

Print

Measure Z Application for Funding 2026 - Submission #45199

Date Submitted: 2/26/2026

MEASURE Z APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Agency Name*

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria

Mailing Address*

266 Keisner Road

City*

Loleta

Zip*

95551

Contact Person*

Kayla San Filippo

Title*

Grant Writer

Phone Number*

7075320213

Email*

grants@brb-nsn.gov

Project Title*

Transitional Living House

Funding Available

The estimated amount of Measure Z funding available for FY 2026-27 is \$1.65 million.

1. Amount of Measure Z Funding Requested For FY 26-27*

130035.55

Agency Priority

N/A - I am only submitting one application

Agencies are encourage to submit one project per application. If your agency is submitting more than one application, please rank this application in terms of your agency's priority here.

SUMMARY OF REQUESTED EXPENSES

Item	\$ Amount	% of Total
Salaries (wages)		

Salaries Amount*

58849.28

Salaries %*

45.26

Benefits**Benefits Amount***

7491.27

Benefits %*

5.76

Overhead and Occupancy(Administrative, Rent, Utilities,
Phones, etc.)**Overhead/Occupancy Amount***

0

Overhead/Occupancy %*

0

Equipment/Supplies/Services**Equip./Services/Supplies Amount***

62695

Equipment/Services/Supplies %*

48.21

Transportation/Travel**Transportation/Travel Amount***

1000

Transportation/Travel %*

0.77

Fixed Assets**Fixed Assets Amount***

0

Fixed Assets %*

0

TOTAL**Total Amount of Application***

13035.55

TOTAL 100%**2. ENTITY TYPE***

- ☐ Humboldt County Department
- ☐ Contract Service Provider to Humboldt County
- ☐ Local Government Entity
- ☐ Private Service Provider
- ☐ Non-Profit Service Provider
- ☒ Other (please describe)

ENTITY TYPE

Tribal Government

If you selected other, please briefly describe the entity you represent.

3. Is this application a renewal or related to a project that has been funded by Measure Z in the past? *

No



If you checked "yes" please include the following:

1. a report detailing results from the most recent year the project was funded, and:
2. a completed Staffing Report detailing when the funded positions were filled during the most recent year you received funding for this project.

These documents must be uploaded in the "Required Attachments" section of this application.

4. Please provide a brief description of the proposal for which you are seeking funding.*

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria is seeking funding to expand programming and prolong existing limited funding for its Transitional House that serves Native American community members, not limited to Bear River members. Funding will support three areas: 1) operating costs for maintenance, wages of the House Manager, and subsidized rent costs for those who cannot afford it. 2) Preventative Outreach at Loleta Elementary School, focusing on early support, community connection, and positive adult role modeling to reduce future housing and social instability. 3) The program will expand through the creation of a community service work-supported woodyard that provides job skills, structured work opportunities, and a sustainable revenue source to support ongoing operations.

The current version of the Transitional Living house provides services focusing on helping residents complete educational pathways, develop employable skills, secure sustainable employment, and ultimately transition into permanent housing. The Transitional house drug tests weekly and as needed. The House helps with transportation to mental health and SUD outpatient programs throughout the county, as well as with medication pickup.

Proposed expansion efforts to this program include: Preventive outreach at Loleta School, subsidizing beds for those who cannot afford to stay at the transitional house, and creation of a woodyard to help raise funds to sustain the program. Our prevention efforts will help identify issues early and reduce escalation, decreasing the likelihood of families in crisis and the need for entry into transitional housing.

5. Describe how the scope of your proposal fits the intent of Measure Z. Specifically, how will it maintain and improve public safety and essential services?*

The Transitional Living House (TLH) is a 24/7 stabilization service that absorbs demand before it becomes a sheriff/Fire call. The TLH helps stabilize individuals who are at high risk of housing insecurity by providing structured support and access to services. The TLH serves individuals reentering the community following incarceration, people in recovery from substance use disorders, and individuals experiencing homelessness—reducing reliance on emergency systems and supporting a safer, healthier Humboldt County.

