

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES**  
**Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Disaster Response Crisis**  
**Counseling County Grants**

TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) hereby announces the availability of the funds described herein.

**Program Name:** Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Disaster Response Crisis Counseling County Grants

**Purpose:** The Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) is issuing a Request for Letters of Interest (RLI) to County Mental Health Administrators in New Jersey. This RLI will provide grant funding for Disaster Response Crisis Counseling (DRCC) programs. Through this RLI, County Mental Health Administrators can apply through a Letter of Interest (LOI) for funding to support their pre-existing county DRCC programs. DMHAS will issue a total of up to 21 awards. Each county in New Jersey is eligible for one (1) award.

The purpose of the grant is to address the shortage of Disaster Response Crisis Counselors (Crisis Counselors) State-wide; ensuring that New Jersey has a robust number of Crisis Counselors that can respond to natural and man-made disasters. Successful applicants will be expected to fund recruitment, exercise drills, training activities as well as engagement efforts for Crisis Counselors. Each county will be awarded up to \$30,000 (or more if all funds are not expended) as a result of this grant opportunity. The funds will be disbursed in two increments of \$15,000. The funding period begins October 2023. Successful applicants can expect the first disbursement in 2023 and the second in 2024. The total allocated for these activities is \$630,000, intended to benefit each county in New Jersey. Based on the number of applicants, narrative and budget quality, successful applicants could receive more than the proposed \$30,000 award amount if all funds are not expended. This funding is a time-limited opportunity to specifically address the need for a robust Crisis Counselor volunteer workforce in New Jersey.

**The RLI is issued by DMHAS to benefit pre-existing Disaster Response Crisis Counseling programs.**

**RLI Procedure:** Effective August 1, 2023, the RLI is available at [www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/providers/grants). The LOIs must be submitted in a manner that comports with the RLI requirements and instructions.

**The Letter of Interest should be sent to:**

Disaster & Terrorism Branch  
dmhas-dtb.programs@dhs.nj.gov

**Submission Deadline:** Letters of Interest must be received by September 15, 2023 at 4:00 pm ET.

**Notification Date:** Those who submitted a Letter of Interest will be notified of the outcome on or before October 13, 2023.

July 31, 2023

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**Sarah Adelman, Commissioner**

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**Date**