



MonmouthCares Community Resource Development Funds Background and Rationale, Fiscal Year 2024-2025

The New Jersey Children’s System of Care, Monmouth County, and MonmouthCares are interested in expanding services and programs for youth in the county with emotional, behavioral, intellectual & developmental disability, substance use, and other wellness needs. **This one-time funding of \$67,697.70 (less may be applied for) must be utilized in full by June 30, 2025, and will become unavailable to the awardee(s) after that date.** Funding is intended to support new or existing activities or services through collaboration with community partners that reduce risks to youth and directly promote well-being, safety, health, and connections at home and in the community. These funds are not intended to purchase services directly for specific individuals or families and funds cannot be used to supplement government contracted services. These funds cannot be used to acquire or maintain fixed assets, such as land, buildings, vehicles, and equipment.

Applicants must commit to working in partnership with MonmouthCares, other system partners, and community-based resources. They must embody the values of the New Jersey Children’s System of Care.

There have been noted gaps and needs in quality, community-based services through various federal, state, and system-wide surveys and needs assessments. MonmouthCares has reviewed county and state data, needs assessments, and local focus groups that have documented areas of need for our county. Applicants considering proposals for this funding must show how their proposed services or activities fill needs cited below:

Overall Needs:

- After-school and weekend recreational and psychoeducational programming for underserved communities ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Anti-stigma activities for seeking treatment that are culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11,20)
- Art and music therapy outlets and groups ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Clinicians with Eye Movement Destabilization and Reprocessing and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy certifications that accept Medicaid ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Community-based mentoring programs ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Community-based social skills programming ^(14,15)
- Culturally specific mental health programming for underserved communities, including but not limited to Hispanic, Portuguese, and Chinese communities ^(3,14,15)
- Domestic violence ^(3,4)
- Interpretation and translator services that can be utilized when a family is connected to a service but cannot access it due to language barriers ^(14, 15)
- Mindfulness programming across new and existing services ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Online communities, not limited to social media, that promote healthy conversations about mental health ^(10,14)
- Outpatient Services accepting Medicaid (counseling, intensive outpatient, partial hospitalization program, groups, medication management) ^(1,3,15)
- Peer support programs for those w/ mental health needs and to reinforce academics ^(7,10)
- Prevention education with young children ⁽¹¹⁾
- Programming that addresses bullying and bullying prevention ⁽¹⁴⁾



- Programs that integrate and normalize social-emotional learning and mental health self-care through all activities such as sports and clubs. ⁽¹⁰⁾
- Self-care for youth and families ⁽⁸⁾
- Social Skills programming for youth 18-21 including making and maintaining friends, socially appropriate interactions, how to initiate and maintain a conversation ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Suicide prevention including gun safety prevention and improved risk assessment ^(1,7, 10, 11, 20)
- Summer programming ⁽¹⁾
- Transportation to and from vocational, recreational, and therapeutic activities ^(14,22)
- Top 10 geographical areas based on enrolled at MonmouthCares: Freehold, Howell, Long Branch, Keansburg, Neptune, Red Bank, Asbury Park, Manalapan, Hazlet, Ocean ⁽¹⁹⁾
- Transition to adulthood including youth housing, employment, and training opportunities ^(3,9,11,15)
- Transportation to services (specifically western and southern areas where services lack) ^(1,3,9,11,15)
- Youth resiliency ⁽⁷⁾

Academic related needs:

- Job readiness and technology classes ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Life skills programming including how to prepare for transition to higher education ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Mental health training for teachers and other school support staff ⁽¹⁸⁾
- Programming for time management, and how to maintain balance with school requirements and life ⁽¹⁶⁾
- Reading support and tutoring programs ⁽¹⁴⁾
- School avoidance and truancy ⁽⁹⁾
- Social isolation due to physically not being in school and social distancing ^(1,7,10)

Caregiver related needs:

- Affordable childcare ⁽²⁰⁾
- Affordable programs before/after school and in the evenings ^(1,3,7,11)
- Community education on ACES and the impact on substance use and mental health ^(5,9)
- Parent education and support groups regarding services and treatment available ^(11,14)
- Prevention programs that teach parenting skills that promote peaceful alternatives to conflict resolutions ^(3,9)
- Stigma for seeking treatment, substance use/mental health/culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11)

Intellectual and Developmental Disability related needs:

