



# Housing & Homelessness Incentive Program Funding Application

## About CenCal Health

Founded as the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority, CenCal Health is the oldest managed care Medicaid health plan of its kind, having launched in 1983. CenCal Health utilizes the County Organized Health System (COHS) model and is the exclusive Medi-Cal health plan in the two-county service area and serves one in four residents in Santa Barbara County and one in five in San Luis Obispo County. We work in partnership with our contracted providers, including with local primary and specialty providers, all hospitals in both counties, county health departments, health systems, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Indian Health Centers, private medical groups, and individual physicians. CenCal Health has been recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) for our innovation, and consistently ranks among the top health plans serving Medi-Cal members in California. Our work results in the delivery of innovative community-based health care services, better medical outcomes, and cost savings.

## Housing & Homelessness Incentive Program Overview

Under the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) CalAIM Initiative (California Advancing and Innovating in Medi-Cal), health plans are poised to work closely with community partners to build capacity to meet the needs of Medi-Cal members experiencing or at risk of homelessness. To help support CalAIM implementation and housing and homelessness service providers, DHCS developed the Housing & Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP). HHIP is a voluntary incentive program for Medi-Cal Managed Care plans, such as CenCal Health, designed to improve health outcomes and access to services by addressing housing insecurity and instability as social determinants of health for the Medi-Cal population.

The goals of the HHIP funds are to:

1. Reduce and prevent homelessness
2. Ensure managed care plans (MCPs), such as CenCal Health, can connect CenCal Health Members to needed housing services through partnerships and capacity building

To earn funds, MCPs must demonstrate progress toward HHIP program [metrics](#). This will require collaboration with each county's Continuum of Care (CoC) committees and local housing stakeholders.

If an organization is planning on providing [Housing Transition Navigation Services](#), [Housing Deposits](#), [Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services](#), or street medicine services we encourage you to become a CenCal Health provider. Being a provider ensures sustained funding for services rendered. HHIP funds can be used to initiate organizational capacity and enhance becoming a provider, but will not cover housing services offered through [Community Supports](#). If you are planning on using HHIP funds to provide street medicine services, please describe your sustainability plan in section 3.6 below, which may include but is not limited to either being or planning to become a contracted street medicine provider with CenCal Health. For more information on becoming a provider, please contact the Provider Relations Team at [psrgroup@cencalhealth.org](mailto:psrgroup@cencalhealth.org).

## Funding Opportunities

DHCS outlined metrics related to housing and homelessness that must be met to earn additional funds. All funding requests must be tied to a metric(s) and describe how the funding will contribute to the metric(s). The metrics fall into the following categories:

- A. Priority Area 1: Partnerships and capacity to support referrals for services
- B. Priority Area 2: Infrastructure to coordinate and meet member housing needs
- C. Priority Area 3: Delivery of services and member engagement

In this application, the metrics are organized according to the following services. Percent allocation of funds for each service area are respectively noted below:

1. Housing Services (65%)
2. Street Medicine (15%)
3. Disparities and Equity in Housing (5%)
4. Data and Partnerships (15%)

The amount of funding available is earned and determined by DHCS. The current earned funding amount for each county is outlined below:

- San Luis Obispo County – \$ 1,734,975.28
- Santa Barbara County – \$ 3,141,546.46

## Requirements

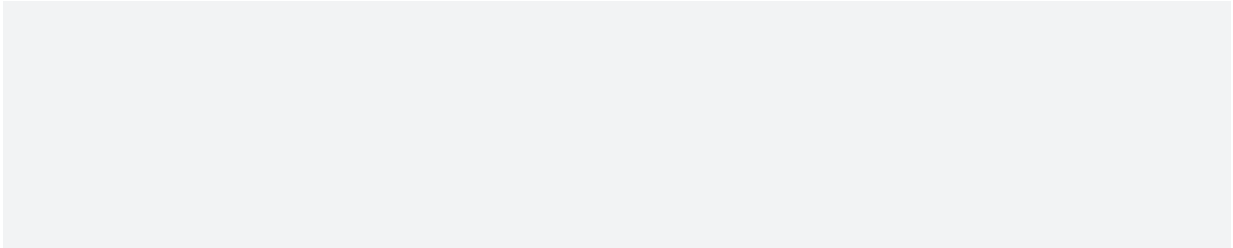
To receive HHIP funding, an organization must either be or plan to be a member of the county CoC and enter or plan to enter all data into the HMIS system. To find out more about becoming a CoC member and gaining HMIS access, please check your county website at [San Luis Obispo County CoC/HSOC](#) or [Santa Barbara CoC](#).

