



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**ISSUED BY:
CORPORATION FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

Funding and Technical Assistance to promote equity and thriving for families at high-risk of child welfare involvement in Alaska, Minnesota, Washington, and Wisconsin by reducing housing instability.

Deadline for Submission:

March 7, 2024 at 5:00PM PT / 7:00PM CT

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Section I: Who: About CSH (Corporation for Supportive Housing)

About CSH

Founded in 1991, [CSH](#) envisions a just and equitable world in which all people are thriving; where people have a safe and affordable home, a community in which they feel belonging and the services and wealth they need to sustain it. We are working to advance affordable housing aligned with services as an approach to help people thrive. We do this by advocating for effective policies and funding, equitably investing in community [and strengthening the supportive housing field](#).

We recognize that this work must include a focus on children, youth and families. To this end, CSH will be partnering with families, communities, and systems through coordinated efforts that align housing and services to:

- 1) Increase collaboration within and across systems that leads to better results;
- 2) Develop new and different ways to access housing and services;
- 3) Promote equity and thriving for families and their communities, and
- 4) Reduce family separation and housing instability for families who are already involved or at high-risk of involvement in the child welfare system.

CSH is a national nonprofit headquartered in New York City with regional offices across the nation, including offices and staff in the Upper Midwest (IA, MN, ND, SD, and WI) and Northwest (AK, Northern CA, OR, and AK) regions of the country.

Section II: What: RFP Objectives, Award, Eligible Lead Applicants and Multisector Partners, Population Focus, and Anticipated Outcomes and Key Metrics

This RFP builds on the work done by CSH over the past three years with families and parents with lived experience of child welfare involvement, American Indian and Alaska Native child welfare experts, and three communities in Minnesota and Washington State.

CSH worked with partners and families in Benton/Sherburne and Scott/Carver Counties in Minnesota, and Spokane, Washington from 2020 to [2023](#) to decrease family disruption and increase housing stability for child welfare involved families by connecting them to affordable housing with supports (supportive housing) through implementation of the Keeping Families Together (KFT) supportive housing model.

In 2022, CSH held a Talking Circle with American Indian and Alaska Native [leaders, service providers and families](#) focused on how to better connect quality, affordable housing and supportive services to American Indian and Alaska Native families who are at-risk of being separated or who have child welfare system involvement and are facing homelessness or housing instability. [The themes and recommendations that came out of that Talking Circle will help guide our work with Native Communities moving forward](#). They are:

- Ground federal, state, and local solutions in American Indian and Alaska Native culture and community, and center voices from both on and off tribal land;
- Child Welfare and housing systems must partner with American Indian and Alaska Native families and communities to identify, understand, and address the structural and ongoing racism that has caused historical and generational trauma, and which drives the large disproportionate number of American Indian and Alaska Native children involved in child welfare and homeless systems and
- Remove barriers that prevent American Indian and Alaska Native communities and families from accessing the resources they need to thrive.

Additionally, CSH worked with consultants with lived experience of child welfare involvement to co-design CSH strategy and approach to engaging parents disproportionately impacted by child welfare and housing instability with the thought that making decisions that are family centered inherently shifts power dynamics so that families experience more equitable connections to housing and services resources. The themes and recommendations that came out of [the Co-Design work can be found here](#) and include:

<https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Keeping-Families-Together-Co-Design-Report-Web-Version.pdf>

- Meaningful changes to decrease the disproportionate representation of families of color in child welfare and homelessness must be led by the people most impacted by these systems.
- Partnerships with parents and families must be multi-directional, wherein the goal of the work is to share power and decision making.
- Partnerships with parents and families require dedicated time to foster and maintain relationships. Building a foundation of relationship and trust provides safety as individuals choose to disclose their lived experiences to the benefit of projects and systems.
- Partnerships with parents and families require utilizing a trauma-informed approach, which can include flexibility in how work is done, opportunities for deadlines and deliverables to change, adapting to people's preferences, needs, comfort level, learning and work styles, with flexibility to work in different ways.