- After school and weekend programming for the I/DD population ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Evaluations for autism available in languages other than English ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Respite programming for caregivers ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Services for intellectual/developmentally disabled youth, especially in languages other than English. ^(1,3,14)
- Social skills groups ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Direct care support. ⁽²²⁾
- Services to address severe challenging behavior involving self-injurious, aggressive and/or destructive behavior. ⁽²²⁾

Substance use related needs:

- Alcohol, marijuana, heroin, tobacco and electronic nicotine delivery devices, prescription medication all identified as priorities for prevention, education, and treatment ^(6,7,9)
- Anti-stigma resources for substance use that are culturally competent ^(2,3,5,11)
- Increased screening and substance use education among youth and adolescents ^(2,14)
- In-patient substance use services that accept Medicaid ⁽³⁾
- Parental education on substance use disorders, warning signs, treatment and support for those in recovery ^(5,6)
- Alcohol remains the substance most widely used by seventh and eighth grade students in NJ in their lifetime, followed by e-cigarettes and marijuana (16.5%, 9.6%, and 3.2%, respectively). ⁽²¹⁾
- 1 in 10 students have used e-cigarettes in their lifetime (9.6%) and 3.4% of students specifically used ecigarettes with marijuana. ⁽²¹⁾

Juvenile justice related needs:

- Delinquency prevention programs specifically in Asbury Park, Neptune Twp, Ocean Township, Long Branch, Eatontown, Freehold Township, Howell Twp, Middletown Twp, Holmdel Township, Wall Township ⁽⁹⁾
- Programming and resources for gang prevention and escape ^(1,11)

LGBTQ related needs:

- Identity affirming spaces and services for transgender and LGBTQ+ youth, who have particularly high rates of suicide and self-harm ^(10,17)
- Nonbinary students consistently reported higher risk than other gender groups for issues related to their community, school, family, and peer and individual ⁽²¹⁾

Physical wellness related needs:

- Dentistry services for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Eating disorders have seen a significant rise since the beginning of the pandemic ^(13,14)
- Groups, IOPs, and intensive programs for eating disorders ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Health services for undocumented youth 18-21 ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Medicaid funded specialty services such as Gastrointestinal, Endocrinology, and other related services ⁽¹⁴⁾
- Nutritionists/dietitians and other nutrition education services that have bi-lingual staff and the capacity to render culturally competent services for various populations ⁽¹⁴⁾

All applicants must demonstrate the ability to manage the finances and implement the services/supports proposed in their application. Applicants must agree to submit comprehensive reports as dictated by the Children's System of Care in the fiscal year the funding is year applied for.

- Program performance reports including level of service, outcomes, and quantifiable deliverables.
- Expenditure Reports that include detailed submission of all documents that substantiate funding use (receipts, time logs, invoices, mileage, etc.)



MonmouthCares will be hosting two public Grant Overview and Q&A sessions where interested parties will be able to ask questions and receive information regarding the scope, implementation, and requirements of the grant. Attendance is not required but is strongly encouraged:

- **Nov 15, 2023, 5:00 PM Eastern Time**
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85044560345?pwd=ODBSZlVTZzlQOWMzdnEzeGJTS1AxQT09>
 - Meeting ID: 850 4456 0345
 - Passcode: CSOC
- **Nov 16, 2023, 3:00 PM Eastern Time**
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89886826032?pwd=anpmWkVOMjVzbVlMOU4xMW1VWm1WUT09>
 - Meeting ID: 898 8682 6032
 - Passcode: CSOC

All applications will be reviewed and scored via a panel consisting of the MonmouthCares' Director of Community Relations and Resource Development, MonmouthCares' Executive Director, MonmouthCares' Board Members, local Children's System of Care Partners, and executive team members of the Monmouth County Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC). Final approval of selected projects is required by the NJ Children's System of Care.

- **All proposals are due 12:00pm, Friday, January 5th, 2024, and must be submitted electronically to cmajczan@monmouthcares.org.**
- **Late proposals & incomplete proposals will not be accepted.**
- **MonmouthCares anticipates hearing final approval from Children's System of Care on May 1st, 2024.**
- **The anticipated implementation date for awarded proposals is July 1st, 2024.**
- **All awards are contingent on the sufficiency and availability of state funding.**

Please see the attached application and direct any questions you may have to my attention.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chad Majczan".

