

#### Frequently Asked Questions State Fiscal Year 2026 Live Well at Home Request for Proposal

Q1. Will slides be available after the meeting?

Answer: Yes, the PowerPoint PDF is available on our webpage. <u>apply / Minnesota</u> <u>Department of Human Services (mn.gov)</u>.

### Q2. Is this opportunity only available to organizations, or can individuals apply as well?

Answer: Grants are only available to non-profits, for-profits, governmental units, and Tribal Nations.

#### Q3. When is the next funding cycle?

Answer: The next funding cycle is State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026. Grant applications can be written for 6 to 24 months.

### Q4. Is there a reason for the \* at the end of the Age Friendly Domain of Optimized Health and Longevity?

Answer: It is to notate the name of the Age Friendly Domain had changed from Optimized Health for the Lifespan to Optimized Health and Longevity.

### **Q5.** How will the different categories be prioritized? Will Adult Day Care activities be competitive this round?

Answer: Yes, Adult Day is competitive.

Special focus areas are listed within the Live Well at Home application. <u>apply /</u> <u>Minnesota Department of Human Services (mn.gov)</u>. Please refer to <u>page 13 of the RFP</u> for more information.

### Q6. If our organization doesn't yet have an audit completed, when will it have to be completed to apply for this opportunity?

No, an audit is not required to submit an application. If selected for contract negotiations, it will be discussed further at that time.

#### Q7. Can we use Title III Funding as a match?

Answer: Yes, Older Americans Act Title III funding can be used as match.

#### Q8. Are these just State (of Minnesota) funds, not linked to federal?

Answer: Live Well at Home is legislatively funded by the State.

#### Q9. Can we use all in-kind for match? What is the current in-kind rate?

Answer: No, match may not be all in-kind. A combination of allowable match is required. Please refer to the <u>RFP, page 21</u>.

Volunteer time is the estimated dollar value if the organization had to hire an individual to complete the task. If dollar value is unknown, use <u>independentsector.org</u> as reference.

### Q10. Is it possible to apply for both a grant as a single entity and also as a partnership with another nonprofit org?

Answer: Grants are available to non-profits, for-profits, governmental units, and Tribal Nations. Multiple applications may be submitted if the proposals are separate and distinct.

#### Q11. Do attestations require a wet signature?

Answer: DHS requires DocuSign electronic signatures or scanned wet signatures for the required statements.

#### Q12. Are there 2 years contract awards available?

Answer: The term of any resulting contract is anticipated to be for six to twenty-four months (6 to 24 months), from July 1, 2025 until June 30, 2027.

#### Q13. How much per hour for volunteers?

Answer: Volunteer time is the estimated dollar value if the organization had to hire an individual to complete the task. If dollar value is unknown, use <u>independentsector.org</u> as reference.

#### Q14. Is this grant available yearly?

Answer: The Live Well at Home grant is dependent on the approved funding from the Minnesota State legislature.

### Q15. If you use (Older Americans Act) Title 3 (III) federal monies for match would you be required to limit DEI (Diversity/Equity/Inclusion) activities?

Answer: No.

# Q16. We will be applying under Core Services and we're a LAHPNP but our organizations budget is over \$175,000? This is a question from a long-time grant recipient.

Answer: Organizations funded under core home and community-based services typically have operating budgets of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000) or less annually and serve a geographically limited area. The responder is also eligible to compete under the other categories of Live Well at Home.

# Q17. I did not understand response to volunteer hours question? Can we use volunteer hours, if they have been volunteering since the organization began?

Answer: Volunteer hours used for match must have been served in the previous year.

#### Q18. Does each grant require a match?

Answer: Yes, each grant requires match. Please refer to the Match section of the <u>RFP</u> on page 21.

#### Q19. Are these grants for businesses that have already started?

Answer: Yes, and registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State.

### **Q20.** Are these grants for developing housing or are they just for operating organizations?

Answer: Yes, under the Capitol and Renovation funding category, the funds can be used for housing. Refer to <u>page 4 of the RFP</u> for more information.

### Q21. If we receive an allocation from a County for 2025, may we use that as matching funds?

Answer: This will depend on the source of funding and can be discussed if selected for contract negotiations.

### Q22. May we use funds from a DHS GEAR grant for match? Or no because GEAR is connected to the State of MN?

Answer: No, as GEAR (Grants, Equity, Access and Research Division) is funded through the State of Minnesota legislature.

