



## Information Session: Community-Driven Responses to Opioid Use Disorder and Overdose Mortality

September 9, 2022

Webinar Questions and Answers

[View the webinar recording](#)

### **Application Process**

1. What is this application process? Will there be an LOI required?

*The application process for this RFP is a one-stage application submitted through our [grants management system](#).*

2. Can you discuss FORE's focus areas in more detail?

*FORE understands that no single solution will solve this crisis. For this reason, we support patient-centered efforts that aim to achieve the following:*

*Professional Education: Educate healthcare and other professionals about prevention and evidence-based treatment options*

*Payer & Provider Strategies: Develop sustainable prevention, treatment, and recovery models, as well as payment and provider approaches*

*Policy Initiatives: Inform State and Federal policies to ensure access to care*

*Public Awareness: Raise public awareness of effective strategies for curtailing the crisis*

3. Do I need to list my co-investigators?

*Yes, please list your co-investigators when submitting the proposal.*

4. Can an organization submit more than one application?

*FORE would prefer a limit of one application per organization.*

5. Will proposals be evaluated on a rolling basis?

*The applications will not be evaluated on a rolling basis; the last day possible to submit an application is October 21, 2022.*

*The first notification of awards is anticipated to be by January 31, 2023. Please select the project start date for your project based on the project's bandwidth and need, with the understanding that the start date may change somewhat.*

6. Does a project need to be "scalable," and does applicant need to explain how it could be scaled?

*The Foundation prioritizes projects that can contribute to long-lasting improvements in patient care and/or other aspects of the national opioid crisis. Competitive applications will demonstrate clear, immediate needs, as well as the potential to inform long-term, broader impact, and scalability.*



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7. Do proposed projects need to neatly fit into 1 target project bucket?

No. Proposals may be Inclusion of more than one target area, and/or may suggest other areas.

*This RFP will focus on supporting CBOs' capacity to address OUD and overdose mortality through work such as organizational strengthening, skills development, and community partnerships. FORE will provide support for explorations of strategic partnerships and capacity building requests that lead to greater capacity for, improved productivity of, and expected sustainability of OUD mitigation initiatives. Funding is for specific activities or projects designed to strengthen an organization's operations, leadership, technology, programmatic, and administrative capacity to achieve sustainable OUD mitigation initiatives.*

8. Could you expand on what is meant by evidence-based models?

*FORE is looking to improve, expand, and/or scale evidence-based services. The goal of utilizing an evidence-base is to eliminate unsound or outdated practices in favor of more-effective ones by shifting the basis for decision making from tradition, intuition, and unsystematic experience to firmly grounded data and scientific research.*

9. Are there specific populations which FORE is focused on for this RFP, for example a certain patient age group, geography/location, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc.?

*FORE is not focused on any population for this RFP, but we will prioritize all high-risk populations. We promote equity and social justice by focusing on groups that have received the least attention and for whom the OUD/Overdose mortality are greatest, including communities of color; rural residents; pregnant and parenting people; youth and young adults; and those involved in the criminal justice system.*

10. What is the timeline for review of applications?

*Applications will be reviewed from October 21, 2022, to January 31, 2023, when FORE staff will send out the earliest notification of final decisions (subject to change).*

11. Is it possible to set up a time to discuss the funding opportunity with program staff?

*Given the volume of interest for this funding opportunity, we are unable to assess ideas or offer feedback prior to the proposal submission. We encourage everyone who has an idea that fits the RFP to submit a proposal by the deadline.*

## **Evaluation of Applications**

1. Can you talk about the criteria you will use to evaluate an application? Is there a scoring rubric available?

*There is no specific scoring rubric available for this RFP application. A good proposal will demonstrate an understanding of the RFP, with existing evidence to support the proposed project, planned outcomes that are feasible, a realistic proposed budget and timeline,*



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organizational leadership support, and shows an adequate plan for learning opportunities and scalability beyond the grant period.

## **Grantmaking Process and Advisors**

1. Among your experts, do you include people who use drugs, who are the primary agents of change in a harm reduction service framework?

*FORE draws on a breadth of expertise- including from those in recovery- serving as FORE Board members, on our Scientific Advisory Council and our network of grantees.*

2. How often are reports required during the project if awarded?

*FORE requires a formal report with a financial update at the end of each project period, as defined by the grantee. Each grant period is 6 months, but adjustments are made based on the proposed project timeline and goals.*

3. Do you have reporting requirements regarding individuals served/data to be provided, and would those requirements be provided upon notice of funds awarded?

