

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

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: Talia Seltzer
E-Mail: compliance@thehrdc.org;
tseltzer@thehrdc.org

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

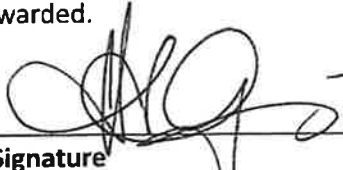
Geographic area to be served: Gallatin and Park Counties

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	1168 hours
Respite Services	9	255 hours
Homemaker Program	Park County	
Homemaker – Personal Care	25	926 hours
Respite Services	8	459 hours
Galavan	Gallatin County	
Senior Transit Services	122	4981 rides
RSVP	Gallatin and Park Counties	
Volunteer Opportunities	150	22,000 hours
SHIP/I&A	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	347	628 units of service
Senior Reach	Gallatin and Park Counties	
	105	385 units of service

Applicant agrees that the project described in this Letter of Intent will be operational July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 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

3-26-26

Date

Linda Young
Type or print person authorized to sign



Signature

Board Chair
Title

3-26-26

Date

LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR PROJECT GRANT
Under Title III of the Older Americans Act
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

Project Description Sheet

1. Service or Project Name: HRDC Homemaker Program– Gallatin and Park Counties

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

Title III funding supports HRDC’s Homemaker Program, which provides essential in-home, non-medical homemaking and respite services to low-income, at-risk adults 60 and older and their caregivers. These services are designed to help older adults remain safely and independently in their homes avoiding unnecessary and costly institutional care.

Through weekly visits, trained homemakers provide individualized, one-on-one support with critical daily needs such as grocery shopping, laundry, light meal preparation, and light housekeeping. Equally important, these visits offer consistency, connection and oversight, ensuring that emerging needs are identified early and addressed before they escalate.

Services are tailored to each participant, taking into account their health, functional limitations and the availability or absence of support from family and friends. The program prioritizes seniors who are at highest risk of premature nursing home placement due to isolation and limited financial resources.

The economic vulnerability of participants is significant. On average, individuals served through the Homemaker Program have annual incomes below \$22,700 (approximately 144% of the Federal Poverty Line), well below what is required to meet basic living expenses in southwest Montana as measured by the Elder Index.

Gallatin County, MT

RENTER

The Elder Index is:
\$40,752 / year
This is 113% of the national average of \$36,180

 Miscellaneous (Single) **\$375**
 Transportation (Single) **\$371**
 Housing (Renter) **\$1,626**

 Food (Single) **\$328**
 Poor health **\$696**
Monthly Total \$3,396

Park County, MT

RENTER

The Elder Index is:
\$38,244 / year
This is 106% of the national average of \$36,180

 Miscellaneous (Single) **\$373**
 Transportation (Single) **\$332**
 Housing (Renter) **\$1,306**

 Food (Single) **\$328**
 Poor health **\$848**
Monthly Total \$3,187

*The Elder Index measures how much income an older adult requires to meet his or her basic needs without assistance. The index does not include extras such as vacations, meals out, entertainment, electronics or gifts.

Providing Homemaker and Respite services through HRDC costs just **\$289 per month/customer**—a fraction of cost of **\$6,134 per month for an assisted living facility**, translating to **over 95% in savings**. As of 2026, according to StoryPoint Group, the average cost of residing in an assisted living facility in Montana is \$6,134/month. By providing consistent, in-home support, the Homemaker Program stabilizes households, reduces strain on caregivers, and allows older adults to age with dignity in the place they call home while also reducing reliance on more expensive systems of care.

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

We actively collaborate with healthcare providers, social service agencies, and nonprofit organizations to create a network of care. By leveraging these partnerships, we maximize resources, avoid service duplication, and enhance the overall well-being of those we serve. We utilize a referral system to connect clients with essential community resources including other HRDC programs:

Client Assessment & Identification of Needs:

- Team members conduct thorough assessments to determine the specific needs of each client.
- We identify gaps in services and explore external resources that could provide additional support.

Referral Process:

- We maintain a directory of community programs, including healthcare services (One Health (formerly Community Health Partners), Bozeman Health, Livingston Healthcare), housing assistance, food banks, transportation providers (Galavan, Streamline, Angel Line and Wind Rider) and mental health resources (One Health, local LCSW providers, L'Esprit).
- When a need is identified, we make direct referrals through these established partnerships, ensuring a smooth transition to the appropriate service.
- We assist clients in navigating application processes (SNAP, Medicaid Waiver, Medicare Enrollment, Meals on Wheels) and follow up to confirm they have accessed the needed support.