This proposal aligns directly with the intent of Measure Z by maintaining essential housing services while strengthening early intervention and prevention efforts that improve long-term public safety. Stable housing reduces emergency service use, law enforcement involvement, and crisis-driven responses, while supportive supervision and case management promote accountability, wellness, and community integration.

The youth outreach component extends public safety benefits upstream. By providing early, non-duplicative support in partnership with local schools, the program helps identify needs before they escalate into behavioral, academic, or housing crises. Activities will emphasize Native community peer support, emotional regulation, and positive decision-making, all of which are protective factors against future involvement with emergency or justice systems. We will work one on one with students and teachers to provide cultural supports, group activities, guest speakers such as addiction specialists, as age appropriate, and Youth-appropriate substance-abuse awareness outreach.

The proposed scope is intentionally measured and realistic. It builds on existing staff expertise, established partnerships, and culturally responsive practices, ensuring services are effective without overextension. By addressing both immediate housing needs and the root causes of instability, the project improves community safety while sustaining essential services.

While the Transitional Living House (TLH) serves multiple purposes, the most urgent need it addresses is the disproportionate harm experienced by Native people in Humboldt County. Data from the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services Public Health Branch's Community Health Improvement Plan for 2022–2027 show that Native Americans experience homelessness at rates far exceeding their share of the population. The same report documents severe disparities in substance-related mortality, noting that between 2005 and 2021 the average drug overdose mortality rate for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) residents (64.7 per 100,000) was nearly twice that of White, non-Hispanic residents (36.0 per 100,000). In response to these inequities, the TLH provides a safe, stable, and culturally responsive living environment that supports recovery, reduces the risk of overdose and recidivism, and creates a foundation for long-term housing stability, health, and community reintegration for Humboldt County's AI/AN population.

The TLH has achieved its most significant success with former foster youth who have aged out of the system. We have a 100% success rate with this population, all of whom, after having nowhere else to go, have successfully transitioned to finding employment and securing their own housing. Furthermore, 80% of all individuals exiting the TLH housing program have successfully found sustainable employment and subsequently moved into their own homes.

Measure Z was approved by voters to maintain and improve essential services that protect the safety and well-being of Humboldt County residents — including 911 emergency response, rural ambulance and fire protection, 24-hour Sheriff's patrols, children's mental health services, emergency communications systems, and other essential general services. The Transitional Living House directly supports and protects those same systems.

By providing structured, 24-hour housing stabilization and coordinated support services for individuals exiting incarceration, experiencing homelessness, or recovering from substance use disorders, TLH reduces repeat 911 calls, lowers preventable emergency medical responses, and decreases avoidable contacts with law enforcement. Individuals who are housed, supervised, and connected to services are significantly less likely to cycle through jail, generate crisis responses, or require emergency intervention.

In this way, TLH is not separate from Measure Z's purpose — it advances it.

It maintains and improves essential county services by preventing system overload, stabilizing high-risk individuals before crises escalate, and protecting limited public safety resources so they remain available for true emergencies.

For these reasons, the Transitional Living House squarely aligns with Measure Z's mandate to preserve and strengthen essential general services in Humboldt County.

6. What geographic area(s) and population(s) will be served by this project? Please indicate whether services will be provided countywide or in specific communities.*

The project will serve Native American residents of Humboldt County, with a primary focus on youth, adults, and families experiencing or at risk of housing instability. Core housing services will be provided through the Bear River Rancheria Transitional Living House, while outreach efforts will focus on Loleta Elementary School.

Initial school-based outreach will target Loleta Elementary School, with aspirations to expand to other Eel River Valley school districts post-project period if future funding secured. Program staff will work closely with educators, tribal representatives, and community partners to ensure services are responsive, culturally informed, and appropriately targeted.