<https://www.csh.org/resources/thrive-framework/> **RFP Objectives**

CSH is administering a competitive RFP process open to non-profit organizations, government entities (state, county, or city) or Tribal Nations in Minnesota, Washington, Alaska, and Wisconsin focused on identifying, designing, and implementing service and housing strategies co-designed with families and communities that:

Objective 1: Reduce housing instability and risk of involvement with the child welfare system; and

Objective 2: Reduce racial disparities and disproportionalities among families at the intersection of homelessness/housing instability and child welfare involvement, with a focus on American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

By applying a housing lens to child welfare interventions, the project offers communities a unique opportunity to identify families who have found themselves at the crossroads of child welfare involvement and housing instability or homelessness.

RFP Award

Four applicants across MN, WA, AK, and WI will be selected to receive and participate in a 24-month package of technical assistance provided by CSH that comes along with \$100,000 in grant funding to support the applicant and project partners in the implementation of their proposed intervention/initiative.

The technical assistance being offered in this RFP may include, but are not limited to, working with selected Sites in the following areas (as applicable or allowed by federal, state and local laws and regulations):

- Identifying and engaging partners, including families, parents, and children/youth with lived experience
- Supporting convening efforts throughout the project
- Completing data matching and analysis
- Supporting the development of action plans including identification and unit creation, referral, and navigation systems
- Supporting the development of a tool or screening method to identify family housing needs and ways to begin collecting data on child welfare/child protection housing needs.
- Strengthening services planning and collaboration
- Supporting development of continuous quality improvement processes; and
- Helping to determine scaling needs and next steps

Applicants selected as Sites will receive a customized, robust package of technical assistance designed to facilitate the achievement of the deliverables noted above.

Eligible Lead Applicants and Multisector Partners

Eligible applicants for this RFP are non-profit organizations, government entities (state, county, or city) and/or Tribal Nations in Minnesota, Washington, Alaska, and Wisconsin.

Applicants will develop an application with relevant multi-sector partners such as Public Child Welfare Agencies, Public Housing Authorities, Continuums of Care, health/behavioral health entities, supportive housing providers, in-home child and family services, family resource centers, local legal aid agencies, and/or large-scale funding and service providers like the United Way.

We are looking to fund multi-sector partnerships that embed partnerships with parents and families with lived experience and have a strong long-term vision and commitment to increasing housing stability for child welfare involved families after this funding ends.

CSH will also preference applicants who budget a portion of requested funds to support the active partnership with, and meaningful inclusion of family members possessing lived expertise and representing disproportionately affected communities in their interventions.

Population Focus

The focus of this RFP are children, youth, and families who have experienced, are experiencing, or are at high risk of child welfare involvement and who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

Anticipated Outcomes and Key Metrics

This RFP is part of a larger effort led by CSH to partner with families, communities, and systems through coordinated efforts that align housing and services to transform systems, promote equity and thriving for families and their communities, and specifically reduce family separation and housing instability.

The outcomes that umbrella over this larger effort are:

1. Reduce racial disparities within child welfare and housing systems across subgrantee sites within the Upper Midwest and Pacific Northwest to benefit families and communities by developing a peer support infrastructure.
2. 70% - 85% of families that subgrantee sites are working with to advance housing and support service solutions, including but not limited to Keeping Families Together (KFT), will achieve housing stability and will not have subsequent episodes of homelessness.
3. Families receiving child welfare/prevention services will be better connected to housing and will experience fewer child welfare interactions/involvements.
4. Empower families and communities to drive policies, strategies and solutions that are directly responsive to the needs of the most at-risk and burdened families.

Selected sites will be asked to identify, define, and track key metrics that speak to these larger outcomes. Examples may include but are not limited to the following:

- Number of families with children/youth housed in a safe, stable home;
- Number of families actively engaged with staff/partners in the housing search process;
- Reductions in family separations and child welfare involvement;
- Dollars invested in housing for the focus population;
- Increase the pipeline of family housing units – which can include increasing the number of vouchers available in a community, increasing the number of landlords willing to rent to families with vouchers, change tenant selection practices to screen people in with low credit score, and eviction and criminal histories; increase the development of new affordable and supportive housing for families; and increased access to existing housing/services due to elimination of regulatory barriers;
- Amount of time it took for families to access the given intervention(s);
- Reduction in racial and ethnic disparities and disproportionalities within the focus population;
- New agencies/different sectors offering housing and services for families;

- Shifts in how jurisdictions are doing business that allow more families to get housed, including supportive housing as an explicit intervention for families;
- Increase in families feeling more stable economically;
- Increase in families feeling that their needs are being heard, recognized and responded to;
- Increase in families feeling like the system is working for them and their children;
- Number of jurisdictions that have implemented the housing stability screening framework, or other methodology for screening families; and/or
- Increase in BIPOC-led Community Based Organizations, parents, and others with lived experience leading this work in their communities.