Collaboration with Key Community Partners:

- Healthcare Providers: We work closely with hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and home healthcare agencies to ensure clients receive medical care, therapy, and assistive devices.
- Other Senior Services Providers: Through partnerships with senior centers, AARP, in-home providers, we help connect clients with in-home support, meal delivery services, and financial assistance programs.
- Housing & Emergency Assistance: We coordinate with shelters, subsidized and supportive housing, and energy assistance programs to help clients maintain safe and stable living conditions.
- Social & Emotional Support: Mental health services, support groups, and volunteer companion programs (Befrienders) are key partners in addressing emotional and psychological well-being.

Ongoing Monitoring & Follow-Up:

- Our team maintains regular contact with both clients and partner agencies to ensure successful service connections.
- We adjust referrals as needed based on evolving circumstances and emerging needs.

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.)

The OAA's mission is to help older people maintain maximum independence in their homes and communities and to promote a continuum of care for vulnerable older adults. The mission of HRDC is to instill hope, develop resources, design solutions and change lives. We envision a place where

poverty has no impact because opportunities and quality of life are equally afforded to everyone. We specifically serve older adults in maintaining their dignity and independence while living safely in their own homes.

Our criteria and selection include individuals age 60 and older, low income, have no appropriate and/or affordable alternative for care. Priority is given for those 75 and older. All of our services are provided at **no cost** to the senior or their caregiver.

We focus outreach efforts on community organizations that serve seniors and provide assurance that those most in need will be made aware of our service. In particular, those having ongoing contact with seniors include Bozeman, Belgrade, Livingston, Manhattan and Three Forks Senior Centers, Help Center, Veteran's Administration, MT Dept. of Public Health and Human Services – Senior and Long Term Care Program Officer, Home Health Agencies, Physicians, Discharge Planners, Nursing Homes, and senior and low income housing. Additional outreach efforts include distribution of flyers, webpage (www.thehrdc.org), weekly outreach at Senior Centers, involvement in community meetings, and the HRDC Board of Directors.

Key Metrics (FY 24-25)

- 1. How many customers are you serving?** 57 older adults
- 2. Who are they?** Low income at risk seniors (60 years and older) living independently and caregivers
- 3. What services do you give them?** Weekly Homemaker Assistance and Respite Care
- 4. What does it cost?** \$172,660
- 5. What does it cost per service delivered?** \$172,660, divided by 2808 service hours = \$61/service (2094 Homemaker hours and 714 Respite hours)
- 6. What happens to the clients as a result of the service?** The goal is for clients to maintain their dignity and remain safely in their own homes.
- 7. What does it cost per outcome?** \$172,660 divided by 57 customers = \$3029/year to keep a senior safely in their own home.

Customer Story:

Leo is an intelligent, independent, and proud individual who has always taken great pride in being self-sufficient, both physically and mentally. Prior to the medical events that changed his life, Leo worked with adults experiencing substance use disorders, often serving as a caretaker and source of support for others.

A cascade of severe health problems dramatically altered Leo's circumstances. He was no longer able to work and could no longer maintain the same level of independence he once had. His physical strength declined, and chronic pain began to significantly affect his mental health.

Because of these changes, Leo has participated in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program for more than ten years. For most of that time, he was able to maintain independent living with help from a close circle of friends. Over time, however, his needs increased and the support from friends gradually diminished for various reasons.

Leo was eventually referred to the Homemaker program by his Section 8 caseworker at HRDC. When we first met Leo, he was living in a basement apartment that required him to navigate stairs to reach his front door. Due to his medical conditions and decreased mobility, using the stairs became increasingly

unsafe. Although Leo loved his apartment and had lived there for more than a decade, he ultimately recognized that his mobility limitations made it necessary to move.

Working with his Section 8 caseworker, Leo began searching for a safer, single-level living arrangement. After several months of searching, he signed a lease and moved into a new apartment. The transition to single-level living has made a tremendous difference in his daily life and safety.

At the same time, we worked to connect Leo with a Homemaker as quickly as possible. He was soon matched with someone who now helps him maintain his independence at home, particularly as his primary caregiver has not been able to assist as much as she once did. Leo does have a very close friend who is his fiercest advocate, but unfortunately there are few others who regularly check in or provide support.

