

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026
Summary Sheet

Applicant Agency: HRDC, District IX

Mailing/Street Address: 32 South Tracy
City, State, Zip: Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: 406-587-4486

Compliance Director: Hannah Altman
Transportation Director: Sunshine Ross
E-Mail: haltman@thehrdc.org; sross@thehrdc.org

Type of Organization: City County Private Non-Profit Other (specify):

Geographic area to be served: Gallatin and Park Counties

List services to be provided:	Estimated # of unduplicated persons to be served during project period for each services type:	Estimated # of unduplicated units of service during project period for each listed service type:
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Homemaker Program	Gallatin County	Units of service
Homemaker – Personal Care	20	1200 hours
Respite Services	5	300 hours
Homemaker Program	Park County	
Homemaker – Personal Care	20	1000 hours
Respite Services	10	500 hours
Galavan	Gallatin County	
Para Transit Services	300	17,500 rides
RSVP	Gallatin and Park Counties	
Volunteer Opportunities	150	22,000 hours
SHIP/I&A	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	300	375 units of service
Senior Reach	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	55	220 units of service

Applicant agrees that the project described in this Letter of Intent will be operational July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and certifies that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information in this application is true and correct and the attached conditions will be complied with if the grant is awarded.

Heather Grenier

Type or print person authorized to sign

Signature

President/CEO

Title

Date

Linda Young

Type or print person authorized to sign

Signature

Board Chair

Title

Date

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
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Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Project Description Sheet

1. Service or Project Name: HRDC Senior Reach

2. Provide a description of how your program will spend the Title III funding.

Senior Reach supports isolated, at risk seniors in Gallatin and Park Counties with behavioral health and care management services.

According to the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment for Gallatin, Madison and Park Counties, sponsored by Bozeman Health, Community Health Partners, Gallatin City-County Health Department, Livingston Healthcare, and Park County Health Department, *Mental Health* ranked as the top concern for identified health priorities. Areas of opportunity that were identified in mental health include receiving treatment, difficulty obtaining mental health services, stress, symptoms of chronic depression, suicide deaths and diagnosed depression.

Senior Reach supports the wellbeing, independence and dignity of older adults who are isolated, frail or in need of support by educating the community, providing care management and mental health services (counseling) and connecting older adults to community resources (benefits access/referrals). One of the silver linings of the pandemic is the ability of Medicare patients to continue receiving telehealth medical services including mental health services. This provides flexibility and accessibility for seniors.

3. Statement of how your project will coordinate services with other community programs. (Include a description of referral systems.)

Senior Reach provides care management (access to community resources) and mental health services (counseling) to support the wellbeing, independence and dignity of older adults who are isolated, frail and/or showing signs of depression or anxiety. We partner with private Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Community Health Partners (CHP) for behavioral health services.

Referrals can come from individuals, CHP clinicians, HRDC staff, seniors, family members, physicians, neighbors, police, etc. but the senior must agree to the services. It is a voluntary program. Our staff gives presentations and conducts outreach to educate individuals and professionals in the community about Senior Reach. Staff is always researching and educating themselves on available services for seniors.

4. Statement of how your project will fulfill the mission of the Older Americans Act. (Include a description of criteria for selection of clients, outreach and targeting activities and how the project fulfills the objectives of the Older Americans Act.)

Our target population is older adults (60 and older) who are isolated, frail or in need of emotional support and/or connection to community services but are not seeking service on their own behalf. Senior Reach has shown 14 statistically significant positive behavioral outcomes: decrease anxiety issues, decrease depression, decrease emotional disturbance, decrease social isolation, improve attention issues, improve overall mental health symptom severity, increase activity involvement, increase self-care/basic needs, improve interpersonal relationship, increase social support

relationships, improve overall level of functioning, increase hopefulness, increase empowerment and improve overall recovery.

Our outreach efforts include presentations and tabling at multiple events (CHP and HRDC), Homemaker Program, Veteran Service Provider meetings, and Senior Centers.

Customer Story:

Beth is Bob's caregiver. Bob lives with dementia, and together they experienced a profound crisis that ultimately opened the door to the support they desperately needed.

At the time, Beth was overwhelmed with the demands of caregiving. In a moment of extreme exhaustion and emotional distress, she made a tragic statement—threatening both her life and Bob's. In her mind, it felt like the most compassionate solution to an unbearable situation. Thankfully, that pivotal moment marked a turning point. Since then, Bob has moved into a memory care facility where he is now thriving.

Beth has continued her journey with the help of Senior Reach. She attends weekly clinical sessions and seeks care management support when needed. These days, we see less of Beth for care management—an encouraging sign that she is more stable, confident, and self-sufficient. Still, she reaches out occasionally, and we are always happy to support her.

