

Jefferson County  
2011 Letter of Interest  
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)  
SECTION 1 (Fillable Form/No Points)

The goal of the Community Services Block Grant is to provide financial support for programs that have a measurable and potentially significant impact on the causes and effects of poverty. CSBG funds are limited to assisting individuals/families whose incomes do not exceed 125% of poverty level. The deadline for submission is 3:00 pm Friday, July 9, 2010. **PLEASE PROVIDE 1 HARD COPY AND 1 CD OF ENTIRE SUBMITTAL.**

1. Organization Name: **Mother Mary's Sober Home, Inc. d/b/a Mary's Hope Sober Homes**

Address: **9200 W. Cross Dr., #504, Littleton, CO 80123**

Contact Person for this Letter of Interest: **Mary Brewer**

Phone: **303-830-2064**

E-Mail: **mary@maryshopesoberhomes.com**

2. Mission Statement: *"To provide housing for individuals who wish to develop a life style free of drugs and alcohol. Living in a sober home will enhance each individual life while learning how to handle life's challenges in the safety net of a sober environment. This environment will present opportunities for individuals to be strengthened through peer encouragement, appreciation, structure and friendship. Individuals will be required to participate in a structured, daily living environment working together to foster friendship, responsibility and financial accountability."*

3. The applicant is a:
- |                                               |                          |                           |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Housing Authority         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental Agency  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Governmental Agency |

4. Amount of Funds Requested: **\$87,000.00**

5. Which Jefferson County Goal does this project address?

- |                                                             |                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Fiscally Responsible Government | <input type="checkbox"/> b. Quality Customer Service |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Safe Communities     | <input type="checkbox"/> d. Predictable Growth       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Mobility Options                |                                                      |

6. The focus of 2011 CSBG funds is in meeting National Goal #6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments, specifically within National Indicator 6.2, Emergency Assistance (see National Indicators summary, attached, for further detail). Please briefly describe how your program will provide emergency services and ultimately help move people toward self-sufficiency. **MHSH will provide housing, free food and clothing along with free RTD Bus Passes.**

SECTION 2 (Point Section)

**PLEASE LIMIT THIS SECTION TO 2 PAGES**

(you may use separate sheets of paper for this section)

1. Provide a 250 word abstract describing your project or program. (30 points). Mother Mary's Sober Home, Inc. d/b/a Mary's Hope Sober Homes (MHSB) program will assist Low-Income People in Jefferson County by providing safe residential housing, job training, mediation, and life sustaining resources. MHSB provides an existing location and existing housing in Jefferson County providing needed substance abuse and mental health services; housing; recovery prevention and access to employment resources. MHSB provides a clothing bank for men and women to obtain free clothing, shoes, accessories along with a food bank where they receive free nutritional foods. MHSB also provide RTD bus passes for residents that do not drive. The program works with persons with disabilities primarily serving ages 18 to 70 that would otherwise be homeless.

**MHSB** program allows low-income men and women, fathers and mothers establish a renewed lifestyle where they will be employed within 45 days through job training, meet their child support obligations if any, engage in family therapy to renew and build relations with estranged family member. The project will have tools available to teach and develop parenting skills, life skills, and co-parenting skills through classes, weekly group meeting, orientation meetings, and individual coaching. The outcome; increased self sufficiency for fathers/mothers and their families, measured by increasing financial and emotional support for their children. **MHSB** focus on building strength and hope among lower income, fragile families through the development of practical knowledge and decision-making skills that form and sustain healthy family relationships and nurturing environments for children while providing support in the areas of housing, substance abuse recovery and mental health needs.

2. Describe the problem and provide data/factual evidence and list sources. (20 points). Unfortunately, it is quite easy to demonstrate the need for assistance to low income individuals with disabilities and their families in the state of Colorado. Without assistance and resources, many individuals and their families will not receive shelter, food clothing, mental and medical care which in turn will lead to abuse, neglect, increase in crime rates and will trickle down to the children affecting their education and well being. From 2000 to 2006, Colorado had the highest increase of families and children living in poverty of any state in the U.S. Of the 180,000 children living in poverty in Colorado, 82,000 live in 'extreme poverty'. This is defined as a one-parent, one-child family that has less than a \$7,000 household income. 15.7% of all Colorado children are living below the poverty line. (**Invest in Kids, May 2009**). Although many single parents make heroic efforts to parent their children well, overall, children in single parent households are at greater risk for a number of negative outcomes, such as delinquent behaviors, academic problems, social problems, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, depression and other psychological dysfunction (**Hetherington & Kelly, 2002**). The etiology of negative child outcomes is incredibly complex; however, it is clear that factors related to economic hardship and lack of support for the single parent and children are important predictors (e.g., Hernandez, Beller and Graham, 1995).