Section III: WHY: The Intersection of Poverty, Housing Instability, Child Welfare Involvement and Racial Disproportionality

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, **161,070 people in families, including 95,440 children under 18, were homeless on a single night in 2022.** And, according to the U.S. Department of Education, **1.1 million children in 2020-2021 school year were identified as experiencing homelessness.** The drastic difference between the two counts is due to the fact that the U.S. Department of Education considers families who are doubled up due to economic hardship or staying in motels, hotels or camping because they have no other choice as homeless.

For some of these families, lack of adequate housing contributed to the decision to open child welfare cases, place the child(ren) in out-of-home care, or delay the reunification of children with their parents. According to the Wisconsin Administration of Children, Youth and Families, “housing insecurity” is selected as a removal reason for **one in ten children** in Wisconsin who are separated from their families. A similar trend is seen nationally as reports indicate that up to **50% of children in foster care in the U.S. were removed from homeless or unstably housed families.**

A joint report done by [Human Rights Watch and the ACLU](#), further highlights the connection between poverty, racism, and child welfare involvement. Data analysis conducted for this report shows a correlation between poverty and the rate of maltreatment investigations: counties with higher numbers of families below the poverty line have a higher rate of maltreatment investigations, and counties with higher family incomes have lower rates of investigations.

The report also notes that the most common reason child welfare agencies become involved with families is neglect, followed by parental substance use. Most child removals by the US child welfare system do not involve physical abuse: only 13% of all child removals in 2019 occurred due to physical abuse. While definitions can vary from one state to the next, neglect is generally defined as a parent or caregiver failing to provide adequate food, clothing, hygiene, nutrition, shelter, medical care, or supervision in ways that threaten the well-being of the child. This definition is inextricably linked to poverty.

Many people interviewed for the report described how circumstances related to poverty, including housing instability and inadequate resources, were used as evidence of parental unfitness—either to support neglect allegations or justify family separation or termination of parental rights.

If a social worker doesn't know what it's like to be poor and doesn't know what it's like to make the compromises poor people have to make, they may describe a messy or cluttered house as deplorable or filthy, increasing the likelihood that the child will be removed.

- Joshua Michtom, Connecticut Public Defender

In Hennepin, County MN in 2020 45% of all families in emergency family shelter also had an open child welfare case.

In the State of Washington in 2021, neglect was cited as the reason why children were determined to be victims of maltreatment in 88% of cases.

Poverty, housing instability and subsequent frequent moves among child welfare-involved children and youth also disrupts key developmental and learning processes and undermines the basic skills necessary to succeed in school and in adulthood. Approximately 26,000 youth nationally age out of foster care every year and are at a drastically increased risk of experiencing high rates of homelessness and housing instability. Children in foster care often do not graduate from high school; have greater rates of adolescent pregnancy and homelessness than their peers, and frequently suffer from substance use disorders and mental illness.

We know that toxic stress experienced early in life has a powerful negative impact on long term health outcomes and future systems involvement. We also know that the anguish of homelessness and family separation are some of the **most** traumatic events a child can experience. So, it is no surprise when national data tells us 40% of adults currently experiencing chronic homelessness were once in foster care.

We also know that these negative outcomes more highly impact Black and Indigenous children and families. Rates of poverty, housing instability, homelessness and related child welfare involvement are **higher among Black, Indigenous and families of color.** <https://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-101/data/>The CSH Racial Disparities and Disproportionality Index shows us that Native American and Black children and their families are investigated and separated from one another at a far higher rate than their white counterparts. shows us that Native American and Black children and their families are investigated and separated from one another at a far higher rate than their white counterparts.