## Funding Application

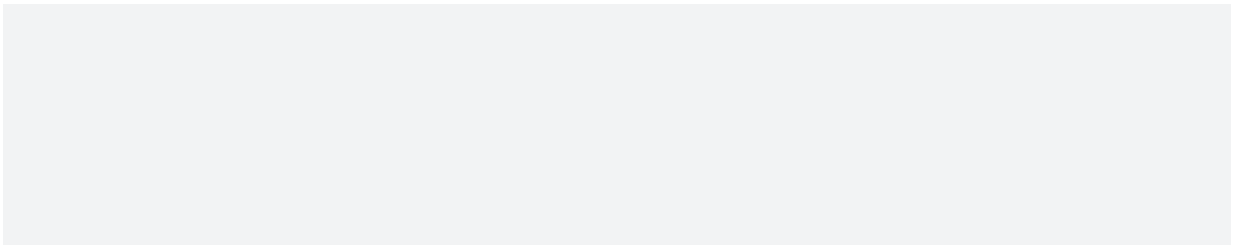
Applications will be scored based on completeness and the weighted percentage listed in each section below.

### Section 1: Organization Information – 15% of score

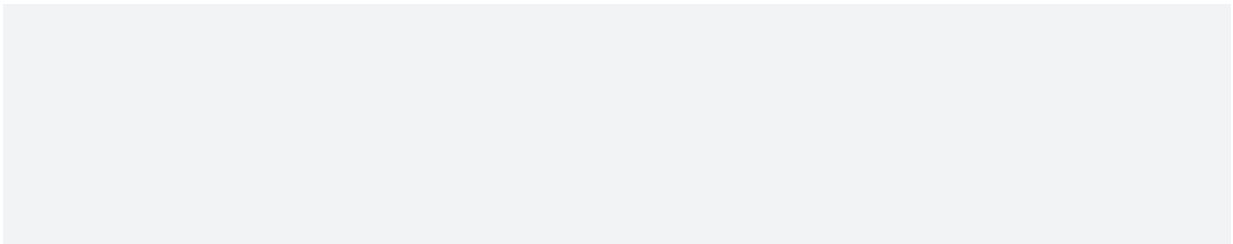
- a. Contact information – Legal name of organization, address, phone number, web address, and name and position of staff submitting the application



