

SHERIDAN COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR ONE CENT OPTIONAL SALES & USE TAX FUNDS

FISCAL YEARS 2020 TO 2023
(July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Volunteers of America Northern Rockies **PHONE:** 307-672-0475

CONTACT PERSON: Susie Arnold **MAILING ADDRESS:** 1876 S. Sheridan Ave. Sheridan, WY 82801

EMAIL ADDRESS: sarnold@voanr.org

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$50,000 (Total amount of the 4-year period)

TAX STATUS: Exempt

DESCRIBE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION OR MISSION STATEMENT:

Providing Human Service programs that are guided by professional staff and committed volunteers who create strong families and thriving communities through holistic programs that lend a hand up, not a hand out.

NO OF BOARD MEMBERS: 16

NAMES OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Barbara Skelton, *Chair* Mr. Del Acker, *Vice Chair*
Mr. John Muecke, *Treasurer*
Mr. Bill Sousa, *Secretary*
Mr. Jeffery Holsinger, *President & CEO*,
Mr. Paul R. Del Rossi, Mr. Mark Gordon, Mr. Myles Kennedy
Mr. Gabe Lapito, Mr. Jim Nelson, Ms. Sue Osborn, Mr. Ric Paul,
Mr. Karl J. Rude, Mrs. Mary Underriner, Ms. Helen Warpness, Mr. Charles Whiton

PROVIDE A BRIEFLY HISTORY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION IN SHERIDAN COUNTY, INCLUDING ANY SERVICES PROVIDED TO AREA RESIDENTS:

Volunteers of America Northern Rockies (VOA) is a 501 C (3) non-profit organization established in 1985. Our mission: "To compassionately serve and strengthen individuals by empowering them to build healthy and happy lives."

Volunteers of America Northern Rockies (VOA) is an independent and autonomous affiliate of Volunteers of America, Inc. Established locally in 1985, VOA provides a range of supportive and empowering services to the area's most vulnerable populations, working with them to rebuild whole lives and reach their full potential. Our organization focuses on bringing higher levels of care and safety to communities through safe, nurturing environments. In our programs, men, women and youth can learn new skills essential for responsible, independent living and healthy families can be developed and become self-sustaining. This organizational philosophy of guidance and accountability, is the foundation of our programs, making them successful and enduring. Volunteers of America provides programs for individuals and families in need

across a three-state region. In Wyoming, and particularly Sheridan County, VOA offers homeless outreach services, Veterans services, residential substance abuse treatment, youth-at-risk programs and senior affordable housing.

BRIEFLY LIST PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR REQUESTED FUNDS: *(Indicate if the funds are to be used for an operational subsidy or for one-time expenditures such as a project or equipment acquisition or capital improvements; indicate whether other sources are available and been applied for; indicate if you have requested 1% funding from the City of Sheridan and/or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont)*

Through services provided by the Homeless Outreach Program, Volunteers of America (VOA) will be addressing the needs of Sheridan's literally homeless people and those at risk of homelessness. The Homeless Outreach Programs utilization of best practices in case management and rapid re-housing for those accessing this program helps facilitate each respective individual's goals of economic stability, self-sufficiency and overall wellness. This program coincides with the county's goals of supporting the health and well-being of members of the community and assuring safety for the residents of the city of Sheridan and surrounding areas of Sheridan County.

Funds awarded will be utilized as an operational subsidy to provide the following services. Funds will help support expenses for two full time service coordinators for program operation seven (7) days a week, 8am-5pm. Service coordinators will implement best practices in case management and rapid rehousing with an overall objective to help those that are not housed, find housing, and help those that are housed and on the verge of homelessness, maintain their housing. Best practices will require significant community outreach and the development and fostering of impactful community relationships. Through the service coordinators intensive community outreach, community partnerships and strategic engagement techniques for locating individuals that are homeless or on the verge of homelessness, individuals will be enrolled, and support services will be initiated. This includes a comprehensive assessment of each individual enrolled followed by intensive case management. This includes access to program provided services such as, but not limited to, financial assistance for rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, apposite emergency shelter, referrals services to appropriate community partners and other necessary services such as transportation, food and clothing.