This isolation, combined with his health challenges and the difficult reality of knowing his body is declining while his mind remains sharp, has led Leo to experience significant anger, anxiety, and depression. Through our partnership with Senior Reach, we were able to connect Leo with a therapist, and he has since begun receiving counseling services.

Leo's Homemaker describes him as very pleasant, appreciative, and easy to work with. She assists with tasks such as taking out the trash, washing dishes, and cleaning the bathroom—tasks that have become extremely difficult for Leo due to his health challenges and rapidly declining vision.

Recently, Leo's close friend and advocate began experiencing her own health issues and has not been able to support him as frequently. During this time, a lift chair was delivered to Leo's home, but it arrived in a large box and required assembly. When Leo's Homemaker arrived one day, she found him staring at the box, trying to figure out how he would manage to put it together.

Going above and beyond her typical responsibilities, Leo's Homemaker recruited additional help. Within an hour, the lift chair was assembled and ready for Leo to use. Without their assistance, the chair likely would have remained in the box.

Thanks to the support of the Housing Choice Voucher program, the Homemaker program, Senior Reach, and connections to other services, Leo is able to continue living independently in his home. He would be the first to say that this support has been an incredible blessing.

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

We would use additional funds to increase wages for our team members as well as serve additional customers. Currently we have over 20 individuals on our wait list.

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: \$21.00/hr - \$71.00/hr

8. **Project *unit* cost:** \$172,660, divided by 2808 service hours = \$61/service (2094 Homemaker hours and 714 Respite hours)

9. **Is this project covered by liability insurance? Yes**
How much? \$5,000,000 (General) \$3,000,000 (Professional Liability)

10. **How many years has this project received Title III funding: 46 years (Park County) and 31 years (Gallatin County)**

Please provide a detailed estimated budget for this Title III service for the fiscal year 2026-2027 as follows (list appropriate estimated resources):

Homemaker Services– Gallatin County

Expenses	7/1/26-6/30/27	Resources	7/1/26-6/30/27
Personnel and fringe	\$55,151.56	Area IV Funds	\$65,001.56
Admin	\$13,000.00	Other: Donations	\$4,000
Insurance	\$1000.00	Other: County	\$3,500.00
Supplies	\$500.00		
Communication	\$600.00		
Space	\$1000.00		
Travel/Training	\$1250.00		
TOTAL	\$72,501.56	TOTAL	\$72,501.56

Respite Services – Gallatin County

Expenses	7/1/26-6/30/27	Resources	7/1/26-6/30/27
Personnel and fringe	\$38,297.92	Area IV Funds	\$35,138.02
Admin	\$7215.10	Other: Donations	\$8,000
Insurance	\$100.00	Other: County	\$4,500.00
Supplies	\$50.00		
Communication	\$250.00		
Space	\$975.00		
Travel/Training	\$750.00		
TOTAL	\$47,638.02	TOTAL	\$47,638.02

Homemaker Services – Park County

Expenses	7/1/26-6/30/27	Resources	7/1/26-6/30/27
Personnel and fringe	\$34,843.28	Area IV Funds	\$41,007.68
Admin	\$9964.4	Other: Donations	\$6,450
Insurance	\$750.00		
Supplies	\$500.00		
Communication	\$250.00		
Travel/Training	\$1150.00		
TOTAL	\$47,457.68	TOTAL	\$47,457.68

Respite Services – Park County

Expenses	7/1/26-6/30/27	Resources	7/1/26-6/30/27
Personnel and fringe	\$18,781.00	Area IV Funds	\$24,841.36
Admin	\$11,000.00	Other: Donations	\$5,690
Insurance	\$100.00		
Communication	\$250.00		
Travel/Training	\$400.00		
TOTAL	\$30,351.36	TOTAL	\$30,351.36



help center .inc

John Gorton
Rocky's Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624

February 20, 2026

Dear Mr. Gorton,

I am writing to express my support for the HRDC Homemaker Program in Bozeman.

This program meets essential needs for some of the most vulnerable members of our community. By assisting with basic household tasks and providing wellness checks when needed, it helps clients remain safe and stable in their own homes. The staff combine professionalism with genuine compassion, creating a dependable support system that allows elderly residents to maintain their independence and dignity.