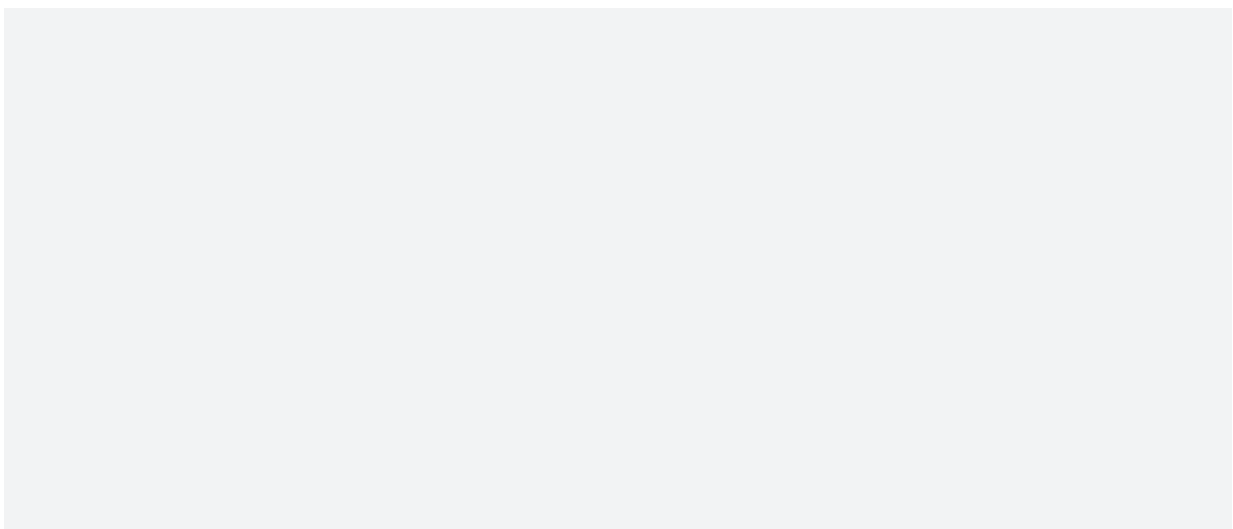
- b. Mission statement



- c. Counties and cities served



- d. Current programs and activities serving those experiencing homelessness and/or at risk of homelessness



e. How does your organization address disparities related to languages, cultures, and disabilities? (250 words maximum)

f. Total number of individuals currently served:

g. Total number of CenCal Health Members currently served:

h. Do you have access to HMIS? Yes No

i. \*Are you part of or plan on joining your county's CoC? Yes No

j. Are you a CenCal Health provider? Yes No

\*Required to receive funds

## Section 2: Overview of Proposal – 35% of score

Indicate which metric(s) you are applying for funding. Where applicable, additional metrics are listed under the main metric. The additional metrics are deliverables that need to be met to support the main metric.

### 1. Housing Services

#### **Metric 3.5 – MCP Members who were successfully housed.**

Examples of funding include but are not limited to providing application fee payments, increasing housing stock through construction and renovations, etc. Deliverables required include:

- a. Address barriers to Community Support services and housing services (Metric 1.3)
- b. Update Community Supports and housing status in HMIS in a timely manner (Metric 1.4)
- c. Screen MCP Members for homelessness/risk of homelessness (Metric 3.1)

#### **Metric 3.6 - MCP Members who remained successfully housed.**

Examples of funding include but are not limited to one-time rental assistance, non-rental monetary assistance, etc. Deliverables required include:

- a. Address barriers to Community Support services and housing services (Metric 1.3)
- b. Update Community Supports and housing status in HMIS in a timely manner (Metric 1.4)
- c. Screen MCP Members for homelessness/risk of homelessness (Metric 3.1)

### 2. Street Medicine

#### **Metric 2.1 – Connection with street medicine team providing healthcare for individual who are homeless (serious mental illness/serious emotional disturbance support via street med outreach)**

Examples of funding include but are not limited to street medicine and behavioral outreach focused on serious mental illness/serious emotional distress, starting and expanding street medicine services, etc. HHIP funds cannot pay for street medicine services billed by providers to CenCal Health.

Additional metric to support metric 2.1 are:

- a. Assessing health factors and risks as part of the connection and integration with the local Coordinated Entry System (metric 1.2)

### 3. Disparities and Equity in Housing

**Metric 1.6 – Partnership and strategies with MCP to address disparities and equity in service delivery, housing placement, and housing retention**

Examples of funding include but are not limited to culturally appropriate training, language translation services, linguistically appropriate materials, etc.

### 4. Data and Partnerships

**Metric 1.1 – Engagement with the CoC:**

Example of funding includes but is not limited to PIT count support.

**Metric 1.2 – Connection and integration with the local Coordinated Entry System:**

Example of funding includes but is not limited to increasing staff capacity to become a Coordinated Entry access point.

**Metric 3.1 – Percent of MCP Members screened for homelessness/risk of homelessness:**

Example of funding includes but is not limited to increasing staff capacity to screen for homelessness.