Disproportionate Foster Care of AI/AN Children: 15 States with the Highest Rates ²			
State	Disproportionality Rate (2019)	% of children who are AI/AN	% of children in foster care who are AI/AN
Minnesota	14.99	1.7%	25.8%
Wisconsin	5.87	1.3%	7.7%
North Dakota	5.16	8.5%	43.7%
South Dakota	4.52	13.7%	62.1%
Nebraska	4.16	1.3%	5.3%
Iowa	4.14	0.4%	1.8%
Montana	3.45	10.6%	36.7%
Washington	3.16	1.8%	5.6%
Hawaii	3.02	0.2%	0.6%
Oregon	2.98	1.6%	4.7%
Alaska	2.65	21.6%	57.3%
Utah	2.26	1.1%	2.4%
North Carolina	1.74	1.3%	2.3%
California	1.52	0.5%	0.8%
Maine	1.41	1.1%	1.5%

In Alaska, 51% of children determined to be victims of maltreatment in 2021 were American Indian or Alaska Native. Additionally, the National Indian Child Welfare Association also highlights that although American Indian/Alaska Native children are just 1% of all children in the U.S., they are 2.7% of all children who are placed outside their homes in foster care.

Family separation compounds the trauma that Black, Indigenous and People of Color have experienced across generations and are experiencing right now.

The good news is that we know what works to strengthen families, children, and youth and set them on a path to stability by focusing on overall child and family well-being. Children’s early experiences get built into the brain’s architecture, so ensuring healthy, nurturing environments within a safe and stable home for infants and toddlers leads to healthy, thriving, children and adolescents who are equipped to learn and fulfill their potential. A stronger emphasis on promoting family wellbeing is also an important part of addressing racial injustices in the child welfare system.

We also know preventing childhood adversity is possible and while the child welfare and homelessness and housing sectors are key players in that prevention work, the responsibility is not theirs alone. We all have a voice in the policies that shape family wellbeing – and that we have a responsibility to speak up in support of policies that put good jobs, stable housing, safe neighborhoods, consistent health care, and great schools within reach for every family.

Section IV: About the CSH One Roof Initiative and Supportive Housing

About the CSH One Roof Initiative

One Roof is an exciting national initiative launched in 2016 by CSH, [in collaboration with national and local organizations, systems, and communities](#). This collaborative effort centers on better connecting child welfare and housing sectors, with a significant focus on increasing equitable access to affordable housing aligned with services.

One Roof seeks to shift the trajectory for families with children, reduce unnecessary family separation, and prevent young people from languishing in and aging out of the child welfare system without the family, community supports, and housing that they need to thrive.

One Roof is elevating the visibility of families and youth at risk for housing instability. CSH and One Roof partners work together to build improved and integrated systems responses that develop affordable housing aligned with a connected set of services for families and youth experiencing housing instability and child welfare involvement. The vision is for these systems to be integrated — from prevention to family reunification — using an equity-focused, multi-sector approach. The success of One Roof is built on community collaboration, partnerships, and by leveraging common goals between housing, child welfare, and other partners to prevent and end unnecessary impacts of homelessness and child welfare involvement.

With the support of One Roof, over 500 families across the nation have received supportive housing and been more efficiently served by child welfare and community partners. One Roof has also helped communities actualize cost savings through the redesign of expensive crisis interventions. By keeping families out of foster care and reducing re-entry into the child welfare system, communities can experience up to a \$16,000 cost savings per family per year after an initial investment in supportive housing.

About Supportive Housing

Supportive housing is affordable housing linked to services that address the root causes of long-term homelessness, including chronic physical and behavioral health conditions. At its core, supportive housing ensures all individuals have a home in their community of choice and the services they identify to support them in thriving. Supportive housing is, fundamentally, affordable housing. Specifically, it is a type of affordable housing designed to meet the needs of people of all identities who have no income, fixed incomes, or low-wage employment and who need supportive services to thrive in their community. Supportive housing typically is for people who are currently experiencing homelessness or who have had significant experiences of housing instability.

Supportive housing creates opportunities for recovery, personal growth and life-long success for extremely vulnerable individuals and families. Supportive housing is more than a model, a new building, another lease, or a singular reduction in the homeless count. We are advancing supportive housing as an approach for change that: leans in to address the root causes of inequity; breaks down silos to create smarter and better-integrated systems; and incorporates the voice of lived experience in design and implementation, to build more resilient communities.