Over 80% of noncustodial fathers are present at their child's birth and a large percentage are in a relationship with the mother, yet numbers of these couples who enter into and maintain a committed relationship or marriage are low. Non-custodial fathers who are able to pay all (or at least most) of their child support payments can help reduce the economic strain associated with separation and divorce and, as a result, favorably impact the lives of their children and former spouse (Hernandez, et al., 1995). Families at these crucial periods are the target participants in the MHSB project. One of the objectives is to assist project participants in understanding the importance of parent involvement and support for their child's well-being, and motivating responsible behaviors.

3. *How will your proposal specifically address this problem?* (10 points) MHSB's currently provides services to 47 men and women. This program will expand those services and will be able to provide services to an additional 50 men and women who would otherwise be homeless. MHSB will provide low income men and women a home that is peer supported where they will learn a lifestyle of sobriety. The residents will live under the guidelines for that home including participation in counseling, meetings, chores and life training skills. We will equip men and women to become financially self-sufficient through the job training program. While in the program, MHSB will provide free food and clothing. Residents will be taught how to dress and how to interview for the particular jobs they are qualified for. RTD Bus passes will be provided to the residents until they become financially self-sustaining. MHSB expect that men and women will experience healing through maintaining a sober lifestyle, mental health care, employment and counseling which in turn will provide a new self-worth. Many, for the first time will experience a quality of life they have not previously experienced by living in a clean safe home that fosters friendships and financial accountability. This will bring wholeness to families and to our community. Results from the program will be improved job skills through the job training program which will result in stable

employment. This will aid the Child Support division through now allowing non-custodial parents the ability to support their children. This will also result in economic stability. Stable employment may remove a barrier between parents or will enable non-residential parents to contribute time and financial resources for their child's well being. We expect to see both improved rates of child support payments during the project period and higher rates of child support payments of participants as compared to the county rates.

4. What are the outcomes that will indicate that you are addressing the problem? (10 points) Expected outcomes will be measurable. Intake evaluation on the onset of acceptance into the program will be followed on a weekly basis and documented through each phase of the program. An additional 50 men and women will be provided homes, food and clothing. This extends to their families which in turn encompasses over 150 to 200 men, women and children.

- 50 participants will receive job training
- 50 participants will find employment
- 50 participants will receive RTD bus passes until employed
- 50 participants will receive food shelter and clothing
- 50 participants will receive counseling and mental health care

Participants will be surveyed at the time of discharge from the program and 6 months after discharge to determine the satisfaction and assessment of the program.

5. Describe who and why you targeted the population identified in your proposal; include things such as age, gender, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. (10 points). MHS's have been serving men and women who are leaving rehabilitation or detoxification facilities for four years. The population served contains a high percentage of men and women who are chronically homeless, individuals with a substance use disorder, mental disorder or co-occurring substance use and mental disorder, who have either been continuously homeless for a year or more or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. The population targeted for this program includes a high percentage of homeless, alcohol or drug-dependent persons who have histories of public inebriation, frequent emergency room visits, arrests, mental disorders, or co-occurring substance use disorders and mental disorders. This population is terribly underserved in Colorado as evidenced by the rotating waiting lists of between 35 to 75 individuals. The program will receive men and women from 18 to 70 years old. It is ethnically diverse and will accept men and women from all races, religions and backgrounds. The geographic population for the program State wide but the program will be housed in Jefferson County.

6. How many people will be assisted through your project/proposal and what is the cost per served party? (10 points) MHS will directly serve 50 participants in this expanded program and indirectly 150 to 200. The cost per participant is \$1,740.00.

7. How will you collect data and measure effectiveness? Provide an assessment plan. (10 points) From the initial intake interview process through the end of the program term, staff will work with individual participants on a weekly basis. Evaluation will be documented on the effectiveness of job training programs measured by the time frame for individuals obtaining and sustaining employment. Staff will collect data on each individual considering timing, effectiveness for longevity, success in personal growth, sustainability of sobriety, financial stabilities and reunification of estranged families.

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Chief Executive Officer

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Chairman, Board of Directors