

2021-2021 ADDITIONAL REACHING HOME COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE PLAN (CERP)

GREATER VANCOUVER DESIGNATED COMMUNITY



APPLICATIONS DUE 12:00 PM NOVEMBER 6, 2020

Applications will be submitted via email; complete submissions must be emailed to
reachinghome@vancity.com



LU'MA NATIVE BCH HOUSING SOCIETY

Vancity
Community Foundation

The Greater Vancouver Community Entity (CE) Lu'ma Native BCH Housing Society, in partnership with Vancity Community Foundation (VCF) and the Greater Vancouver Community Advisory Board (CAB), is seeking applications for funding under the Reaching Home COVID-19 Economic Response Plan (CERP) to support organizations in the homeless-serving sector responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Up to approximately \$14 million dollars is available to the Greater Vancouver Designated Community. The objective of this funding is to support the community's capacity to reduce and mitigate the negative impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak on individuals experiencing and at imminent risk of homelessness and the organizations and individuals attending to their needs.

FUNDING PRIORITIES: As the social and economic consequences of the pandemic continue to impact those experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness, this funding seeks to support projects directly addressing the following:

1. **Improving Housing Stability:** including housing placement services, particularly for individuals currently residing in temporary accommodation, and capital investments in permanent housing (for example: purchasing/re-purposing a hotel into supportive housing, acquiring units, renovations to expand units or beds, or construction of modular units).
2. **Preventing Inflows to Homelessness:** including housing loss prevention activities (for example, landlord-tenant mediation, emergency rent or utility arrears/assistance to maintain housing, or placing individuals exiting institutions directly into housing), and/or shelter diversion activities.
3. **Extending Emergency COVID-19 Measures for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness:** including acquiring, establishing and/or operating temporary spaces (such as an isolation or emergency response facility, and other amenities intended to address hygiene needs) to reduce overcrowding in shelters, the delivery of client support and basic needs services (including health/medical services), and any other measures that increase the safety of a facility and services

While all activities identified under [Reaching Home's Special Directives](#) remain eligible, projects directly engaged in the above activities will be prioritized.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND FUNDING PARAMETERS

FUNDING PERIOD: **(To be confirmed)** October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. All Funds must be expended by March 31, 2021

CAPITAL PROJECTS: Funding is limited to acquisitions, renovations and/or construction projects that are seeking to make units and facilities available to address immediate housing and service needs (including moving individuals from temporary to permanent facilities). All funding must be expended by March 31, 2021.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS: not-for-profit organizations and charities, municipalities, First Nations (on-reserve), and public entities such as health and educational institutions are eligible to apply.

ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES: Funding is to available to organizations and projects operating within the Greater Vancouver Region. Under the expanded Special Directives and in seeking to prevent transmission between nearby communities, projects located outside of Greater Vancouver **may be eligible**. Please contact us at reachinghome@vancity.com if you are outside of the Greater Vancouver region and would like to apply.

MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS: Organizations may submit more than one application if they are for distinct projects (example: different geographic regions or populations) with different activities or characteristics. Each application is evaluated separately and on its own merit.

JOINT SUBMISSIONS: Joint submissions, partnerships, and coalitions, particularly those that seek to provide a coordinated response in the region, are highly encouraged. If awarded funding, a single party is required take responsibility for the contractual relationship with the Greater Vancouver Designated Stream CE.

OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING: There may be cases where activities eligible under Reaching Home may also be funded by provincial, territorial, or municipal government. Reaching Home funds will be used to complement these investments and will avoid duplication of existing programming where possible.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND EXPENSES

In response to COVID-19, Reaching Home released “Special Directives” broadening the eligible activities to enable communities to implement comprehensive responses to the COVID-19 crisis. The table below provides a summary of activities that are eligible under the expanded Reaching Home Special Directives in the context of COVID-19. The list below is not exhaustive – if the activities in your proposed project are not described below, please contact us to determine project eligibility prior to beginning your application. For a more comprehensive outline and description of eligible activities and expenses, please see [Reaching Home’s Special Directives](#).