CSH's Keeping Families Together (KFT) model uses supportive housing to bring stability to children, youth and families involved in the child welfare system. KFT increases access to affordable housing and essential wrap-around services for the whole family. Services available through the KFT model can help parents struggling with the overwhelming burden

of poverty and complex health needs to improve their lives, family stability, and overall well-being.

Research into this supportive housing model shows promise to both keep families intact and reunite children with their families in a safe environment while using resources more effectively.

Currently active in at least 10 states, KFT provides access to affordable housing integrated with essential wraparound supports helping every member of the family. KFT helps child welfare, housing and other sectors join together to reach shared goals, optimize and leverage resources, and increase overall efficiency and effectiveness of services including data sharing, care coordination and services integration.

While KFT is a proven approach for highly impacted families, our work to date has illuminated that in addressing issues of homelessness, child welfare involvement, and family separation, we cannot utilize a “one size fits all” approach. Rather, we must meet families and communities where they are and offer solutions that are tailored to their needs, are culturally responsive, and are co-created with those they are designed to serve.

To end the cycle of homelessness, housing instability, and child welfare involvement, power must reside with those closest to the problem because they understand the nuance across these systems and bring a unique perspective to program and policy design. Additionally, the communities and Tribal Nations where these families reside best understand the resources and relationships that are available in their communities, and they will need to draw on these resources to increase housing and support connections for families.

Section V: Examples of Innovative Services and Housing Strategies and Resources to Consider When Creating Your Proposal

Examples of Innovative Services and Housing Strategies

On the [“Featured Efforts”](#) page of the CSH One Roof website, you can review examples of innovative supportive housing solutions from across the county that increase housing stability and decrease systems involvement for child welfare involved families. These community examples include:

- Benton and Sherburne Counties (MN):
- Scott and Carver Counties (MN):
- Spokane (WA)
- Kansas City (MO)
- Los Angeles (CA)
- New Mexico
- New Jersey Department of Children and Families
- Mecklenburg County (NC); and
- Administration for Children Youth and Families (ACYF) Demonstration that included sites in Broward County, FL, Cedar Rapids, IA, Memphis, TN, San Francisco, CA, and the State of Connecticut

Resources

One Roof Child Welfare and Housing Resources Hub: Browse and explore a variety of resources related to housing, child welfare, partnerships and systems change.

<https://www.1rooffamilies.org/resources/>

- [Identifying and Addressing Family Housing Stability within Child Welfare and Community Based Prevention Agencies: https://www.csh.org/csh-solutions/advancing-vulnerable-populations/screening-family-housing-stability/](https://www.csh.org/csh-solutions/advancing-vulnerable-populations/screening-family-housing-stability/)
- [Housing and Services to Preserve Native American Families with Child Welfare Involvementhttps://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Housing-and-Services-to-Preserve-Native-American-Families-with-Child-Welfare-Involvement-Web-02.pdf](https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Housing-and-Services-to-Preserve-Native-American-Families-with-Child-Welfare-Involvement-Web-02.pdf)
- [Keeping Families Together Co-Design Reporthttps://www.csh.org/resources/keeping-families-together-co-design-report/](https://www.csh.org/resources/keeping-families-together-co-design-report/)
- [CSH Racial Disparities and Disproportionality Index https://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-101/data/](https://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-101/data/)
- [If I Wasn't Poor, I Wouldn't Be Unfit: The Family Separation Crisis in the US Child Welfare System: Human Rights Watch, ACLU https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2022/11/us_crd1122web_3.pdf](https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2022/11/us_crd1122web_3.pdf)
- [Disproportionality in Child Welfare Fact Sheet: National Indian Child Welfare Association https://www.nicwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/NICWA_11_2021-Disproportionality-Fact-Sheet.pdf](https://www.nicwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/NICWA_11_2021-Disproportionality-Fact-Sheet.pdf)
- [National Center for Children in Poverty: Early Childhood State Policy Profiles](https://www.chapinhall.org/research/bringing-families-home/)
- [Families at the Nexus of Housing and Child Welfare: Chapin Hall https://firstfocus.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Families-at-the-Nexus-of-Housing-and-Child-Welfare.pdf](https://firstfocus.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Families-at-the-Nexus-of-Housing-and-Child-Welfare.pdf)
- [Bringing Families Home Program Supports Child Welfare Involved Families: Chapin Hall: https://www.chapinhall.org/research/bringing-families-home/](https://www.chapinhall.org/research/bringing-families-home/)
- [Child Welfare Outcomes Reports by State: ACYF Children's Bureau https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/byState](https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/byState)
- [CSH Supportive Housing Needs Assessment Toolhttps://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-101/data/https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/us_child_welfare_report_11.17.22.pdf](https://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-101/data/https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/us_child_welfare_report_11.17.22.pdf)
- [Milwaukee Is Close to Ending Family Homelessness. Here's How. | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](https://www.usich.gov/)
- [An Affordable Housing Program in Atlanta is Changing Lives - The Annie E. Casey Foundation \(aecf.org\)](https://www.aecf.org/)