*All grantees sign a grant agreement with FORE which includes reporting requirements (based on the project and the Milestones and Expected Outcomes as set by the grantee).*

4. Does FORE anticipate future RFPs in this area (or other areas)? Do you anticipate a future RFP that focuses on policy? If so, would appreciate more info on topical areas and anticipated timing.

*Most of our funding is through RFPs. Please continue to check our [website](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for updates.*

## **Budget/Financial**

1. When would the funding ultimately be available, and will that vary based on when the notifications are made?

*The funding will begin immediately following Board approval and signature of the grant agreement. This is typically within 4 weeks of approval. We anticipate Board action on proposals in Early 2023.*

2. Is the budget number and length of time included in the proposal application since that was not in the instructions, or will that be a separate entry when completing the online application?

*Applicants will be prompted to input budget amount and project length as part of [the online application](#).*

3. What kind of capacity-building items can be included in our proposal? Will FORE fund purchase of equipment? Are there any restrictions?



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*Funds can cover large purchases (such as a vehicle for outreach), harm reduction supplies, marketing costs, etc. as long as it is part of a project or activity which advances the primary goal and objectives of the RFP. Specific restrictions on FORE funding can be found [here](#).*

4. Does this funding cover expenses for administrative oversight? Would the salary/benefits for additional staff?

*FORE will cover the salary of personnel who are necessary for the proposed project.*

5. Will this grant cover indirect costs?

*FORE provides up to 10% indirect on direct costs.*

6. Can some part of the money be spent with partners on the Mexican or Canadian side of the border if we are looking for a cross-border collaboration?

*At this time, FORE funds must be granted to and utilized in the United States. Partnerships with organizations in another country are eligible as long as the application is submitted by an organization located within the United States.*

7. Is there any expectation of matching funds from the grantee?

*FORE does not require matching funds but welcomes co-funding partnerships.*

8. Can a portion of budget be allocated towards incentives to program participants?

*Yes, FORE allows a portion of the budget to be allocated towards incentives to encourage program participants.*

9. If PI's switch institutions during the funding cycle can the funding be transferred to a different institution as within the same scope of work?

*If the PI switches institutions during the process of applying, we will work with potential grantee organizations to move the project to a different institution on a case-by-case basis.*

10. What if our organization does not have four years' worth of audited financial statements?

*While FORE prefers that all organizations provide four of the most recent audited financial statements (at least one within the last year), we will accept alternative financial documents. If you do not have audited financial statements, please provide the four most recent years of internally prepared financial statements (each fiscal year's statement should be accompanied by the top 5 revenue generating sources with the dollar amount pledged).*



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## **Eligibility**

1. What organizations fall under the umbrella of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)?

*CBOs include organizations providing a range of social- and/or health-related services within a given geographic area, Recovery Community Organizations, and Community Coalitions/Partnerships. We will also consider applications from tribal and local agencies.*

2. Will you consider applications from a non-profit awaiting official 501(c)(3) status?

*Applicants who are awaiting 501(c)(3) status may submit an application with a fiscal sponsor. Are applicants from Puerto Rico or other US Territories eligible?*

*Yes, FORE welcomes applicants from all over the United States and US Territories.*

3. Are academic institutions, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and national organizations eligible to apply?

*No. Academic institutions, healthcare systems, and national organizations are not eligible, though may partner with a CBO as long as the CBO is the lead applicant and recipient of the majority of requested funds. For example, a CBO which is housed in or sponsored by an FQHC may apply as long as they are the lead applicant, i.e., the application is in their name rather than the parent organization. Statewide organizations could be eligible, provided their project focuses on a particular community or communities.*

4. What are the limits on funding political advocacy?

*The Foundation will not consider grant requests for fundraising events, non-profit and school-sponsored athletic-related events, political advocacy including lobbying and election campaigning and related activities, and endowment funds.*

5. Are currently funded FORE grantees allowed to apply?

*Yes, current FORE grantees are welcome to apply, but FORE will be evaluating each proposal individually and through the lens of expanding our grantee network and lifting up new and different approaches.*

6. Are local health departments eligible to apply?

*Yes, provided that they are partnering with a community-based organization. The CBO must be the lead applicant on the application.*