Other sources of funding VOA Homeless Outreach program has applied for include the Emergency Solutions Grant, Community Service Block Grant, and One Cent Optional Sales and Use Tax funding from both the City and County of Sheridan, Watt Foundation, and Stanley Smith Foundation. Donations from private donors have been solicited as well as hosting a community fund raiser, "The Empty Bowl". The County funding is critical to the daily operations budget of the Homeless Outreach Program.

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANIZATION GOALS AND ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF PERSON YOU SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY:

1. Provide homeless and homeless prevention services for 300 individuals each year in Sheridan County. This includes youth, adults and families.
2. Implementation and provision of best practices in case management and rapid rehousing as appropriate for individuals enrolled within the program.
3. Establish and maintain impactful community partnerships pertinent for referral services specific to the potential needs of the individuals accessing this program.

Complete this section if your agency has previously been awarded One Cent Funding for the period of July 2015 through March 2018:

Amount Awarded: \$44,000

Have all the funds been expended: yes

Did you receive 1% Optional Tax Funds from the City of Sheridan or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont. If so what amount was awarded: \$4,444.

Briefly describe the impact that the previous award has had on your program, project or organizational operations. Some discussion items to cover in this section may include:

In July 2015, the One Cent award to VOA was to assist in providing funding for the Sheridan Community Shelter. Due to the challenges of insufficient funding sources, VOA had to transition from a residential homeless program, the Sheridan Community Shelter, to a best practice non-residential service-based program model for the remainder of the funding cycle, the Homeless Outreach Program. VOA staff are dedicated to finding solutions that assist homeless and potentially homeless individuals through homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, emergency shelter, transportation assistance, and food and clothing as needed.

In calendar year 2016, the Sheridan Community Shelter served 344 individuals, provided 12,339 meals and 8,124 nights of safe sleep to the homeless. In FY 2017, a total of 346 people, 101 women and 245 men, were served at the Sheridan Community Shelter. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of individuals who were served at the Sheridan Community Shelter in FY 2017 were white, followed by 11% Native American. Many of the Veterans entering that program, 32% of total, were served through other VOA programs, such as Supportive Services for Veterans Families. Fifty percent (50%) of homeless persons served at the Shelter in FY 2017 were stably housed upon discharge. Another 18% moved to another appropriate residential setting, such as Veteran housing, or healthcare treatment programs. Overall, 64% of Community Shelter clients were discharged successfully to stable housing, employment, or other programs appropriate for their needs. The support provided by Sheridan County One-Cent Funding and other diverse community giving provided these homeless families and individuals with shelter, safety, food, a path to stability, access to employment and permanent housing.

In the six-month period since inception of the Homeless Outreach Program on October 1, 2017, 170 households (270 persons total) have been assisted by homeless outreach services. Of these 170 households, 63 have avoided eviction, 30 have been rapidly rehoused, 64 have been provided emergency shelter and 44 have received other emergency services such as transportation, clothing and food assistance. Of the 270 persons served, 149 have been women and 131 have been men. This also included 72 youth under 18 years of age who may have accompanied their families or were referred to VOA homeless youth services (Milestone Youth Home or Independent Living). The people served by homeless outreach services are at the low to no income level.

County One Cent funding has been fully utilized and allowed VOA to provide adequate resources to keep individuals from becoming homeless, and housing for those that are homeless. In addition to direct client assistance, salaries for staff who actively work to build solutions for homeless individuals and families is an essential program cost and community investment. This program reduces the homeless populations utilization of emergent healthcare services, law enforcement services and other tax supported resources that are remedied through quick response provided by the Homeless Outreach Program staff.

- *Number of persons served, and demographics of persons served (income level, age, race, etc.)*
- *Describe the overall impact of these funds on your program, project or organization*
- *If your agency has not yet to spent all the awarded funds, please briefly describe your plans to expend the funds by the end of the fiscal year*
- *Did your agency use One Cent funding to leverage additional funds, either through grants or other means?*

SIGNED: _____

Title:

Chief Executive Officer

Date:

4/27/2018

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

1. VISIT <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SC1CentNonProfit> TO UPLOAD INFORMATION AND PHOTOS REGARDING YOUR ORGANIZATION.
2. PROVIDE A SUMMARY COPY OF YOUR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.
3. PROVIDE A SUMMARY COPY OF YOUR CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT.
4. PROVIDE PAGE 1 OF YOUR MOST RECENT 990 (IF APPLICABLE)