A. HOUSING SERVICES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Securing and/or placing individuals in temporary accommodations for the purposes of self-isolation, including motels/hotels, community spaces, tents in sports arenas, RVs or other property/spaces• Supporting individuals to move to more appropriate or stable housing situations
B. PREVENTION AND SHELTER DIVERSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial support required to maintain housing, such as rental assistance/arrears, utility deposits, in-kind support for individuals in financial crisis• Financial support related to moving individuals to a more appropriate/stable housing situation• Placing individuals exiting institutions directly to housing• Shelter diversion activities such as establishing new access points to services, working with existing crisis lines to offer help over phone or website, or funding additional staff at points of shelter enquiry/entry to explore alternative options
C. HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES
<p>This is a new <u>temporary</u> category – communities are still encouraged to connect individuals to clinical, health and treatment services through case management. Eligible activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing general health and medical services, mental health (including counselling) and addictions support services and hiring medical professionals (e.g., nurses, doctors) to provide services directly to clients
D. CLIENT SUPPORT SERVICES (INCLUDING BASIC NEEDS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procuring cleaning services or supplies, increasing the frequency of cleaning of facilities• Acquiring/providing physical barriers to be placed between beds, or any other measures that increase the safety of a facility including measures to adhere to social distancing protocols• Purchasing/distributing basic needs to individuals in crisis (whether housed or not), including food, grocery gift cards, personal hygiene products, , baby items, etc.• Purchasing personal protection equipment/medical supplies (e.g., gloves, masks)for a facility or site• Providing access to communication tools/technology

E. CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

IMPORTANT: Funding is limited to acquisitions, renovations and/or construction projects that are seeking to make units and facilities available to address immediate housing and service needs (including moving individuals from temporary to permanent facilities). All funding must be expended by March 31, 2021.

- Purchasing, securing, outfitting, or constructing **new permanent units** (including acquiring land)
- Purchasing, securing, outfitting, or re-purposing spaces/properties to create **new temporary housing** and support isolation/social distancing (for example, community spaces, motels/hotels, etc.)
- Renovating or outfitting **existing spaces** (e.g., shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, or non-residential facilities) to address needs arising out of COVID, for example, improving ventilation or increasing the distance between residents
- Installing facilities and services to increase sanitation and limit the spread of COVID, such as shower, washroom, handwashing/sanitation facilities
- Other capital investments such as vehicles, equipment, furnishings, etc.

F. COORDINATION OF RESOURCES AND DATA COLLECTION

- Development and distribution of information that increases individual or community capacity to respond to COVID, including training, improving access to/awareness of existing supports, etc.
- Other activities that enhance sector capacity to respond to COVID.

OTHER ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND EXPENSES: As previously noted, the above is not an exhaustive list of eligible activities or expenses. Additional eligible expenses could include direct staff or administrative wages and other overhead costs associated with the proposed project. Administrative costs remain eligible; however, no more than 15% of the Reaching Home contribution can be used for administrative costs. Please see the directives for eligible administrative costs.

APPLICATION DETAILS

SUBMISSIONS: Submissions will be accepted until **12:00 pm on Friday, November 6, 2020**. See “how to apply” below for additional details. Please contact us at reachinghome@vancity.com if you have any questions.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS: The CE is committed to ensuring a fair and transparent process for recommending/approving projects that will best meet the identified priorities. Applications will be reviewed by a review committee. We aim to notify applicants of funding decisions by late November. Recommended applications will undergo a simplified due diligence and contracting process.

Note that when an application is received by the CE, there is no commitment on the part of the CE to move the application through to the next stage, to fund a project or to fund it at the amount requested.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTING: If awarded a contract, organizations may be required to:

- Have a separate or sub bank account for RH funding before the funding can be released
- Report project details and annual results using a result reporting system provided by Canada
- Submit periodic expense and activity reports
- Report on the number of instances and/or individuals accessing beds/suites, cots, if in receipt of funding for temporary accommodation.

IMPORTANT: all submissions must be emailed to reachinghome@vancity.com by 12:00 pm on Friday, November 6, 2020.

HOW TO APPLY

Regardless of which project type or activities you are applying for, please complete the “Round II CERP Application Form” and email it to reachinghome@vancity.com by 12:00 pm on November 6, 2020. You will find the blank application form attached to this email. Please make sure you sign the last page of the application form (Page 8).

IMPORTANT: please use the following format(s) to name your application when saving and for your subject line:

- **If you are requesting for funding for an existing Reaching Home COVID-19 project:** “Organization Name – Project Number – CERP Application”. For example: “Sally’s Society – COVID-98 – CERP Application”
- **If you are applying for funds for a new project that is NOT a currently funded Reaching Home COVID-19 project:** “Organization Name – Project Name– CERP Application”. For example: “Sally’s Society – Housing Langley’s Most Vulnerable – CERP Application”

The application can be submitted in MS Word or PDF.

RE: Capital Funding Requests: We are not requesting that capital applicants complete a sustainability plan or an operation budget as an application requirement. However, if a project proceeds to due diligence, a sustainability plan, operating budget, and other relevant supporting documentation (depending upon the project time) may be required.

Please contact us at reachinghome@vancity.com with questions; Program Officers are not able to answer questions regarding this funding call.