Section VI: When: Proposal Timeline

Release Date of this RFP

January 17, 2024

Bidders' Webinar

Date: February 2, 2024 from 12PM – 1PM CT / 10AM – 11AM PT

[Register in advance](#)

The Bidders Webinar will be recorded and made available on the [CSH website at this page](#) to benefit applicants unable to make the live webinar event.

Instruction for Submitting Written Questions

Please submit all questions by 5pm CT/3pm PT on February 16, 2024 in order to ensure a response. CSH will post a compilation of written responses to Frequently Asked Questions online with the application package.

Submit questions by email to: 1Roof@csh.org.

Submission of Full Proposal

Applicants must submit all application materials electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format including all attachments by email. Please note that applicants must allow time for the submission to be transmitted and received by the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Due Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 5:00PM Pacific Time / 7:00PM Central Time

Submit by email to: 1Roof@csh.org

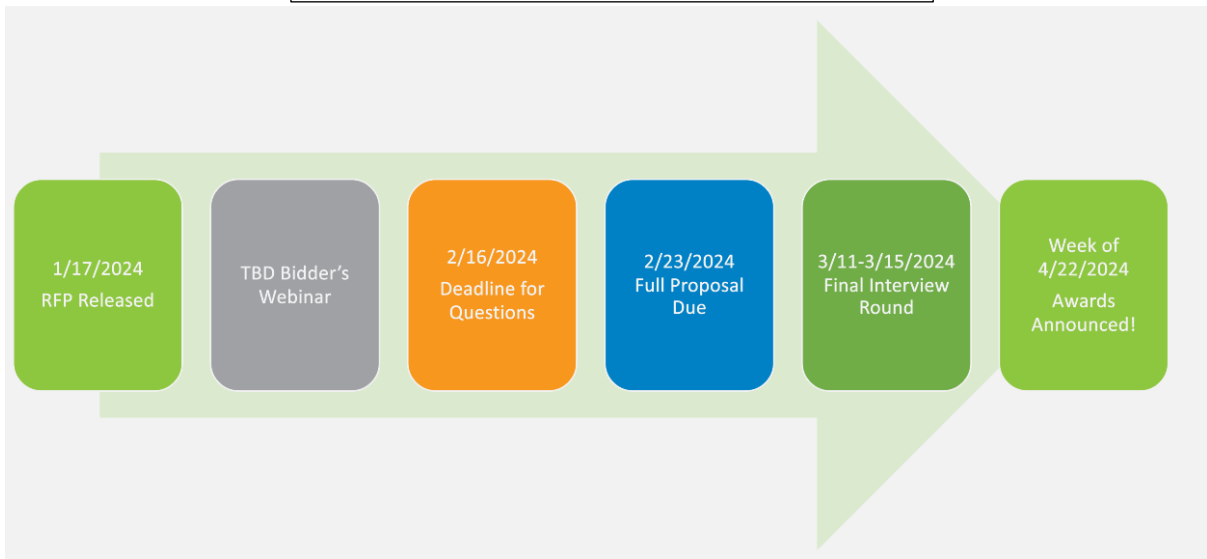
Final Interview Round

Following the review and ranking of the written applications, CSH will schedule virtual interviews with the top-ranked applicants. Final determinations will be made based on the results of the interview stage. We anticipate interviews taking place March 11th – March 15th, 2024. Applicants should plan for lead applicant and core team members to be available for a potential interview during this time frame.