7. How have you developed a plan for sustainability, including diversification of funding sources, for your proposal to carry on without reliance on future Measure Z funds? Please provide detail of your plan for sustainability here.*

The program's sustainability strategy is designed to reduce long-term dependence on Measure Z funds by combining earned revenue, existing limited funding, and community-based support into a stable, multi-source model. Measure Z funding will be used as a bridge to strengthen core operations while permanent revenue streams and external funding are further developed.

A central pillar of sustainability is the not-for-profit woodyard, which will function as both a workforce development program for TLH residents and a reliable earned-income source. The woodyard will produce and sell firewood locally, generating recurring revenue that will be reinvested directly into housing operations, staffing support, and program maintenance. Because demand for firewood is consistent, the woodyard provides predictable income while offering participants paid work experience, job skills, and structured daily engagement. Firewood is to be sourced from local volunteer property owners throughout the county.

In parallel, the program will actively pursue diversified grant funding from county, state, and private sources aligned with housing stability, behavioral health, substance use prevention, and workforce development. Measure Z funding will strengthen the program's infrastructure and data collection, enabling the Transitional Living House to demonstrate to future grantors our ability to achieve outcomes, meet reporting requirements, and remain competitive for multi-year grants.

Community-based fundraising (car washes etc) will continue to supplement earned and grant revenue. Existing relationships with local partners and schools will be leveraged to expand future fundraising and grantseeking efforts. These efforts reduce financial risk by preventing reliance on any single funding source.

Together, earned revenue, grant funding, and community support create a resilient and adaptable funding structure. This approach ensures the Transitional Living House can maintain services, respond to changing community needs, and continue operating beyond the Measure Z funding period without interruption.

8. If this request is for the continuation or expansion of an existing program/service, what is the current source of funding for that program/service?*

This request is for the continuation and expansion of existing program services.

Current sources of funding for program services include Tribal Opioid Settlement funds which are limited and community-based fundraising activities such as car washes and event clean-up services, and donations. Tribal Opioid Settlement funds will not allow for expansion and are not guaranteed to last into 2027. We do expect to receive other separate Opioid Settlement funds at some point but currently the amount is undetermined and is not yet guaranteed.

9. If you are awarded Measure Z funds, how do you plan to leverage these funds to secure additional grants, contributions or community support? *

If awarded funding, Bear River Rancheria Transitional Living House will leverage these funds to strengthen program stability and expand capacity by demonstrating successful outcomes, fiscal responsibility, and community impact. Awarded funds will be used to support core services, which will position the program to secure additional grants by showing proven effectiveness. The program will also use this funding to increase visibility and credibility within the community, encouraging additional contributions, partnerships, and community-based support efforts such as fundraising events, service activities, and revenue generation through the Woodyard. Additionally, receiving these funds will allow us to prolong use of our limited Opioid Settlement funds as we build up other funding sources; however, Measure Z allows us to greatly expand existing operation programming as previously detailed which will help leverage our success for our future fundraising efforts.

10. Will this proposal require new or expanded activity on the part of another entity to be fully functional and effective? If so, name that entity and describe what that participation would look like. *

Only the outreach activity of the proposal requires the participation of another entity: Loleta School. Since we have been in conversation on what the program would look like at the school, we do not anticipate this partnership derailing. Included in our application are letters of support and a tentative MOA.

If Loleta School had to withdraw its support, the project is still effective and functional— we would just forgo funding the outreach portion of the program after reaching out to further schools in the event we could not find a replacement school partner.

11. Are there recurring expenses associated with this application, such as personnel cost? *

Yes

▼

If you checked yes, please detail those expenses here.

Yes, but this is a one-time funding request to prolong existing funding, increase projects and reach, and create sustainable funding sources.

Please note, the Citizens' Advisory Committee in May, 2023, adopted a stance that it would not recommend funding for new, ongoing county positions.

