMIS	\$ 9,436.24
Deliverable	62

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- **PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**
- **MUST HAVE:**
 - **501(C)3 STATUS**
 - **ACTIVE SUNBIZ REGISTRATION**
 - **SAM.GOV REGISTRATION (FOR ESG)**
 - **FDACS REGISTRATION**

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES - ESG

- **STREET OUTREACH**
- **EMERGENCY SHELTER (OPERATIONS, ESSENTIAL SERVICES, MINOR REHAB/RENOVATION)**
- **HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION (RENTAL ASSISTANCE, STABILIZATION SERVICES)**
- **RAPID RE-HOUSING (RENTAL ASSISTANCE, HOUSING RELOCATION/STABILIZATION)**
- **HMIS PARTICIPATION (LIMITED TO 1.5% PER SUBRECIPIENT AWARD TOTAL)**
- **ADMIN (LIMITED TO 1.5% PER SUBRECIPIENT AWARD TOTAL)**

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES – CHALLENGE GRANT

- **FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR:**
 - **HOUSING SOLUTIONS**
 - **SUPPORTIVE SERVICES LINKED TO HOUSING**
 - **SYSTEM COORDINATION AND INNOVATION**
 - **PREVENTION / DIVERSION ACTIVITIES**
- **MUST ALIGN WITH THE COC STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES**

MATCH: FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF APPLICANTS

- **ESG AND CHALLENGE REQUIRE MATCH CONTRIBUTIONS.**
 - **ESG REQUIRES 100% MATCH**
 - **CHALLENGE REQUIRES 25% MATCH**
- **WHY DO FUNDERS WANT A MATCH?**
 - **SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT**
 - **SPREADS THE RISK**
 - **COMMUNITY BUY-IN**
- **TYPES OF MATCH CONTRIBUTIONS**
 - **CASH MATCH: REAL MONEY YOU PUT IN**
 - **IN-KIND MATCH: NON-CASH THINGS THAT STILL HAVE VALUE (E.G., VOLUNTEER ITEMS, DONATED EQUIPMENT, OFFICE SPACE, OR PRO-BONO SERVICES)**
- **CAUTION! YOUR MATCH ITEM MUST BE AN ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY OF THE GRANT PROGRAM AND CANNOT BE DOUBLE-COUNTED.**

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

ESG OUTCOMES

- **REDUCE LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS**
- **INCREASE EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING**
- **PREVENT RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS**

CHALLENGE OUTCOMES

- **SUPPORT COC PRIORITIES**
- **STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS**
- **DEMONSTRATE MEASURABLE HOUSING STABILITY & SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS: BEST PRACTICES & ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

- **BEST PRACTICES**
 - **HOUSING-FOCUSED**
 - **PERSON-CENTERED**
 - **TRAUMA-INFORMED**
 - **OUTCOME-ORIENTED**
- **CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICIES**
 - **ORGANIZATIONAL**
 - **INDIVIDUALS**
- **FAMILY SEPARATION PROHIBITION (ESG)**

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS: OPERATIONAL

- **MATCH LETTERS (MUST SUBMIT)**
- **AUDIT THRESHOLDS (MUST SUBMIT THE LATEST BEFORE SUB-AGREEMENT BEGINS)**
 - **FEDERAL \geq \$750K**
 - **STATE \geq \$500K**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**
 - **REQUIRED FOR REHAB / RENOVATION PROJECTS**

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- **ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND CAPACITY NARRATIVE**
- **PROJECT NARRATIVE (SCOPE, TARGET POPULATION)**
 - **HOW WILL YOUR PROJECT INTEGRATE WITH COORDINATED ENTRY?**
- **PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES AND EVALUATION PLAN**
 - **HOW WILL YOU USE THE HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)?**
 - **IF DV, HOW WILL YOU PROVIDE REPORTABLE OUTCOMES USING THE COMPARABLE DATABASE?**

