



COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES OF CENTRAL OHIO

67 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 228-7191 • FAX (614) 228-7213

Request for Proposals Issued April 1, 2025

RFP: Fundraising Consulting Services
From: Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio (CMS)
Submissions due by: April 15, 2025
Project Time Frame/Budget: Approximately 6 months /\$25,000

Return proposals to:
Shelley Whalen, Executive Director
swhalen@communitymediation.com

Background:

History Mission of CMS

CMS is a full-service conflict management resource center located in Columbus. For more than 35 years, CMS has been devoted to preventing the harmful effects of unresolved conflict on individuals, families, organizations, and communities. By providing and teaching state-of-the-art non-adversarial conflict management strategies, CMS empowers disputing parties to reach lasting, satisfying resolutions to their conflicts while preserving their critically important personal and professional relationships.

Our agency has 12 employees and has a current annual budget of \$785,000.

Our Need - To increase our future capacity to shift from predominantly government funding, toward more support for our housing stability services from corporations, private foundations and individuals.

Housing Stability Program- Overview

This program provides tenants at imminent risk of eviction and their landlords with access to specially trained, impartial facilitators who assist parties in working out a **voluntary** resolution to their eviction related dispute. Documented settlement agreements, enforceable by the court, allow tenants to maintain their current rental housing and for their landlords to receive their past due back rent; **OR** for tenants to receive adequate time to move to alternative stable housing and the dismissal of the current eviction action in the tenant's court record, while in return allowing landlords to promptly regain possession of their rental property.

This program also provides low-income tenants at high-risk of eviction with a FREE 2.5 Hour Eviction Prevention Education Workshop that describes and refutes 10 major myths about eviction that tenants tend to believe and as a result often lead to the loss of tenants' housing, due to eviction. The goal of the Eviction Prevention Education Workshop is to increase tenant knowledge about the eviction process and effective strategies for avoiding its devastating harmful effects.

continued

Scope of Work

- 1) Generate a list of 100 Corporate Entity contacts likely to support CMS' Housing Stability Programming.
 - Develop and implement compatible approaches for soliciting support from these organizations that results in a minimum total of 100k from a min of 10 corporate donors.
 - Develop strategies for cultivating first time corporate donors so they may become renewed contributors, moving them from lower level to higher level contributions.
 - Identify and help recruit a minimum of 3 new corporate reps to serve on the CMS Board of Directors.
- 2) Help develop 500 current individual donor prospects into active givers. Seeking a minimum of \$25,000 in annual support from current prospects.
- 3) Identify and help secure funding to create a long-term development plan that includes a roadmap to the hiring of a full-time development professional, along with funding to begin implementing such a plan.

Shelley Whalen, Executive Director
Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio
67 Jefferson Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43215
swhalen@communitymediation.com