Call for Applications
Community Reentry Peer Support Pilot Project Evaluation

Due Date: 11:59 p.m. Central Time, Friday January 29, 2016

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for the evaluation of a new Community Reentry Pilot Project focusing on role of peer support in improving outcomes for justice-involved individuals with mental health challenges. Financial support for this evaluation project may range between $20,000 and $30,000 over a 12-to-18 month period. The Hogg Foundation has a long-standing interest in identifying the potential benefits and challenges of mental health peer support in effective community reentry programs.

The Community Reentry Peer Support Pilot Project will be managed by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and is funded through a legislative provision in the state's 2016-17 General Appropriations Act (rider 73). DSHS is in the final stages of selecting a program site for the pilot project implementation and plans to announce the selected site on January 22, 2016. While Texas state agencies collect a wealth of data on the outcome measures associated with mental health peer support programs in forensic settings (i.e. ANSA, TXLET, etc.), further data collection and analysis of implementation processes and collateral impact (such as recidivism) would be beneficial to expanding these types of programs across the state. To this end, the Hogg Foundation and DSHS will provide input to the evaluation of the Community Reentry Pilot Project in order to enhance ongoing state program assessments and increase understanding about successfully integrating processes that affect justice-involved mental health consumers.

Applications will be accepted from qualified firms and individuals interested in assessing the implementation process and comparative impact of this mental health peer support reentry model in Texas. The evaluation goals for the project include:

• Conducting a process evaluation using qualitative and quantitative methodology that applies person-centered, recovery-oriented approaches to data collection and analyses.
• Examining and contextualizing program outcome measures to create deeper understanding of program impact (e.g. on issues such as recidivism, homelessness, employment, substance use, etc.).
• Including analysis, reflection, and insight based on the perspectives and experiences of justice personnel, mental health providers, peer specialists, and justice-involved mental health consumers.
• Identifying critical characteristics for the successful replication of an effective mental health peer support reentry model implementation in Texas.

Eligibility
Applicants must be Texas-based or have offices, chapters or, affiliates in Texas. Examples of eligible individuals and organizations include independent evaluators and researchers, colleges and universities research-based firms, and local government agencies.

How to apply

Interested firms and individuals must submit application materials through the Hogg Foundation online application portal, https://hogg.fluxx.io. If you're a first-time user, follow the instructions on the Fluxx homepage to create a new account. Then, as soon as you're granted access to the grantee portal, navigate to the How to Apply section and select the "RFA: Evaluators for Mental Health Grant Programs" option. In the Evaluator Information section under "Areas of Expertise," select the box titled, "Justice-Involved Individuals with Mental Health Challenges." You *must* select this option in order to be considered for this Call for Applications.

Please note that once you have created an account it can take up to 5 days to receive your log-in information (though this is unusual). Therefore, ***do not wait until the due date of your application to create your account. Allow yourself that five-day cushion.***

Selected applicants will be invited to submit for consideration a full proposal for the evaluation of the Community Reentry Peer Support Pilot Project. All qualified applicants will be included in the Hogg Foundation's Evaluation Directory to be notified about future research and evaluation funding opportunities related to the foundation's strategic areas of interest.

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