**Metric 3.3 – MCP members experiencing homelessness who were successfully engaged in Enhanced Care Management (ECM):**

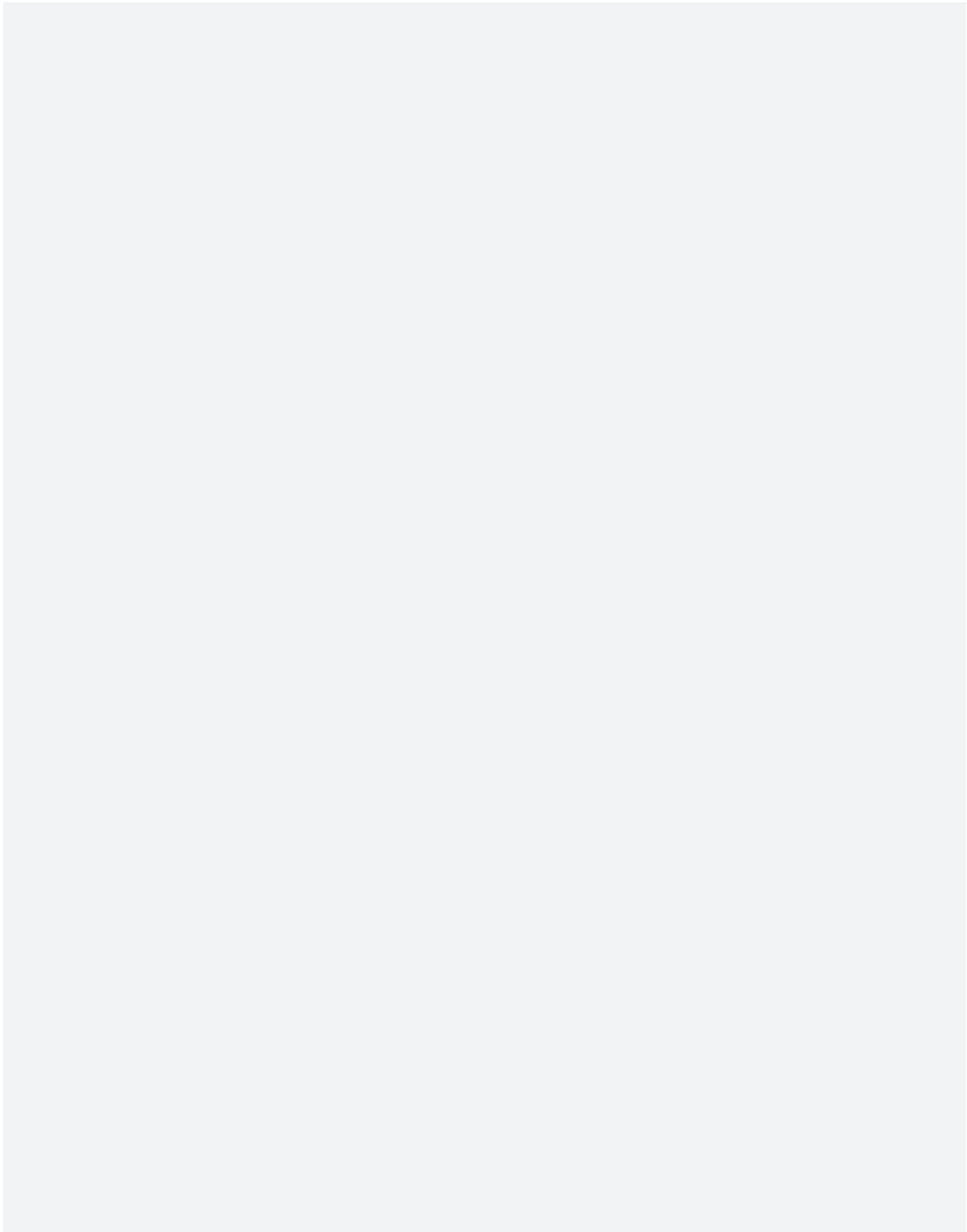
Example of funding includes but is not limited to increasing staff capacity through training to screen, refer, and enroll members to ECM providers/services.

**Metric 3.4 – MCP members experiencing homelessness receiving at least one housing-related Community Supports:**

Example of funding includes but is not limited to increasing staff capacity through training to screen, refer, and enroll members in Community Support services.

