

OLHSA RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED FOR COMMUNITY MINI-GRANT INITIATIVE

- 1. Our organization is very interested in applying for this mini-grant in order to help us do a community needs assessment for our surrounding community. With it, we would hope to interview neighbors concerning their impressions of the community, areas of improvement, services they are utilizing and areas for growth. This will be incredibly helpful when it comes to moving our community forward through job needs, home repair needs, and other possible gaps in service that both of our organizations might be able to fill. We're looking at a fall planning period, a spring interview and data collection process and a summer data entry period and review. Is this the kind of project that would qualify for this mini-grant?**

OLHSA values the community needs assessment process and broadly wants to be part of helping accomplish this in the communities we serve. Unfortunately, because OLHSA sets aside funds from this very same source to conduct its mandatory community needs assessment process, these mini-grant funds are not available to conduct community needs assessments. They would be available to meet some of the gaps mentioned that may result from your community needs assessment however. Additionally, we would welcome the opportunity to talk more about how we might be able to assist in a different way with getting your community needs assessment completed as part of our annual community needs assessment update.

- 2. Is there an example of previous grants that were submitted and approved?**

This is the first Community Mini-Grant Initiative that OLHSA has offered and so we do not have examples of previous grants submitted or approved. We encourage any agency that meets the criteria and has an idea that connects to our strategic plan to apply. As a reminder the program areas of our strategic plan are:

1. Programs to bridge the gap between employers and the low income community.
2. Programs that build capacity for families and the community.
3. Programs that increase community development, engagement, and education.
4. Programs that streamline services to better serve clients.