12. If awarded less than the full amount requested, could the proposed project still be implemented? If yes, please identify the minimum funding amount required for the project to remain feasible and describe any changes to scope or outcomes.*

If Bear River Rancheria Transitional Living House is awarded less than the full amount requested, the program can still be implemented, with adjustments. With limited funding we would prioritize funding the woodyard and subsidizing beds— however we are open to the suggestions of the Measure Z panel on which areas of our proposal to adapt.

Funding the woodyard is key to getting the program long-term sustainable, as we do not have existing funds to launch it with. Existing funding sources—including tribal Opioid Settlement funds, community fundraising, donations, and revenue from the Woodyard—will be leveraged to supplement awarded funds and maintain program effectiveness.

The Bear River Rancheria Transitional Living House has identified a minimal funding threshold required to keep the proposed projects feasible which is between \$70,000-\$90,000. At this level, core services can continue. However, some adjustments to the scope will be necessary if only minimal funding is received. If minimal funding was received, we'd need to cut the prevention/outreach portion of the program. If approximately \$20,000 was cut, we could reduce funding across the scope of the program in order to continue with the outreach/education at Loleta Elementary.

If we don't face substantial cuts, outcome expectations will still be prioritized on essential program impacts, including improved student emotional regulation, strengthened staff support, and maintained community partnerships. If we do face substantial cuts, we will still be able to uphold outcomes of program components One and Three by increasing bed availability, increasing workforce development opportunities, and decreasing the number of people on the streets.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Be sure to include the following with your application.

Prior Year Results

If your request is a continuation of a program funded with Measure Z in prior fiscal years, please provide the results of implementation. (one page maximum)

Program Budget

[Download the budget narrative](#), then upload using the button at right.

Staffing Report

If your request was previously funded, please [download and complete the staffing report](#), then upload it using the option provided here.

Letters of Support

If you have letters of support from members of the community you can upload them here.

Upload Prior Year Results Attachment

No file chosen

Upload Program Budget Attachment*

Measure Z Budget.xlsx

Upload Staffing Report Attachment

No file chosen

Upload Letters of Support

Lettersofsupport.pdf

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above statements and all attachments are true and correct.

Date*

2/26/2026
02:30 PM

Signature*

Kayla San Filippo

Type Approving Official's Name

Measure Z Agenda Notifications

[Sign up on our website](#) to be notified when Measure Z agendas are posted. The applications are discussed in open session and it is often valuable for applicants to attend in person or virtually to address the committee.