**5. Provide an overview of your funding proposal, including** *(500-word limit):*

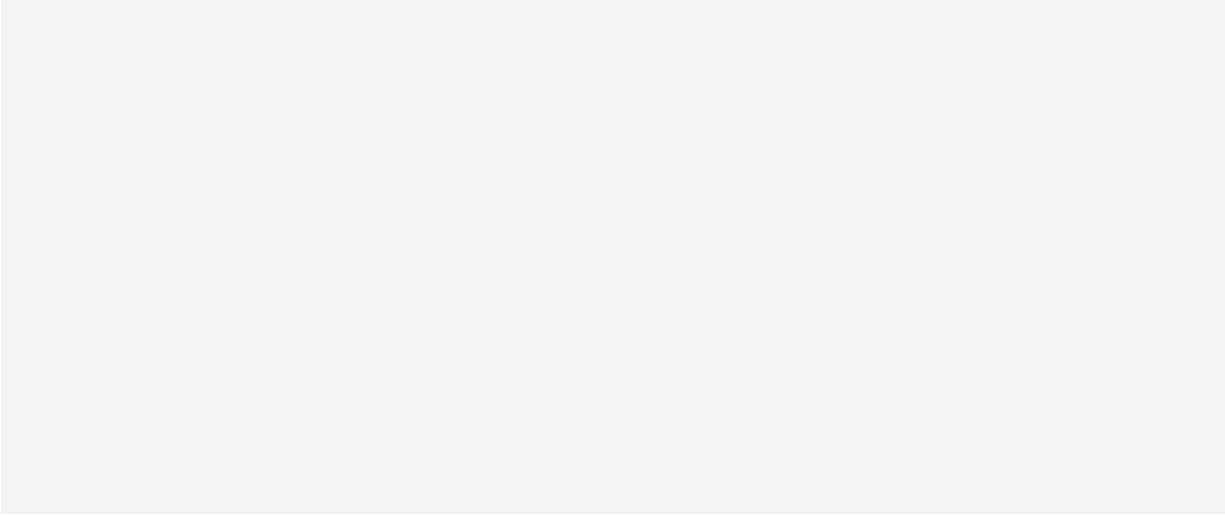
- a. Amount of funding requested. For multiple metrics, list the amount requested for each metric
- b. Purpose of funding and key anticipated outcomes related to the metric(s) selected
- c. Individuals or communities served
- d. Overview of how funds will be spent
- e. Timeline for fund utilization



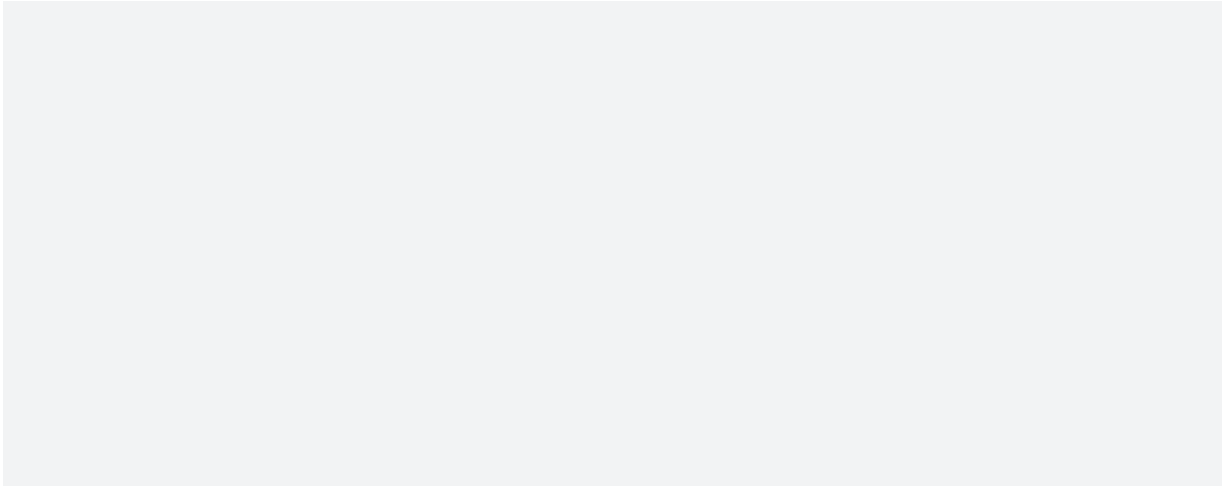
### Section 3: Proposal Details – 40% of score