Chad Majczan
Director of Community Relations and Resource Development
MonmouthCares, Inc.
732-222-8008 ext. 159
cmajczan@monmouthcares.org



Data Sources:

1. Human Service Needs Assessment for Monmouth County, New Jersey: A Call to Action
2. Monmouth County SUN Needs Assessment
3. Department of Children and Families Monmouth County Needs Assessment
4. Monmouth County: A Profile of Family and Community Indicators
5. Monmouth County Overdose Fatality Review Team
6. Monmouth County Comprehensive Plan for Organization and Delivery of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services
7. Monmouth County Positive Youth Development HUB School Feedback survey
8. March 2021 Monmouth County Pandemic Potential Convening Action Plans
9. 2021-2023 – Monmouth County Youth Services Plan
10. Young Peoples Mental Health Report 2020 by Mental Health America
11. Monmouth County Partnership for Success Grant
12. <https://nj1015.com/demand-for-nj-domestic-violence-services-has-skyrocketed-during-pandemic/>
13. https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/pandemic-created-perfect-storm-eating-disorders-teens-n1268331?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=news_tab&utm_content=algorithm
14. MonmouthCares Care Management Needs Survey
15. 2022 Monmouth County Children’s Interagency Coordination Council Gaps & Barriers survey
16. 2021 Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide, Youth Conference Poll
17. 2021 The Trevor Project National Survey Results
18. HopefulFutures.us: America’s School Mental Health Report Card February 2022
19. MonmouthCares’ CYBER Data Extract, October 2023
20. DCF Youth Suicide Brief 2017 to 2019
21. New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factors Survey 2021 Statewide Report
22. 2022 NJ Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual of Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

2024-2025 MonmouthCares Community Resource Development Funds Application

Legal Name of Organization:

Date of Request:

Mailing Address:

Contact for this Proposal:

Telephone:

E-Mail:

NARRATIVE *(Please use additional sheets of paper to respond to the following questions and number each page in the submitted proposal packet):*

- State your organization's mission and provide a brief history of your organization including incorporation, tax status, and experience with the proposed project.
 - Provide information regarding Medicaid provider status.
 - Disclose any other funding your organization receives from the NJ Department of Children and Families.
 - Disclose if you have received Community Resource Development funding from a Care Management Organization in the past.

- Describe in detail an explanation/rationale/justification for the proposed activity or service need, referencing the identified areas of need in this request for proposals.

- Describe how your organization proposes to meet this need:
 - Describe the target group of children/youth to be served: needs, ages, number to be served (if relevant).
 - Describe relevant details such as effective period or term of service or activity the funding is being applied for, hours of operation, staff qualifications, location, etc.
 - Describe the actual activities/services. Explain how this proposal addresses the goal as explained in the request for proposals Background and Rationale statement.
 - Include the anticipated quantifiable deliverables, level of service, and outcomes.
 - The deliverables are the specific services that will be provided to the youth and families. The level of service should define who and how many will receive the service, and the frequency and length of service. The outcomes should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely and should demonstrate the impact and benefit of the service to youth and families.

- Documentation of a quality assurance effort and outcomes monitoring plan.
 - This should include what monitoring process will be used to ensure consistent high quality service provision, and what tools will be used to show a measure of improvement or benefit to the individuals served. Tools may include satisfaction surveys; attendance counts or other specific tools.

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- State amount being applied for out of the total \$67,697.70 available.
 - Disclose if you are applying for Community Resource Development grants through any other county's Care Management Organization.
 - Disclose if the program you are applying for has any other funding sources.
 - Project should outline how it is not able to be funded through traditional means such as Medicaid or private insurance.

- Explain how services/supports proposed can achieve and maintain sustainability after the grant period is over (July 1st, 2024 - June 30th, 2025).
 - Bidders must demonstrate a reasonable plan that outlines relevant strategies to pursue funding after the grant period, and that includes leveraging existing community capacity.
 - Agency history and proven fund-raising ability and donation procurement are acceptable proof of sustainability when combined with a current plan.
 - Strong affiliations with larger well established community resources can be provided as a source of sustainability strategies.

- Assurance of equitable access of the services/supports to the identified population.
 - Explain the referral process. This process should ensure equitable access to services or support for the youth and families that are eligible to receive them and the access process should be free from any form of discrimination.
 - Demonstration of how the newly funded service will be announced to the community should be included.
 - All purchased items must be equitable accessible to all participants and relevant to the program content (i.e., gift cards, personal bills, electronics, etc.)
 - Families cannot incur any cost or fees when receiving Community Resource Development funded services.

- Affirmation that periodic fiscal and program reports will be supplied to demonstrate compliance with the proposed services and/or supports.

- Provide any additional information about your organization, program or experience which will be helpful in the selection process.

