



HOUSE EVERYONE STL

WINTER FLEX FUNDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Issued by: House Everyone STL (HESTL)

Date Issued: November 18, 2025

BACKGROUND

Organization Overview:

House Everyone STL is a 501(c)(3) agency created to provide a data-driven approach to serving our region's unhoused through a coordinated, cohesive and collaborative system guiding people into homes with the supportive services needed for success.

Project Goals

House Everyone STL (HESTL) is pleased to announce the availability of flexible funds to support Emergency Winter Outreach, particularly focusing on the operation of pop-up and emergency shelters. These funds have been raised through private donations and are intended to enhance our community's response to the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness during the colder months.

These funds can be requested by any registered 501(c)(3) organizations or qualified community groups who have demonstrated experience in providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness, particularly in the winter shelter operations in St. Louis City and surrounding areas. The funds are designed to bring people inside during times of the winter outreach, November 2025 through April 2026.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

1. **Non-profit Status:** Applicants must be registered 501(c)(3) organizations or demonstrate a fiscal sponsorship arrangement with a registered non-profit entity.
2. **Experience:** Demonstrated experience in providing services to individuals experiencing homelessness, particularly in shelter operations.
3. **Geographic Focus:** Services must be provided within the Greater St. Louis area, which includes St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County, Jefferson County, Franklin County in Missouri, and Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois.
4. **Preference:** Will be given to those who are able to work with HMIS and/or provide ongoing project data throughout the course of the season.

PROJECT DETAILS

Description

HESTL aims to allocate funds to organizations and initiatives that can effectively and compassionately support individuals experiencing homelessness. The primary focus of this funding opportunity is to:

1. Support the Emergency Winter Outreach and the operation of Pop-Up Shelters and Community Outreach:

- Staffing costs (salaries, stipends, etc.)
- Food and nutrition services for shelter clients
- Training for shelter staff and volunteers
- Outreach and transportation supplies
- Medical and clothing supplies
- Warming supplies
- Maintenance, utilities and operating expenses for shelter facilities
- Additional needs as identified by applicants that align with HESTL's mission

2. Hotel/motel vouchers to help individuals and families identify immediate, safe housing alternatives where needed as well as transportation and/or gas cards where needed to reach shelter.

Scope and Budget

Award Range: Grants will be awarded in the range of \$1,000 to \$15,000.

Funding Period: The funding period will cover operations and emergency preparedness from November 2025 to April 2026.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals should include the following components:

1. Organizational Information:

- Organization name, contact information, and mission statement
- Proof of registered 501(c)(3) status

2. Project Description:

- Description of the proposed winter support activities
- Detailed budget using HESTL budget template, including a breakdown of requested funds
- Staffing plan, including roles and responsibilities
- Plan for training staff and volunteers
- Expected number of individuals served

3. Timeline:

- Detailed project timeline, including dates of operation, days of the week, and hours open

4. Partnerships:

- Description of partnerships or collaborations with other organizations if applicable

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

Please submit your proposal electronically to Melissa.Johnson@HouseEveryoneSTL.org at by December 9th, 2025.

Please include the following in your proposal:

- ☐ Application/Project Narrative Worksheet
- ☐ Agency Budget/Project Line-Item Budget (use HESTL Budget Template Worksheet)
- ☐ Copy of Agency's Federal Tax Exemption Letter – 501(c) 3 (if applicable)

REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of HESTL board members, staff members, and community representatives on December 9th. Funding decisions will be based on the strength of the proposal, alignment with HESTL's mission, and the potential impact of the project. Funding decisions will be made

We look forward to receiving your proposals that support innovative and compassionate solutions to meet the needs of our community this winter.



For more information about this project, reach out to

Melissa Johnson

House Everyone STL

Operations and Community Engagement Coordinator

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