### Q23. Will there be special appropriation funds this year? (Yes, expansion funds)

Answer: No, currently we are not aware of any special funds available.

#### Q24. So the max award is \$350,000? (In LWAH, \$350,000 per year)

Answer: Yes, it is three hundred fifty thousand (\$350,000) per year of the application.

### Q25. I am new to the grant application and not sure how to proceed with this application and what are the requirements for submitting the application.

Answer: Responders must submit an online Proposal through the Live Well at Home Grants Application service web page located at:

<u>https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=mndepthumanservices.</u> An additional resource for how to apply can be found in the Responder's' Conference Overview PDF located on our <u>web page</u>.

The online Proposal application must be received by 4:00 p.m. Central Time on April 4, 2025, to be considered.

### Q26. Can you tell us if a van would qualify under the Live Well at Home grant criteria?

Answer: A small, accessible, five/six passenger vehicle is allowable. Please refer to 2.1.A of the Live Well at Home RFP, starting on page 4 for more information.

#### Q27. For my business I will need to purchase two used handicap accessible vans and I am hoping to attempt to receive grant funding to help with employee costs/wages along with other costs that will occur as I am in the first year of the start up. When I am completing the grant information on the portal do I select a Capital and Renovation grant or a LTSS grant request based on my business and needs?

Answer: Only one category per application may be selected. An organization can submit more than one application if the applications are two distinct proposals. Each proposal is evaluated individually.

Q28. Are all of the possible grants required a financial match of 50% match? If so, could I have some guidance on this please? Does that mean I could get a loan for my 50% requested for example for my vans? Can you explain to me how volunteer hours go toward part of my 50% and what is the ratio of a volunteer hour versus \$? Is there a guide on what can be used for the match? If I get organizations to donate any funds can I use that as part of my 50% match? Answer: All Live Well at Home grants require match. Specific match requirements, including allowable match, can be found on <u>page 21 of the RFP</u> as well as in the <u>Instructions tab of the Budget Template</u>.

Volunteer time and organization donations are allowable match.

Please contact your local ElderCare Development Partnership for more guidance regarding your Live Well at Home grant application. <u>ElderCare Development contacts /</u><u>Minnesota Department of Human Services</u>

# Q29. If I am selected to receive grant funding can I go live with my business prior to July 1st 2025 or do I need to wait until the grantee anticipated start date?

Answer: A business must be active and in good standing with the Secretary of State at the time of application. Expenses accrued prior to the start of a contract will not be reimbursed.

# Q30. For marketing, can I create my website, social media platforms and logos now or does this have to wait until I would know if I am receiving the grant and will there be required information that I will need to place on my marketing material due to receiving the grant if that were the case?

Answer: If selected for contract negotiations, marketing guidelines will be discussed. Expenses accrued prior to the start of a contract will not be reimbursed.

### Q31. I see such a need for mental health support and counseling within the assisted living homes. Does this grant apply to this type of living situation?

Answer: No, not in assisted living facilities.

Q32. The RFP states that the grant is to fund projects that 'maintain home and community-based services' for those over 65. Would community-based services include recreation programs for that age population? Such programs would include fitness, art and cooking classes, etc. where that age group could go to their local recreation center (or perhaps we as Parks and Rec go to the spaces they are at) and provide group opportunities to learn, be active, and to maintain social connectedness. Would this style of service be eligible here?

Answer: Yes, under the Long-Term Service and Supports category.

Q33. We're interested in understanding if there is an opportunity to have our company participate in a project (tentatively titled "Live Well at Home") that would, for example, include services like full blood draw capabilities at home. Could this project be funded under our current framework or grant opportunities?

Answer: All Live Well at Home applicants are able to apply during the applicant period. Documents will be reviewed at Phase I. If Phase I is passed, applicants will have their application reviewed as part of Phase II. For more information on the phases of the RFP, please refer to <u>page 25 of the RFP</u>.

# Q34. If a grant applicant is interested in creating home and community based services for older Minnesotans to live in the community would the applicant need to have their license from DHS in place prior to applying for the grant? Or, would a pending application for licensure be appropriate?

Answer: This will depend upon the service that is being created. If selected for contract negotiations, it will be discussed further at that time.

Q35. This year, the RFP introduces a significant revision to the Capital and Renovation Grants section. Previously, the RFP stated, "For new construction, requirements include," whereas this year, it reads, "For new construction and renovations, requirements include." This change appears to elevate renovation projects to the same standards as new construction, potentially making it more challenging for some renovation proposals to qualify. Could you clarify whether renovation projects that fall slightly short of current new construction minimums (e.g., 350 sq. ft. per resident, kitchenette, etc.) are now ineligible for a renovation grant?