*250-word limit for each item.*

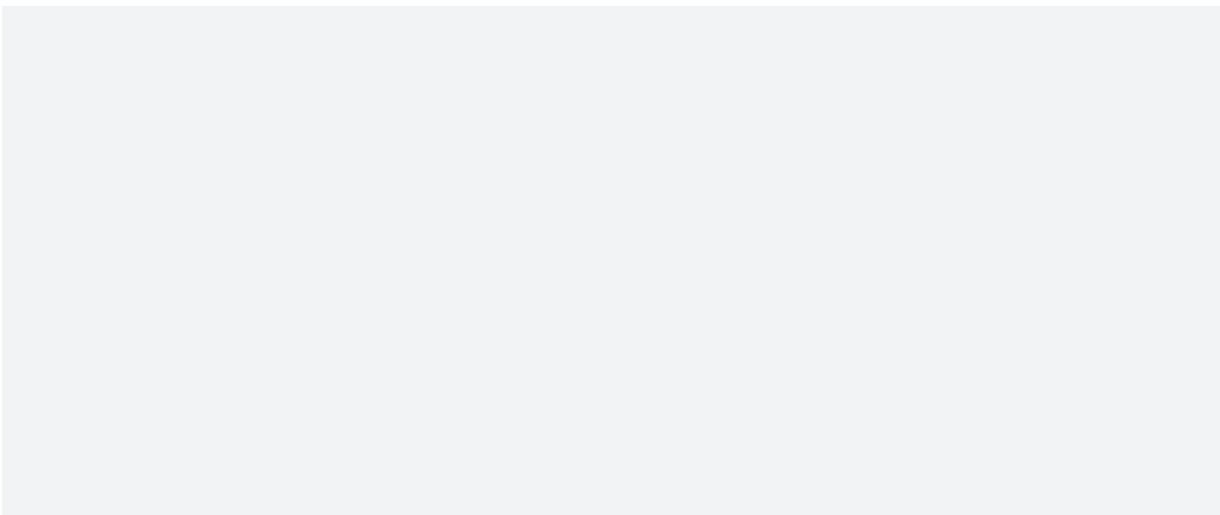
1. Describe the need which you seek to meet through funding.



2. Describe how you intend on meeting the associated metrics, including specific measure of performance and project benchmarks.