Agency Name: Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria		Address: 266 Keisner Road, Loleta, CA 95551			
Coordinator/Contact: Alan Miller, House Manager at		Phone: 707-733-1900			
Descriptions		Requested	Current	Total of Prior	Remaining
A. Personnel Costs					
Title: House Manager at .70FTE Salary 46,529.6 Annually * .70 FTE		32,570.72			32,570.72
at 23% fringe. Bear River uses an average fringe which translates to a breakdown of approximately the following depending on the month: Payroll Taxes 8.74%, Workers Comp 1.62%, 401k 1.45%, Health Insurance Benefits 11.19%	7,491.27				7,491.27
Duties Description: House Manager will oversee and coordinate the program					
Title: Tribal Peer Support Specialists Salary 2 people*21/hr *12/hrs a week* 52.14 weeks		26,278.56			26,278.56
Benefits None					0.00
Duties Description: Support Specialists will work with Loleta school doing					
Title: Salary					0.00
Benefits					0.00
Duties Description:					
Salaries Subtotal	58,849.28	0.00	0.00	58,849.28	
Benefits Subtotal	7,491.27	0.00	0.00	7,491.27	
Total Personnel:	66,340.55	0.00	0.00	66,340.55	
B. Overhead and Occupancy Costs (Rent, Utilities, Phones, Administrative etc.)					
Title:					
Description:					
Title:					
Description:					
Total Overhead and Occupancy Costs:	0.00	0	0	0.00	
C. Equipment/Supplies/Services (Equipment, Supplies and Services should be separate)					
Title: Equipment- logsplitter					
Description: Log splitter for woodyard	4,500.00				
Title: Equipment- Chainsaw					
Description: Chainsaw x2 for woodyard	780.00				
Equipment Subtotal:	5,280.00	0	0	5,280.00	
Title: Supplies- Laptop	700.00				
Description: Non equipment by tribe's standards. The House Manager does not					
Title: Supplies- Axe	75.00				
Description: Axe for woodyard					
Title: Supplies- Splitting mall	180.00				
Description: splitting mall \$90x2 for woodyard					
Title: Supplies- Safety gear	180.00				
Description: safety gear: headgear/face shields					
Title: Supplies- Chainsaw files	35.00				
Description: Chainsaw files for woodyard					
Title: Supplies - Earplugs	120.00				
Description: Earplugs for woodyard workers					
Title: Supplies -Chaps	300.00				
Description: Chaps for TLH woodyard workers					
Title: Supplies- Gloves	250.00				
Description: Gloves for TLH woodyard workers					
Title: Supplies- Bar oil	75.00				
Description: Bar oil for TLH woodyard workers					
Supplies Subtotal:	1,915.00	0	0	1,915.00	
Title: Services/Other Operational Costs					
Description: Maintenance and upkeep: plumbing fixes, etc	6,000.00				
Title: Subsidized Beds					
Description: 10 beds for 12 months *\$400 cost per bed a month	49,500.00				
Services/Other Subtotal:	55,500.00	0	0	55,500.00	
Total Equipment/Supplies/Services:	62,695.00	0	0	62,695.00	
D. Transportation/Travel (Local and Out-of-County should be separate)					
Title: Local Travel					
Description: Gasoline for local travel to appointments, prescription	1,000.00				
Total Transportation/Travel Costs:	1,000.00	0	0	1,000.00	
E. Fixed Assets (According to your agency's definition of a fixed asset)					
Title:					
Description:					
Title:					
Description:					

Total Fixed Asset Costs:		0.00	0	0
				0.00
Totals	130,035.55	0.00	0.00	130,035.55
	Requested	Current	Prior Quarter	Remaining



Loleta

Union Elementary School District

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Loleta Union Elementary School District, I am pleased to formally express our strong support for the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and its transitional living house application for Measure Z grant funding.

Our district is committed to collaborative partnerships that promote student well-being and long-term success. We fully support the integration of a youth advocate within our school community as part of this initiative. The presence of a dedicated advocate will provide mentorship, guidance, and meaningful support to youth, fostering resilience, encouraging positive coping strategies, and promoting engagement in civic and community activities.

We believe this partnership will significantly enhance the overall well-being of our students by cultivating a supportive environment that prioritizes mental health, cultural awareness, and empowerment. We look forward to working closely with the Bear River Band to implement this initiative and to further strengthen the support systems available to our students and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Colton Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Colton Johnson

Superintendent Principal

Loleta Union Elementary School District

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for Bear River Rancheria's proposed integrated early-intervention and housing stability initiative. This project represents a thoughtful, proactive approach to addressing housing insecurity and family instability within our community. By embedding trained peer support workers at Loleta Elementary, this initiative prioritizes prevention — identifying young people and families who may be at risk before challenges escalate into crisis. Providing culturally responsive, trauma-informed support within the school environment will increase access to services, reduce stigma, and strengthen protective factors for students and their families.

Equally important is the development and sustainability of the transitional housing program. Safe, short-term accommodation combined with peer-led support, life-skills development, and pathways to permanent housing ensures that individuals and families receive not only shelter, but meaningful opportunities for long-term stability. Together, these interconnected components create a comprehensive continuum of care that reduces strain on emergency systems, promotes resilience, and strengthens community well-being. This proposal demonstrates both strategic vision and a deep understanding of the needs of vulnerable families. I strongly endorse this initiative and encourage your favorable consideration of funding support.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Wade

Wiyot Tribes Indian Education Site Lead at Loleta Union Elementary School

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Danette Kellerman, and I am a Social Worker and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Specialist serving in Humboldt County. I am writing to formally express my full support for the Bear River Rancheria Transitional Living House (TLH) in its continued efforts to secure additional resources to promote sobriety and long-term recovery within our community.