Notification and Announcement of Awardees

CSH anticipates notifying all applicants on their application status by April 10, 2024, and officially announcing awards **the week of April 29th, 2024.**

Proposal Timeline Overview



Section VII. Proposal Review and Site Selection Process

Proposal Eligibility Requirements

All proposals accepted by CSH will be reviewed to determine whether they meet eligibility criteria, which include:

- Lead applicant is a/n:
 - Government (state, county, or city), Tribal Nation, or eligible* nonprofit organization that is bringing the relevant partners and other stakeholders to the table.
 - Relevant partners and stakeholders include, but are not limited to Public Child Welfare Agencies, Public Housing Authorities, Continuums of Care, health/behavioral health entities, supportive housing providers, in-home child and family services providers, family resource centers, local legal aid agencies, or large-scale funding and service providers like the United Way
 - Multisector teams must clearly state how they will embed partnerships with parents and families with lived experience throughout the life of this grant;
- Lead applicant and/or committed project partners have not been awarded grants by CSH in the past focused on better connecting child welfare involved families to housing.
- Commitment to implementing a multi-system collaboration to address housing instability for families currently or potentially involved in child welfare system
- Commitment to receiving and actively participating in technical assistance throughout the life of the grant
- Submission of full proposal: Completed application (Appendix A) including all attachments outlined in Section VIII.

Proposals that do not meet the criteria listed above will be rejected.

Conditions of Proposal Submission

- Only one proposal will be accepted from any one collaboration for a specific county or local region. A lead applicant must be clearly identified. All costs incurred in the preparation and presentation of the submitted proposal, in any way whatsoever, shall be wholly absorbed by the applicant. Any material submitted by the applicant that is to be considered confidential must be clearly marked as such.
- Please note that CSH requires subcontractors, including individuals and sole proprietors, to carry commercial general liability and workers' compensation insurance while performing work under a CSH subcontract.

Selection and Scoring Process

A review committee will evaluate and rate all received proposals based on the evaluation criteria described below. Following the review and ranking of the written applications, CSH will invite top ranking candidates to be part of an interview round. The interviews will also be scored, and final determinations will be made based upon the combination of scores from the proposal and interview.

CSH will convene a scoring committee tasked with scoring proposals and any subsequent interviews based on their eligibility, interest in serving the population focus, intent to commit the appropriate level of capacity needed to implement the proposed intervention/initiative, and the applicant's overall level of readiness for implementation.

Understanding that applicants will likely be in varying places of ideation and project proposal, the scoring committee will look for the following in each proposal:

1. What problem are you trying to solve that aligns with the objectives of this RFP;
2. Multisector collaboration;
3. The inclusion of child welfare, housing, and services sectors leadership and active and anticipated engagement;
4. The inclusion of families, parents, and children/youth with lived experience leadership and engagement;
5. Overall readiness to implement proposed intervention/initiative;
6. Service and provider capacity;
7. Plan for long-term sustainability;
8. Inclusion of strategic use of data and targeting in planning and implementation,
9. How program evaluation will be used to change course and/or scale the work
10. Use of currently available resources and possible proposed ways to overcome barriers to acquire more resources; and
11. Inclusion of an approximate budget that reflects the anticipated staffing and time to complete the proposed work.

CSH will assign points to the above key component areas and ask members of the scoring committee to review the components of each proposal submitted. Each component will be evaluated on the Responder's understanding, and the quality and completeness of the Responder's approach and solution to the problems or issues presented. CSH may also consider other balancing factors to determine where technical assistance would be of greatest value to the child welfare and housing fields. CSH may consult with other technical

assistance providers to determine whether joint technical assistance may be warranted and to maximize the reach of technical assistance resources.

The scoring committee will consist of internal CSH staff with expertise in the child welfare sector and housing models focused on populations with specific, unique needs. CSH may also invite external partners to join the scoring committee including external county/state level representatives with expertise and vested interest in embedding supportive housing within the child welfare system's service array and members of CSH's national One Roof Advisory Board, a national group of partners who guide and support efforts to integrate housing and child welfare.