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- **PARTNERSHIPS (MOUS / COMMITMENT LETTERS)**
 - **MATCH IS PART OF THIS – BUT GO FURTHER AND SPELL OUT FORMAL PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION**
- **BUDGET TEMPLATE & NARRATIVE**
 - **USE THE BUDGET TEMPLATE PROVIDED**
 - **JUSTIFY EVERY ITEM REQUESTED**
- **REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS LIST**

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- **SUBMIT VIA GOOGLE FORM**
- **SUBMISSION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**
- **LATE APPLICATIONS NOT ACCEPTED**

REVIEW & SELECTION PROCESS

- **STEP 1: THRESHOLD REVIEW (LEAD AGENCY STAFF)**
 - **COMPLETENESS, ELIGIBILITY, AND COMPLIANCE CHECK**
- **STEP 2: SCORING (PROJECT REVIEW & RANKING COMMITTEE)**
 - **BASED ON RFP RUBRIC**
 - **PRIORITIZES CAPACITY, INNOVATION, AND MEASURABLE OUTCOMES**
- **STEP 3: RECOMMENDATIONS**
 - **BASED ON PROJECT REVIEW AND RANKING COMMITTEE RESULTS**
 - **COC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL REVIEW AND VOTE**
 - **LEAD AGENCY SUBMITS VOTED LIST TO DCF FOR SUBCONTRACTOR LISTING**

TIMELINE

2025 Request for Proposals Timeline

Date	Time	Task
August 29 th , 2025	5:00 PM	Opening Doors Released Request for Applications for Emergency Solutions Grant and Challenge Grant.
September 3 rd , 2025	2:00 – 3:30 PM	<p>Pre-Application Meeting (This meeting is optional, but recommended.)</p> <p>Microsoft TEAMS meeting Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 247 503 411 135 4 Password: yn2S7TE7</p>
September 8 th , 2025	5:00 PM	Deadline to Submit Written Questions
September 11 th , 2025	5:00 PM	FAQ/Responses to Questions Published Posted on website; emailed to list.
September 30 th , 2025	5:00 PM	Proposal Submission Deadline ~4.5 weeks after release. No late submissions.
October 1 st , 2025	5:00 PM	Administrative Review of Proposals
October 2 nd – 6 th , 2025	8:00 AM	<p>Evaluation and scoring of eligible proposals by Selection Committee.</p> <p>*Committee Discussion on 10/6 @ 3 PM*</p>
October 7, 2025	11:00 AM	Leadership Council votes on Selection Committee recommendations.
October 7, 2025	5:00 PM	Applicant notifications sent
October 8 th – 10 th , 2025	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Appeals period
October 13, 2025	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Final awards publicly posted and contracts issued to awarded applicants.

RESOURCES

- [HTTPS://OPENINGDOORSNWFL.ORG/
COLLABORATION/STATE-UNIFIED-
COMPETITION-2025](https://openingdoorsnwfl.org/collaboration/state-unified-competition-2025)



2025 FL511 RFP (DCF) Downloads

Guide	302.613 KB
Announcement	153.758 KB
Timeline	91.152 KB
Submission Checklist	75.955 KB
Match and Leverage Letter Instruction Sheet	184.613 KB
Match Letter Template	28.805 KB
Board of Directors Roster Form	129.006 KB
Unified Contract Budget Template for ESG	31.399 KB
Unified Contract Budget Template for Challenge	31.758 KB
Performance Measurement Requirements Template	239.013 KB
FL-511 Strategic Plan 2025-2028 v5 Adopted 2025-08-26	137.964 KB
FY2024 FL-511 Written Standards	643.907 KB
Homelessness Grant Program Guidance Eligible Activities	338.732 KB



QUESTIONS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

- **FOR POST-SESSION QUESTIONS**

- **EMAIL: GRANTS@OPENINGDOORSNWFL.ORG**

- **FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

- **EMAIL MARTIKA BAKER, MARTIKAB@OPENINGDOORSNWFL.ORG**
- **CALL 850-466-5379**