Answer: Renovation projects must meet the requirements as indicated in Category 1 - Capital and Renovation Grants, starting on <u>page 4 of the Live Well at Home RFP</u>.

# Q36. If a van were donated to our organization for weekly shopping trips to a neighboring larger city, would the operating costs- such as insurance and maintenance be eligible to be written into the grant?

Answer: Yes.

### Q37. If we make a mistake in the application process, will we have a chance to make corrections before it is automatically denied?

Answer: The Required Statements will be evaluated on a pass or fail basis. Responders must "pass" each of the requirements identified in section 3.3 "Required Statements and Forms" to move to Phase II. In Phase II, the evaluation team will review the components of each responsive Proposal submitted. Each component will be evaluated on the Responder's understanding and the quality and completeness of the Responder's approach and solution to the problems or issues presented.

For technical assistance with the Live Well at Home grant application, please contact your local ElderCare Development Partnership. <u>ElderCare Development contacts /</u><u>Minnesota Department of Human Services</u>

Q38. We are healthcare professionals in laboratory medicine based here in Minnesota. We are interested in launching a lab service that supports the Live Well at Home initiatives by bringing lab services to residents' homes. This approach aims to cut the costs and risks associated with traveling to doctors' offices for lab work.

Could you please provide us with a point of contact to guide us on the best way to contribute to this program and maximize our contributions?

#### Additionally, if there are any specific guidelines or requirements for the grant application that we should be aware of, we would greatly appreciate your guidance. We are eager to support this initiative and improve access to healthcare for those in need.

Answer: For technical assistance with the Live Well at Home grant application, please contact your local ElderCare Development Partnership. <u>ElderCare Development contacts</u> / <u>Minnesota Department of Human Services</u>

### Q39. My question is I'm providing two services "Adult Day care and HSS. Can I apply for both services as one or separately?

Answer: Only one category per application may be selected. An organization can submit more than one application if the applications are two distinct proposals. Each proposal is evaluated individually.

### Q40. Does a membership to the Network make them eligible for a Live Well at Home grant?

Answer: All Live Well at Home applicants will be able to apply during the applicant period. Documents will be reviewed at Phase I. If Phase I is passed, applicants will have their application reviewed as part of Phase II. For more information on the phases of the RFP, please refer to <u>page 25 of the RFP</u>.

## Q41. If they (the responder) choose to move to Category 2, are they competing on equal footing with the others or is there any special consideration for these LAHN programs?

Answer: No special consideration is given to the Living at Home Network.

### Q42. Can a program that doesn't have their own 501c3 apply for a Live Well at Home grant through their fiscal agent?

Answer: Yes, the fiscal agent would submit the Live Well at Home application.

### Q43. Considering application strength, is it beneficial to have more than one project or focus area?

Answer: Only one category per application may be selected. An organization can submit more than one application if the applications are two distinct proposals. Each proposal is evaluated individually.

The responder may choose all that apply to the special focus area(s) in your proposal. The STATE will review the proposal submission to determine whether or not, in the STATE's sole discretion with assistance of the evaluation team, it provides examples of how the responder meets any of the special focus areas in section 3.2.1. The number of points to be given will depend on sufficient examples of how the project meets the special focus areas. The STATE may award up to fifty (50) points.

### Q44. I would like to confirm whether either 245D waiver providers or PCA providers qualify for this funding opportunity.

Answer: Yes, both are qualified to apply for a Live Well at Home grant.

# Q45. The LTSS from Category 2 is the area of interest for our facilities. Would this verbiage below include assisted living facilities as potential grant recipients? Or, just independent living facilities?

Long-Term Services and Supports Development requests include, but are not limited to, community supports such as:

- chore
- homemaker
- supporting family, friends, and neighbors in caregiving
- respite
- transportation
- chronic disease management

The STATE works in collaboration with partners to fund the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of long-term services and supports. Partners include, but are not limited to, counties, area agencies on aging, nursing facilities, health plans, health care systems, physicians and clinics, older adults, universities/colleges, public and private housing owners, employers, tribes, local social service providers, faith-based organizations, grass-root organizations, and other for- profit and non-profit organizations.

Answer: Yes, as long as the community supports are provided to older adults residing outside the assisting living facility.