

Ministry of Housing

Assistant Deputy Minister's Office

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March 7, 2017

Dear Service Managers and Aboriginal Program Administrators:

On June 30, 2016, the province announced its multi-sector Strategy to End Human Trafficking. The Strategy includes the establishment of two Funds – the Community-Based Support (CBS) Fund and the Indigenous-Led Initiatives (ILI) Fund – with the aim of improving and extending access to supports and community-based services for survivors of human trafficking. Examples of eligible supports and services include housing, mental health and addiction services, emergency funding for travel and accommodation, trauma counselling, job skills and language training for survivors.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) – through the Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Office – will be issuing a Call for Proposals to invite eligible organizations to submit applications for funding under the CBS Fund. The ILI Fund will be dedicated to Indigenous-led and community focused projects and is being designed in collaboration with Indigenous partners.

The Ministry of Housing (MHO) has set aside funding under the 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund – Investment in Affordable Housing (SIF-IAH) program for eligible housing proposals. Given your vital role as housing and homelessness system planners, project proponents would be required to partner with the local Service Manager (or Aboriginal Program Administrators in the case of the ILI Fund) in the development of a “housing initiative” submission.

SIF-IAH funding could be used for the creation of new affordable rental housing, or as operating funding to provide housing allowances and/or rent supplements. In both cases, proposals which include a housing component would need to be consistent with current program requirements under the Rental Housing and Operating components of the 2016 SIF-IAH.

Attached to this letter please find an overview document that is being provided to interested project proponents.

If you have any questions on the Strategy or either of the two Funds, I suggest you contact Abirami Balakrishnan, Senior Policy Advisor in the Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Coordination Office at the Ministry of Community and Social Services. She can be reached at Abirami.Balakrishnan@ontario.ca or by telephone at (416) 318-1998

I encourage you to consider participation in this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Hope', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Janet Hope
Assistant Deputy Minister

Attachments: (1)