

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS



Marshall University

Divisions of Addiction Science & Community Health

Southern West Virginia Community Blessing Box Program (CBBP)

Take What You Need-Leave What You Can Project

Application Due August 21, 2020

Funding Award Date September 1, 2020

The Marshall University Divisions of Addiction Science and Community Health invite interested organizations to complete and submit an application for the “Southern West Virginia Blessing Box Community Pantry - Take What You Need-Leave What You Can Project”. This project will award funding to selected organizations to establish two community ‘Blessing Boxes’ in each of the nine counties of Boone, Cabell, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, western Putnam, and Wayne and is supported by the Pallottine Foundation. The concept of a Blessing Box is simple – for individuals to take what they need – and give what they can. Thus, the Blessing Boxes are ‘always full and hopefully always empty’. The contents in the Blessing Box are ‘a blessing’ to anyone who finds themselves to be in need. One box will be used for nonperishable foods and the other for basic toiletries, baby supplies, etc. An organization may choose only to build the Blessing Box, manage the Blessing Box, or both.

Organizations that are awarded ‘Blessing Box Project’ funding for the grant period of September 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 will be responsible for:

- Working with community partners to determine the best location(s) in the county for the Blessing Boxes (NOTE: if Blessing Boxes already exist in the county they may be placed in a high school).
- Purchase of supplies and building of two Blessing Boxes
- Purchasing of initial supplies to stock the Blessing Boxes
- Developing a process for ongoing collection of Blessing Box donations
- Community promotion to begin building support for donations
- Providing educational materials/resources in the Blessing Box (i.e. substance use treatment and recovery, mental health, and tobacco/vaping cessation, and other community or prevention resources)
- Participate in monthly ‘Blessing Box Partner Calls’ with other awardees to foster sharing for problem solving, lesson learned, and support that will also foster an infrastructure for sustainability after the grant period ends
- Participate in a meeting at the end of the grant year to enable each county to share their Blessing Box project and to develop recommendations for how the project can be sustained and expanded.

Funding is intended to establish the infrastructure and processes so that county/community Blessing Box projects will be sustainable after the funding year. For questions or additional project inquiries please contact Tina Ramirez at ramirez@marshall.edu. To complete and submit an application use the attached form and send to ramirez@marshall.edu.