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PROJECT BUDGET

Submit a detailed line-item budget, describing each item and the total cost, indicating funding that is directly going to youth services, as well as the amount you are requesting from MonmouthCares. The budget must be detailed and include a breakdown of total cost displaying units and/or hours that make up each line. Include a brief justification for the amounts you have included. Funds are to support new or existing activities or services through collaboration with community partners and are not intended to purchase services for specific individuals or families. Applicants can apply for the full \$67,697.70 or a lesser amount.

- Funds are not intended to purchase items for specific individuals or families.
- Initiation of services cannot be dependent on procurement of unsecured funding and/or partnerships not yet established.
- Funds cannot be used to pay for services currently being funded by government or other sources.
- Administrative costs are allowable – but must be reasonable and outlined in detail within the budget.
- Operations of the program cannot be directly funded by the work and contributions of participating youth and families it serves – without appropriate compensation for hours worked.
- Services provided directly through CRD funds cannot be billed through Medicaid or other established funding sources such as private insurance causing payment duplication.

The following must be included with this application:

- List of Board Members
- Set of recent financial statements (at least six months)

Note: There may be further information required before a cooperative agreement can be executed.

Providers should expect to hear back regarding the status of their proposal no earlier than May 1st, 2024.

The implementation date for awarded proposals is July 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2025.

All awards are contingent on the sufficiency and availability of state funding.

No late proposals will be accepted.

Completed proposals are due:

Submit proposals to:

12:00pm Friday, January 5th, 2024.

Chad Majczan

Community Relations and Resource Development

732-757-5503

cmajczan@monmouthcares.org

MonmouthCares' Review Panel Score Sheet

Reviewed By: _____ Agency Reviewed: _____

Narrative Section	Points	Comments
<p>Description of Agency and History of Service to Youth and Families - 15 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the agency well equipped and experienced providing services to youth and families who are experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs? • Is the agency duly prepared to operate the service or program element for which funding is applied? 		
<p>Needs Statement - 20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the needs of the community that this proposal aims to address well-articulated and based on reliable sources of information and data? • Do the needs cited in the proposal coincide with the criteria for usage of funds targeted to agencies serving youth and families experiencing serious emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs? • Does the needs address development of new services where service expansion is necessary because services cannot be secured through an existing agency; or, service availability is non-existent? • Do the needs cited in the proposal coincide with service need priorities identified by local planning bodies? • Understanding of referral needs for all NJ Children's System of Care Partners? • General and specific knowledge of cultural competencies necessary to be successful in Monmouth County. 		

<p>Description of Service(s) or Program Element to be Funded - 20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the description of the service(s) or program element well-articulated, reasonably attainable and based on best practice models? • Is the service(s) described relevant to the statement of need? • Is there a clear plan on how to implement and start/expand the program? • Is there a description of the organization’s background, qualifications, and justification to provide work as part of this proposal. • Include an agreement to serve Medicaid-eligible youth and their families; all eligible NJ Children’s System of Care youth (No eject - No reject)? • Include effective period or term of the service or activity? • Assurance of equitable access of the services/supports to the identified population? 		
<p>Anticipated Outcomes - 15 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the anticipated outcomes quantifiable deliverables, level of service, and/or outcomes realistic, measurable, observable, and verifiable? • Are the outcomes relevant to the need(s) that the program aims to address and the services to be provided? • Does the project demonstrate sustainability after initial funding? 		
<p>Evaluation Methods - 10 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal describe how services will be evaluated, including how case activity will be monitored and accountability will be assured? • Is there adequate description of administration and programmatic and fiscal oversight of the program or service? 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the proposal acknowledge the obligation to provide reports of activity to MonmouthCares, Inc.? • Evaluation of practice or program adherence/fidelity/effectiveness and participation in ongoing outcomes research, if applicable, to the practice or program proposed. • Documentation of a quality assurance effort and outcomes monitoring plan • Affirmation of required periodic fiscal and or program reports to demonstrate compliance with the bid requirements 		
<p>Budget - 20 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a complete and clear budget included? • Is the budget reasonable based on established rates for services and the amount of funds available? • Does the budget account for all staff, supplies, and services included in the description of service(s) or program element to be funded (either through fund request or match by other funding source)? • Are other funding sources cited viable to be applied as a match to community resource development funds? • Is the service for which funding is requested clearly a new service/program element or expansion of services/programs not otherwise funded by another source? • Does the proposal require any fiscal contribution by participating families (not allowable)? 		

Review Panel Signature: _____ Date: _____