

The Iowa Innovation in Homelessness Incubator calls for forward-thinking proposals aimed at addressing homelessness prevention and/or response.

We seek innovative ideas that aspire to create a state where homelessness is rare, brief and nonrecurring and support is readily available to those in need. The goal is to redefine the landscape of homelessness prevention and response systems and rethink how assistance for persons experiencing homelessness in Iowa is delivered.

This initiative challenges Iowa housing and community leaders to think innovatively about how we can implement new approaches to alleviate homelessness. Whether it involves developing essential resources, introducing innovative tools, enhancing services, fostering essential partnerships, or streamlining processes, we're in search of solutions that transcend traditional funding mechanisms and programs.

The winning pitch will receive funding of **up to \$100,000** to transform their concept into a pilot initiative, laying the groundwork for long-term impact, potential expansion, and measurable, life-saving outcomes.

The source of funding for the award will be from state funds not subject to traditional federal program requirements, providing greater flexibility to innovate around homelessness prevention and response.

#### **APPLICATION TIMELINE**

- **August 2:** Application deadline at 5:00 p.m. CT
- **August 9:** Finalists notified
- **September 5:** Finalists make their pitches at the HousingIowa Conference in Des Moines

## GUIDELINES

- Proposals must be led and submitted by a State of Iowa nonprofit service provider, certified Local Housing Trust Fund, City or County or by a statewide association. One or more nonprofit agencies that provides services related to homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, and/or permanent supportive housing to persons experiencing homelessness in Iowa must be a key partner in the proposal if not the lead applicant.
- Proposals must be strategically aimed at alleviating homelessness with housing as the focus and have the potential to enact significant, broad-scale change (funding requests specific to financing the general operations of individual agencies are ineligible).
- Entrants are encouraged to consider person-centered responses to homelessness and include input from persons with lived experience.
- Proposals must have the potential to be replicated or expanded across the state.
- Proposal content and format is at the discretion of entrants and should be centered on innovation and supported by evidence-based practices.
- Partnerships are highly encouraged but not required.
- Proposals must be emailed to [ifafyi@iowafinance.com](mailto:ifafyi@iowafinance.com) and receive a confirmation email.
- Finalists will be determined by IFA and will be invited to make their pitch to a panel of expert judges at the HousingIowa Conference in Des Moines on Thursday, September 5.
- Entrants are not guaranteed an opportunity to pitch or funding and must sign an [acknowledgement form](#) prior to submission of proposal.

