

**Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Justice Reinvestment Fund Grants 2023
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



1. **What is the Justice Reinvestment Fund?** In addition to legalizing adult recreational use of marijuana in Arizona, Proposition 207 (passed by voters in 2020) included several justice reform components. It directed the state to create a process to help people with prior criminal convictions for marijuana possession to have their records sealed (expungement) and allocated funding to assist in this process. In addition, it created a Justice Reinvestment Fund.

The Justice Reinvestment Fund receives 10% of all state tax revenues from the sale of recreational marijuana. Thirty-five percent (35%) of those funds are allotted to county public health departments, in proportion to the population of each county, “for the purpose of providing justice reinvestment programs or distributing grants to qualified nonprofit organizations to provide justice reinvestment programs in that county.” This grant represents the share of Justice Reinvestment funding allotted to the Maricopa County Public Health Department.

2. **How much money is being distributed?** A total of \$175,000 will be distributed via Justice Reinvestment grants in 2024. The *maximum* amount to be awarded to any individual applicant will be \$50,000. The grant term is one year.
3. **Does my organization have to have a 501 c 3 designation from the IRS to be eligible for a Justice Reinvestment grant?** No. Small, community-based organizations that otherwise meet the criteria are eligible for this funding. This includes both those that have a Fiscal Sponsor and those who do not. However, for-profit organizations (those that charge fees or otherwise generate a profit from their programming or services) are not eligible.
4. **Is this funding only for groups that help people with marijuana convictions?** No. Although the Fund was established through Proposition 207 and the funding is provided through the tax on the sales of marijuana, the grants are available to a wide range of programs and clients/participants.
5. **Do I have to propose a new or special project for this grant?** No. If your organization is already serving the intended population(s) and the work you do meets the criteria, you can apply for funding for your ongoing work. However, organizations are welcome to propose new projects if they choose.
6. **Can youth-serving programs access this funding?** Yes.
7. **What is the timeline for the grant application and award?**
 - October 16, 2023: RFP Released
 - November 17th, 4:00pm MST: Applications Due
 - December 18: Notification of Awards
 - Grants period begins January of 2024