Beth has been engaged with Senior Reach's clinical services for three and a half years. When she first began, she felt like a failure—to herself and to Bob. She was demoralized, anxious, depressed, ashamed, and overwhelmed, as though the foundation of her world had collapsed. Together with her therapist she worked tirelessly to reframe these feelings. This wasn't Beth's failure—it was a failure of the system. For individuals with limited resources, support for dementia caregiving is sorely lacking.

Through consistent mental health work and deep personal commitment, Beth is now thriving. She has processed the grief of losing her partner as she once knew him, built a new circle of friends, and become more active—frequently seen walking her beloved dog, Bo. Most importantly, she's taking care of herself: mind, body, and spirit.

Bob remains in assisted living, and Beth visits often. What once felt like an insurmountable situation has become a remarkable success story.

Key Metrics – Senior Reach (23-24)

- 1. How many clients are you serving?** 73 seniors
- 2. Who are they?** Seniors 60 and older that are at risk, isolated and/or showing signs of depression or anxiety
- 3. What services do you give them?** We provide care management (access to community resources) and referrals to mental health services (counseling).
- 4. What does it cost?** \$24,103
- 5. What does it cost per service delivered?** \$24,103 divided by 73 seniors = \$330 per senior/year
- 6. What happens to the clients as a result of the service?** Increase social support relationships, improve overall level of functioning, increase hopefulness, increase empowerment and improve overall recovery
- 7. What does it cost per outcome?** \$24,103 divided by 294 units of service = \$82 for care management services and connection to clinician to decrease anxiety, depression, and social isolation

5. If extra funding was available, what would you do to increase services and how would you plan to spend the money?

Extra funding would be used to increase hours for staff and ensure wages are market rate.

6. Please provide letters of support from other local community-based and/or institutional programs, agencies or organizations involved with older adults.

See attached letters of support

7. List wage range of all employees funded in full or in part by this contract: \$24.00 - \$50.00

8. Project *unit* cost:

\$24,103 divided by 73 seniors = \$330 per senior/year

\$24,103 divided by 294 units of service = \$82 for care management services to decrease anxiety, depression, and social isolation

9. Is this project covered by liability insurance? Yes

How much? \$4,000,000 (General) \$2,000,000 (Professional Liability)

10. How many years has this project received Title III funding: 6 years

Please provide a detailed estimated budget for this Title III service for the fiscal year 2024-2025 as follows:

Expenses	7/1/25-6/30/26	Resources	7/1/25-6/30/26
Personnel and fringe	\$19,265.00	Area IV Funds	\$ 15,000.00
Allocations	\$7930.00	Other: NCOA	\$5,000.00
Space	\$1500.00	Other: Donations	\$9,195.00
Office Supplies	\$500.00		
TOTAL	\$29,195.00	TOTAL	\$29,195.00



92 E Cameron Ave
Belgrade, MT 59714
406-388-4711
belgradeseniorcenter@gmail.com

March 6, 2025

Jim Marks
Area IV Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624

Dear Jim,

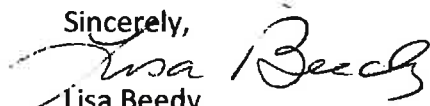
As our older adult population continues to grow, so does the need for support services. More and more seniors are reaching out for assistance, and through Senior Reach Care Management they can receive the help they need.

Senior Reach remains a vital resource for older adults facing challenges such as depression, anxiety, and isolation. By providing care management, mental health support, and connections to essential community services, Senior Reach helps seniors maintain their independence, dignity, and overall well-being.

Senior Reach has expanded their services by partnering with a counselor in Bozeman, in addition to their ongoing collaboration with Lisa Talcott in Livingston. This new partnership increases access to behavioral health services, further strengthening the support available to seniors in our community.

If you support Senior Reach again, it would be greatly appreciated. This program makes a meaningful difference in the lives of so many.

Sincerely,


Lisa Beedy
Center Manager

March 15, 2025

Jim Marks
Area IV Area Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624

Dear Mr. Marks,

I am writing once again in support of the HRDC Senior Reach Program. I have been the Behavioral Health provider for this program in Park and Gallatin counties since its beginning. Initially, I provided mental health services to individuals over the age of 60 in their homes. After the COVID pandemic caused things to shut down I provided my service through Telehealth. Now I see clients both in person and through Telehealth depending on their needs and location.

Over the years I have witnessed the significant impact this program has had and continues to have in the lives of my clients. Many of these clients are socially isolated and have no one else to interact with in any significant way. Counseling provides them with a safe, supportive space to share and process their thoughts and feelings. They have the opportunity to deeply connect with another person,, work through past and present traumas, and find solutions to a variety of challenges they face,

The clients I've served have had depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, PTSD, are grappling with end of life issues, and other mental health challenges. In coordination with the Senior Reach Coordinator clients have received services that connect them with much needed resources and mental health care.

I urge you to continue your support of this program.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa Talcott, LCSW

329 North Main Street,
Livingston, MT 59047

406-224-7548