Through my professional experience, I have witnessed the significant need for culturally responsive and accessible recovery services. Far too often, Native American communities remain underserved and under-resourced when it comes to behavioral health and substance use treatment services. The work being done by the Bear River Rancheria TLH is not only vital but transformative in addressing these disparities and providing meaningful support to individuals and families on their path to recovery.

I strongly support their endeavors to obtain additional funding and resources, as these efforts will directly enhance services, strengthen community wellness, and promote sustained sobriety throughout Humboldt County. If you have any further questions, please feel free to reach. 707-731-3282.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Danette Kellerman

Danette Kellerman
Social Worker & SUD Specialist of Humboldt County Ca

PO Box 586, Scotia Ca 95565

Audit trail

Details

FILE NAME	Support letter From Danette - 2/26/26, 8:11 AM
STATUS	Signed
STATUS TIMESTAMP	2026/02/26 16:35:53 UTC

Activity

SENT	kaylasanfilippo@brb-nsn.gov sent a signature request to: Danette Kellerman (dkellerman2@co.humboldt.ca.us)	2026/02/26 16:12:21 UTC
SIGNED	Signed by Danette Kellerman (dkellerman2@co.humboldt.ca.us)	2026/02/26 16:35:53 UTC
COMPLETED	This document has been signed by all signers and is complete	2026/02/26 16:35:53 UTC

The email address indicated above for each signer may be associated with a Google account, and may either be the primary email address or secondary email address associated with that account.

Memorandum of Agreement

Between

Loleta Elementary School

And

Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria

I. Purpose

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) establishes a collaborative partnership between Loleta Elementary School and the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria (“Bear River”) to provide coordinated early intervention, social-emotional, cultural, and supportive outreach services to students within the Loleta Elementary community.

The purpose of this MOA is to formalize roles, responsibilities, and shared commitments to ensure that TLH staff support students in a manner that strengthens classroom environments, uplifts cultural identity, and reinforces positive behavioral and academic outcomes.

II. Guiding Principles

The parties agree to operate under the following shared principles:

- Respect for Tribal sovereignty and cultural values
- Student-centered, strengths-based approaches
- Collaboration and mutual accountability
- Cultural responsiveness reflective of the Bear River community
- Early intervention to prevent escalation of behavioral or academic challenges

III. Scope of Collaboration

A. Build Rapport with Teachers First

Strong student relationships start with strong staff collaboration.

- Schedule brief introductory meetings with each teacher.
- Ask about classroom goals, challenges, and existing behavior/academic supports.
- Clarify roles so TLH staff are seen as partners, not additional oversight.
- Offer consistent presence and follow-through to build trust.

Key mindset: Listen first, support second.

B. Identify Teacher & Classroom Needs

Work collaboratively to determine where TLH staff can best assist:

- Students needing social-emotional support
- Attendance or engagement concerns
- Behavioral regulation strategies
- Cultural enrichment opportunities
- Family communication support

Use teacher insight as the primary guide for service planning.

C. Align Support with Student Needs

Once needs are identified:

- Coordinate small group or individual student check-ins
- Provide in-class support when appropriate
- Reinforce classroom expectations consistently

- Integrate culturally responsive practices that reflect the Bear River community

Consistency between teacher expectations and TLH support builds credibility with students.

D. Build Positive Rapport with Students

Strategies TLH Staff Can Use:

- Be visible and predictable in classrooms
- Learn students' names and interests quickly
- Use strengths-based language
- Show genuine curiosity and care
- Maintain clear, consistent boundaries

When students see alignment between teachers and TLH staff, trust grows more quickly.

E. Maintain Ongoing Communication

- Weekly or biweekly check-ins with teachers
- Quick feedback loops after student interactions
- Adjust support based on teacher input
- Celebrate student progress together