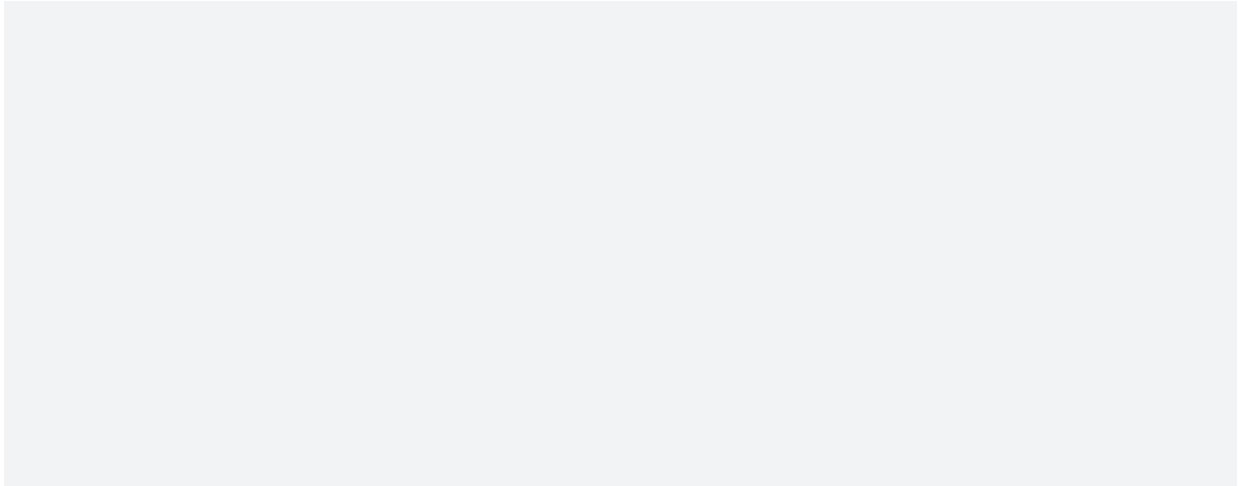


3. Provide an overview of your proposed timeline for utilizing HHIP funds.

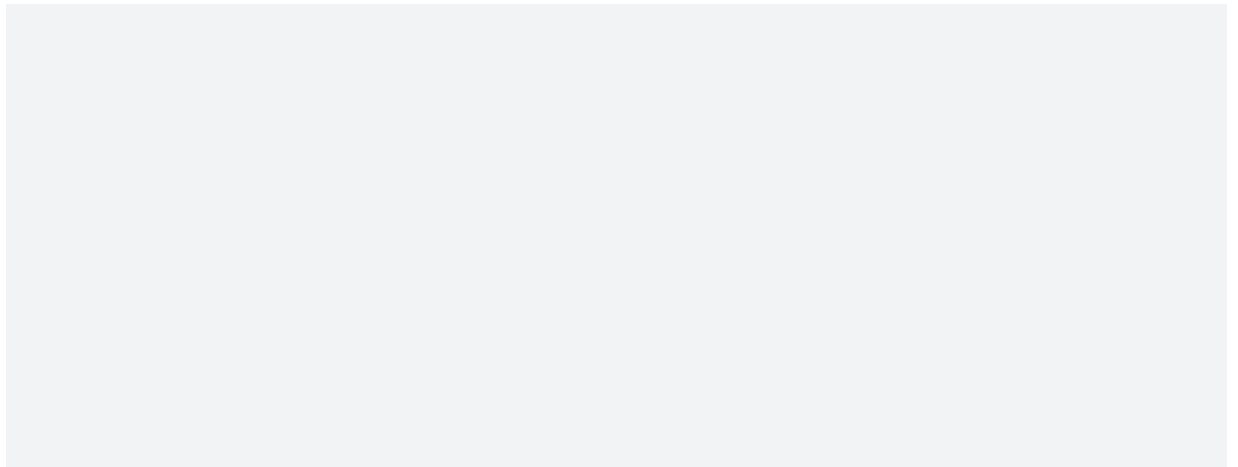




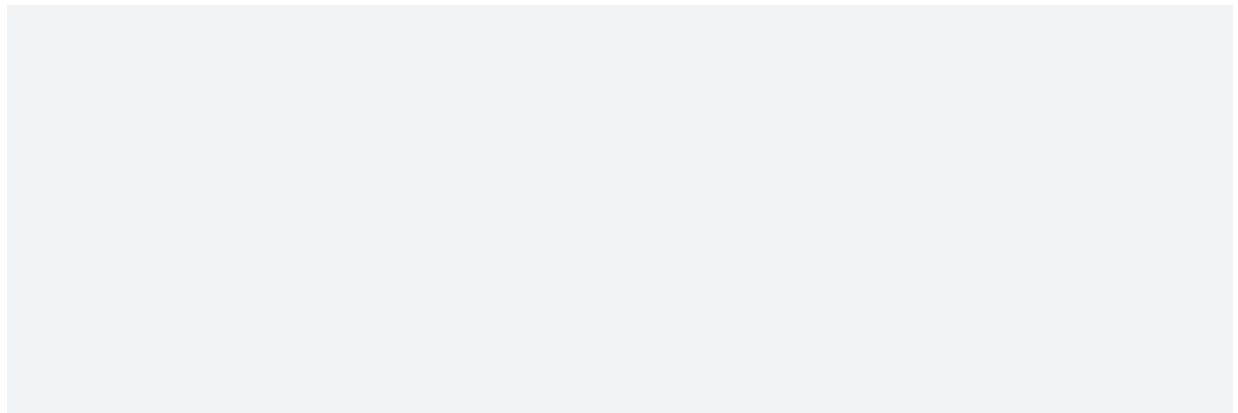
4. Describe desired outcomes in addition to meeting the associated metrics.



5. Indicate anticipated total number of participants served.



6. Describe how your efforts will continue after funding is used. If it will not, explain why.



Final scoring will include an additional 10% towards overall quality of proposal and intended impacts, as determined by the scoring committee.

### Next Steps

- Application due on **July 14, 2023 by 5pm.**
- Notification of awards by August 11, 2023.
- Email completed application to [hhip@cencalhealth.org](mailto:hhip@cencalhealth.org).