

MHR SB Proposal for the City of Toledo American Rescue Plan Act Funds Updated 3-27-2023

Introduction: The City of Toledo is allocating up to \$2,000,000 in American Rescue Act Plan funding to the MHR SB to address the behavioral health needs of the City of Toledo Residents impacted by the Covid -19 Pandemic. Funds can be utilized immediately once allocated by the City and should be spent by September 30, 2025. Note: all funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024.

The MHR SB plans to initiate six specific projects with these funds starting upon allocation by the City of Toledo. A summary of each project's budget and a project description follows.

Project Name	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
	5/2023 -6/2023	7/2023 -6/2024	7/2024 -6/2025	
Mental Wellness Community Grants	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$750,000
Mental Wellness Rapid Response Team	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$150,000
Trauma & Grief Support Group Capacity Building	\$30,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$210,000
Domestic Violence Treatment - FACAPC	\$10,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$130,000
Latinx Based Prevention/Navigation Services	\$30,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$430,000
Dani's Place Capital Project	\$0	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$330,000
Total Amount	\$250,000	\$875,000	\$875,000	\$2,000,000

Mental Wellness Community Grants

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board has implemented an annual Community Mini-Grant program. It aims to recognize and support grassroots-level community resources aligned with the MHR SB's mission to "*Cultivate a high-quality network of resources that inspires personal recovery and promotes mental wellness.*"

The MHR SB currently provides two cycles of funding per fiscal year. The MHR SB offers up to \$5,000 to ten grassroots organizations each cycle. Building on the existing process, the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board proposes adding \$150,000 in ARPA funding to the successive five mini-grant cycles starting in May 2023 and running through June 30, 2025. The MHR SB anticipates these awards will provide resources to support mental wellness activities intended to reduce violence. Agencies would be limited to one award over the five cycles. Note that the last cycle will be awarded before December 31, 2024, for expenses due from January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025.

For each cycle, up to 10 organizations will be funded a maximum of \$20,000 each. Other requirements include an annual budget of less than \$750,000, 501 (C) 3 status, and cannot be an OhioMHAS licensed facility. The total ARPA funds allocated to the project would be \$750,000.

Mental Wellness Rapid Response Team

In the aftermath of a traumatic public event such as a loss of life, victimization, fire, or natural disaster, victims, witnesses, families, and neighborhoods require a rapid response to support their mental wellness. Struggling with stress brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic, most groups are ill-equipped to address their mental wellness needs. It is proposed to establish a team of licensed mental health professionals that can be rapidly deployed during a traumatic public event. These clinicians would arrive on the site of a trauma-related event to support the victims, witnesses, families, and others who experienced the trauma. It is envisioned that the team would remain on site for up to 7 days to help the community process their emotions and provide short-term case management, referral, and linkage. The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board or its designee would activate the team at its discretion. Additionally, the MHRSB will develop a treatment locator app. This intuitive application will include all OhioMHAS-certified entities in Lucas County and support the Rapid Response Team and community members' ability to locate desired behavioral health services rapidly.

The MHRSB recommends that \$30,000 be allocated for start-up funding (\$10,000 to organize the Response Team and \$20,000 as a one-time expense for the development of the app), \$60,000 for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, and \$60,000 for the final year. Funding will begin on May 1, 2023, and continue through June 30, 2025. \$150,000 will be allocated to the project over 26 months.

Trauma & Grief Support Group Capacity Building

It is generally accepted that the Covid-19 Pandemic has amplified violence and overdose deaths. As a consequence, trauma and grief permeate our community. For some, access to a mutual support group can provide comfort and practical encouragement to help survivors deal with difficult circumstances. In response, several grief-related support groups have been organized. The MHRSB will identify three established entities and provide financial support for training and operations.

It is recommended that each group receive \$10,000 in May 2023 and \$30,000 each of the next two state fiscal years. Funding will begin on May 1, 2023, and continue through June 30, 2025. \$210,000 will be allocated to the project over 26 months.

Domestic Violence Treatment

It is well-documented that the Covid-19 Pandemic has increased domestic violence. In response, the MHRSB will provide the Family and Children Abuse Prevention Center with \$130,000 to provide treatment services to youth and adults who are victims of domestic violence and lack an appropriate payer source. These funds will supplement the MHRSB's annual allocation of \$60,000. Funds will be distributed on a reimbursement basis using the MHRSB billing software. It is estimated that \$10,000 will be needed in the last two months of this state fiscal year, and \$60,000 will be available each of the next two state fiscal years.

Latinx-Based Prevention/Navigation Services

The Covid-19 Pandemic has disproportionately impacted the Latinx population. Unfortunately, the Latinx-Led organization that provided bilingual Prevention and Behavioral Health Navigation Services abruptly closed at the height of the Pandemic. Since then, the MHRSB has worked with numerous Latinx community leaders to re-establish those services. The MHRSB recommends that \$430,000 in ARPA funds be used to support the re-establishment of these services. These funds will be in addition to the MHRSB's planned investment of \$1 million from

May 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. Funds will be used for start-up and operations funding at three Latinx-Led organizations. Funds will be distributed according to the table below:

Latinx Services	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
	5/2023 -6/2023	7/2023 -6/2024	7/2024 -6/2025	
Nuestra Gente, Inc. Bilingual Navigation Services (operations)	\$10,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$130,000
Sofia Quintero Arts & Cultural Center Prevention & Navigation Services (start up and operations)	\$10,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$150,000
The Believe Center, Inc. Bilingual Prevention and Navigation Services (start up and operations)	\$10,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$150,000
Total Amount	\$30,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$430,000

Dani's Place Capital Project

The Covid-19 Pandemic has further reduced access to state psychiatric hospital services. Before the Pandemic, the MHR SB and NAMI Ohio began plans to create an adult psychiatric rehabilitation facility. Just as rehabilitation centers for individuals leaving the hospital following a stroke or a hip fracture are available, the MHR SB of Lucas County and NAMI Ohio envisioned creating a similar center for psychiatric patients. Since then, we have partnered with the State of Ohio and Congresswomen Marcy Kaptur's Office to begin planning.

The facility, known as Dani's Place, will be a sixteen-bed facility near the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital (NOPH) and will provide short-term rehabilitation healthcare for persons with serious mental health disorders. Dani's Place will specifically serve individuals 18 years and older who have been discharged from the state hospital and need additional treatment under a supervised living arrangement. When built and operating, Dani's Place will fill a gap in the Board's treatment continuum, improve access to limited state hospital beds, reduce recidivism to more costly in-patient hospitalization, reduce the incidences of suicide following hospitalization, and provide comprehensive discharge planning for its participants.

The estimated cost of the project is \$10,000,000. Approximately \$3,250,000 is secured, including \$500,000 from the MHR SB, \$2,000,000 in federal funds, and an anticipated minimum of \$750,000 in OhioMHAS capital funds. The MHR SB requests that \$330,000 in City of Toledo ARPA funds be allocated to the project's development. Private fundraising and additional state and local funding are anticipated to fill the remaining gap.