Through the Help Center's Telecare Program, which provides daily phone check-ins, I have had the opportunity to work alongside the Homemaker staff when we share clients. Their communication, dedication, and responsiveness make coordination seamless and ensure that clients receive comprehensive care.

The Homemaker Program plays an important role in allowing older adults to age in place. While assisted living services are invaluable for those who truly need them, many individuals can continue living independently with modest support. Sustaining this program benefits not only the clients it serves but also the broader community.

I hope that you will continue to support this important program. Its impact reaches beyond the individual households it serves, strengthening the fabric of our entire community.

Sincerely,

Kathy Allen
Program Manager - Telecare



March 4, 2026

John Gorton
Rocky's Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624

Dear John Gorton:

My name is Rachel Salang and I am the Outreach and Program Coordinator for HRDC's food bank. I am writing to express my sincere support of the Homemaker Program.

My role involves coordinating our Senior Groceries program, which provides supplemental food to older adults living on low incomes. Many of the seniors we serve are homebound and have limited family support nearby. Many also receive assistance from the Homemaker Program. The moments of connection we share with seniors during food deliveries are meaningful, but the care provided by homemakers is extensive and deeply impactful. It is not uncommon to hear seniors speak fondly about their homemakers.

Keeping a clean home, managing medications, and eating regular meals is essential to maintaining independence for seniors. These tasks can become overwhelming without assistance, but homemakers help make them more manageable. These are just a few of many ways homemakers make an impact on seniors in our community.

Older adults living on low incomes are some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Homemakers nurture not only their physical well-being, but also their emotional and mental health. Their impact is evident in my own interaction with seniors. They provide an invaluable resource to our community, and I am truly grateful to witness their impact every day.

Sincerely,

Rachel Salang
Food Bank Outreach & Program Coordinator

406.587.4486

hello@thehrdc.org

**206 E Griffin Dr
Bozeman, MT 59715**

HRDC
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY

Park City-County Health Department
414 East Callender Street
Livingston, MT 59047



February 23, 2026

John Gorton
Rocky's Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena Montana 59624

RE: Letter of Support for HRDC Homemaker
Program - Park County

Dear Mr. Gorton,

The Park City-County Health Department (PCCHD) is pleased to offer its full support for the Park County Homemaker Program and its application for funding through the Area IV Agency on Aging. This program plays a vital role in promoting the health, safety, and independence of older adults and individuals with disabilities throughout Park County.

As a public health agency, we see firsthand how essential in-home support services are for maintaining community well-being. The Homemaker Program provides critical assistance with daily living tasks—such as meal preparation, light housekeeping, and errands—that allow residents to remain safely in their homes. These services reduce preventable hospitalizations, support aging in place, and strengthen the social fabric of our rural communities.

Park County faces unique challenges due to its geography, limited transportation options, and growing population of older adults. The Homemaker Program helps bridge these gaps by offering practical, person-centered support that enhances quality of life and preserves dignity. PCCHD regularly collaborates with local partners to address social determinants of health, and the Homemaker Program is an important component of that shared mission.

Continued funding will ensure that vulnerable residents receive the assistance they need to remain healthy, connected, and independent. PCCHD strongly endorses this grant request and looks forward to ongoing collaboration to improve the health and resilience of Park County communities.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to supporting aging services in our region. Please feel free to contact us if additional information or partnership details would be helpful.

Sincerely,



Travis Horton, Park City-County Health Department Director

2/23/2026

John Gorton
Rocky's Agency on Aging
PO Box 1717
Helena, MT 59624

Dear John Gorton,

It is with great pleasure that I am able to express to you just how valuable the HRDC Homemaker Program is. My name is Jeanie Babcock and I am a Program Coordinator at the Livingston Food Resource Center. I operate the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for Park County. A program designed specifically for seniors living below a set financial level. Livingston is a unique town with a large population of seniors; many of whom utilize other services. The Homemaker Program fills a prevalent gap that general services are just not able to fill. I have personally recommended clients to the HRDC Homemaker Program and have seen the benefit.

With the help of a Homemaker, seniors are able to live safely and dignified in their aging years in their own homes. Having someone to help with just a few things allows seniors to maintain independence. With no cost to them clients are able to spend what money they do have on other bills. For some clients, visits from delivery drivers and homemakers are their only in person interaction.

The need is growing and not having a place to refer clients and their families to would be detrimental. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeanie Babcock