CSH anticipates that Sites will require technical assistance in many if not all of the proposal scoring criteria areas outlined in this section. Through this application, we are simply seeking to understand the thinking and progress that the applicant has made to date in each of these areas.

Section VIII. Proposal Instructions and Format

Proposal Instructions and Format

Applicants must submit all proposal materials electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format including all attachments by email. Please note that applicants must allow time for the submission to be transmitted and received before the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

The full proposal must include:

- **Application**
 - Complete responses to all sections of this application found in Appendix A of this RFP.
- **Attachments**
 - Letter(s) of commitment from sector leaders (those who can make budget, staffing, and data decisions) on the multisector team;
 - Letter(s) of commitment from the organization(s) providing the on-the-ground staff for this proposed work;
 - Statement of intent detailing how families with lived experience of child welfare involvement and homelessness will be incorporated into the design, planning, implementation, and long-term sustainability of the proposed initiative/intervention;
 - Proposed project budget for initial year of requested funding;
 - Lead applicant financial statements for the current year unaudited plus the two prior years audited financial statements;
 - Lead applicant current organizational chart; and,
 - Board of Directors list from lead applicant agency.

Due Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 5:00PM Pacific Time / 7:00PM Central Time

Submit by email to: 1Roof@csh.org

Section IX. Site Expectations

Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement

To be considered eligible for the selection process, successful applicants will need to be willing to enter into an MOU (memorandum of understanding) and grant agreement with CSH over the terms of the *pro bono* technical assistance and funding awards.

Planning and Budget Expectations

Grantees will be eligible to receive up to \$100,000 in grant funds over the initiative. There is a cap of 10% on indirect administrative expenses as per our funder but otherwise sites have flexibility to propose what they want to cover to advance through the proposed intervention/initiative.

Sites will also be expected to financially support the active partnership and inclusion of family members possessing lived expertise who represent the communities to be served.

Reporting and Knowledge Sharing

CSH will require biannual reporting from each selected site covering progress and milestones, any challenges, and supporting financials and deliverables.

Selected sites must be willing to make key documents from the KFT development process publicly available, including contracts and evaluation plans. In addition, CSH will collaborate with Sites to collect, disseminate and discuss best practices and lessons learned.

Funding Disbursement

CSH anticipates making an initial disbursement of funding to selected sites following award notification and agreement execution. A reporting and fund disbursement schedule will be a part of the contracting process with selected sites, and teams will need to meet any requirements from our underlying funding source, the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation

Meetings and Travel

Project teams must be willing to meet with CSH regularly over the entire course of the grant. CSH staff will set regular check-ins, meetings, training, and TA with project lead and/or project team, with many planned to occur virtually.

Throughout the course of the grant term, CSH will facilitate at least one in-person work session with each site and 2-3 cross-site convenings with all sites, as well as key state and regional partners. Also, we anticipate partnering with sites to present at three state or regional conferences on their work over the grant term.

Each trip may span 2-3 days, necessitating overnight hotel stays.

In-person gatherings, cross-site convenings and state or regional conference presentation may happen as in-person gatherings or as virtual offerings at CSH discretion and in adherence to federal, state, local and agency policy and guidance.

In Summary, CSH anticipates the following:

- Regular, ongoing check-in meetings, TA and training sessions (a mix of in-person and online/virtual formats)
- One CSH Summit
- Annual in-person work session with each site
- 2-3 cross-site convenings over the life of the grant (which could include participating in the One Roof Community of Practice, the Lived Experience Families Network, or our newly expanded One Roof network; and
- Presenting at 3 state or regional conferences with key members of site teams

CSH will cover certain travel costs for a limited number of representatives from selected sites to attend certain in-person events such as peer-to-peer convenings in jurisdictions that have successfully implemented child welfare and supportive housing partnerships as well as travel costs for selected recipients to attend the biennial CSH Supportive Housing Summit or another regional or national conference. Reimbursement for such costs will be separate from funding requested by applicants through this solicitation.

Appendix A

[Application Form](#)

Appendix B

[Budget Request Template](#)