Rural Mental Health Project Community Grants Adjudication Rubric

All applications to the RMH Community Grants will be reviewed according to the following criteria. The purpose of this rubric is to provide clear guidelines to aid in developing your application as well as to ensure fairness in adjudicating all applications.

Please use these criteria in developing your application and, if possible, ask another person to review your completed application draft using this rubric.

	Great	Good	Poor	Score
Context	Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of community context, existing assets, demographics, and history	Shows a good understanding of community context, existing assets, demographics, and history	Has a limited understanding of community context, existing assets, demographics, and history	
Approach & Objectives	Project goals are clearly defined, with a thorough and well-articulated rationale that is tailored to the specific community context

The project approach aligns well with the principles and spirit of the RMH approach, and is well-suited to achieve the project goals | Project goals are generally well-defined, and a rationale is provided, but the approach may not be as well-tailored to the specific community context as it could be

The project approach aligns with the principles and spirit of the RMH approach, but may not be as well-suited to achieve the project goals as it could be | Project goals are not well-defined, and the rationale provided is not clear or well-articulated relative to the community context

The project approach does not align well with the principles and spirit of the RMH approach, and is not well-suited to achieve the project goals | |
| 8-Domains | The 8-Domain priorities being addressed are clearly described and strongly align with their project goals and activities | The 8-Domain priorities being addressed are generally described and align with the project goals and activities, but the connection may not be as clear as it could be | The 8-Domain priorities being addressed are not clearly described and the alignment with project goals and activities is weak | |
| Lasting impacts and benefits of project | The application demonstrates achievable long-term community impacts, and is well-suited to lead to transformative change in the long term | The application demonstrates some achievable long-term and community impacts, and has the potential to lead to some transformative change in the long term | The application does not demonstrate achievable long-term and community impacts, and is not well-suited to lead to transformative change in the long term | |
| Diverse Collaborators | The application identifies and engages a diverse range of collaborators and audiences, including community members and multi-sector partners, and effectively involves representation from the whole community

 The roles and strengths of identified collaborators are clearly defined and they are meaningful decision-makers | The application identifies and engages a range of collaborators and audiences, but may not include representation from the whole community

The roles and strengths of identified collaborators are generally defined, but may not be as clear or meaningful as they could be | The application does not effectively identify and engage diverse collaborators and audiences, and does not involve representation from the whole community

 The roles and strengths of identified collaborators are not clearly defined and they are not meaningful decision-makers | |
| Collaborative & Citizen-led | Application clearly demonstrates that the project is collaborative in nature throughout all phases, including planning, learning, implementing, and decision-making

Application clearly demonstrates that the project is citizen-led and community-driven, with active involvement and leadership from community members. | Application demonstrates some collaboration throughout the project, but community members and other voices could be more meaningfully involved in the planning and implementation

Application is missing key indicators that demonstrate that the project is citizen-led and community-driven; agencies are mainly deciding project FOR community, not WITH community | The application does not demonstrate collaboration throughout the project, and the project is not citizen-led or community-driven

Community involvement and leadership is weak or non-existent; agency is deciding project FOR community not WITH community | |
| Activities | Project activities are well-defined and are likely to deliver outcomes that will lead to the expected change

Project activities are reasonable and align with the objectives and priorities of the project | Project activites may be well-defined but it is not clear how they will lead to the change they are trying to achieve

Project activities may not be reasonable **OR** align with the objectives and priorities of the project | Project activities are not clearly defined or are missing key details | |
| Budget | Project expenses are justified and reasonable within the scope of the project | Project expenses may not be reasonable and within the scope of the project (too little or too much) | Project expenses are not reasonable or realistic **OR** Budget does not provide enough information regarding project expenses | |
| Reflection & Evaluation - Capturing Impact | The application demonstrates a robust method for reflection and evaluation, and includes clear methods and processes to capture outputs and outcomes that are relevant to the project goals and activities | The application demonstrates a method for reflection and evaluation. The methods and processes to capture outputs and outcomes are generally relevant to the project goals and activities, but may not be as clear or well-defined as they could be | The application does not demonstrate a method for reflection and evaluation. The methods and processes to capture outputs and outcomes are not well thought out or relevant to the project goals and activities | |
| Network Building | The application demonstrates a strong commitment to connect and share with the Network, and the project will engage with a wide variety of network members, stakeholders and events

The application demonstrates a clear plan to actively participate and contribute to the Network | The application demonstrates a commitment to connect and share with the Network, but it may not be as strong as it could be. The project will engage with some network members, stakeholders and events, but there may be room for improvement in terms of participation and contribution | The application does not demonstrate a commitment to connect and share with the Network, and the project will not engage with a variety of network members, stakeholders and events. The project does not have a clear plan to actively participate and contribute to the Network | |