

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

##### **Notice of Availability of Funds**

##### **Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP) Category 2: Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Sites**

**Take notice** that in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Department of Law and Public Safety (DL&PS) announces the anticipated availability of the following grant program funds:

- a) Name of the Program: FFY21 COSSAP Category 2: LEAD Sites.** This program is supported by the FFY2021 Bureau of Justice Assistance, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, Pub. L. No. 115-31, 131 Stat. 135, 205.
- b) Purpose:** DL&PS received funding under the FFY21 COSSAP Category 2 to develop and implement LEAD programs in six designated sites. As part of the project, DL&PS is seeking public-health oriented entities with experience coordinating and/or providing substance use and/or mental health services to implement LEAD programs in at least one of the following six municipalities:
1. Phillipsburg, NJ (Warren County)
  2. Irvington, NJ (Essex County)
  3. Elizabeth, NJ (Union County)
  4. New Brunswick, NJ (Middlesex County)
  5. Brick, NJ (Ocean County)
  6. Bridgeton, NJ (Cumberland County)

DL&PS, in consultation with the LEAD National Support Bureau and a multidisciplinary working group made up of various representatives of State agencies and recovery,

prevention, and harm reduction advocates, utilized a data-driven approach to select program sites within the state that have been disproportionately impacted by the abuse of illicit opioids, stimulants, or other substances as supported, in part, by objective data such as: high rates of treatment admissions and high rates of overdose deaths and naloxone administrations by law enforcement and Emergency Medical Services. DL&PS also considered high poverty rates.

- c) **Available Funding:** DL&PS anticipates an award of \$6,000,000 for the FFY21 COSSAP Category 2. Of this amount, DL&PS will make up to six awards in the amount of \$909,744.16 available to public-health oriented entities that are capable and interested in developing and implementing LEAD programs in at least one of the six selected sites. These funds will be awarded to six subrecipients on a competitive basis, pursuant to the quality of the application submitted and the pending availability of federal funding. Funding decisions will be made to ensure the broadest and deepest level of planning, development, data collection, and review.

Awards are fixed amount subawards. In compliance with 2 CFR 200.201, funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis only and will be contingent upon receipt and approval of specified deliverables. Payments will be made in phases as deliverables are considered complete and satisfactory. The project period will begin January 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2024. DLPS will issue awards to up to six applicants. Continuation funding may be available, contingent upon the availability of Federal funding and the Subrecipient's compliance with grant conditions and performance of its goals and objectives.

- d) **Organizations which may apply for funding under this program:** Applicants, private or publicly funded, must have a public-health oriented focus, have experience in coordinating

and/or providing services to individuals with substance use and/or mental health disorders, and have an interest and ability to develop and implement a LEAD program in at least one of the designated sites. This may include but not be limited to: local health departments, harm reduction centers, or non-profits or community-based treatment providers that provide substance use and/or mental health treatment and/or services to individuals in at least one of the selected communities. Priority will be given to those with demonstrated experience coordinating and/or providing services to individuals who are economically disadvantaged. At its core, LEAD is a public health initiative. Thus, subrecipients must be public-health oriented entities; public health agencies are in the best position to have the partnerships and relationships with the community that will be needed to run a program.

An applicant may apply for more than one designated area within a proposal, but must demonstrate their capacity to develop and implement the program in each identified municipality.

- e) **Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding:** Applicants must be in good standing with all State and Federal agencies with which they have had an existing grant or contractual relationship. Where appropriate, all applicants must hold current professional and State licenses and certifications.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 requires agencies to obtain a Unity Entity Identifier (UEI) and register with the System for Award Management (SAM), formerly the Central Contractor Registration (CCR), to receive a Federal award or subaward. Applicants without a current UEI number(s) and SAM registration will be considered ineligible.

To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant must file an application, in accordance with the requirements of the program, by the submission deadline. **The following scored components must be included in the application:**

***1. Agency Background, Mission, Experience, and Capability. 25 points***

Please describe in detail the applicant's mission, background, and experience as it relates to the purpose and objectives of the proposed project. State how the entity coordinates and/or provides services to individuals with substance use and/or mental health disorders, as well as those who are economically disadvantaged, if applicable, and the role of the entity in at least one of the designated municipalities. Explain the applicant's knowledge and interest in LEAD and capability to develop and implement LEAD in at least one of the six identified areas, including the entity's jurisdiction over at least one selected area, relationship with local law enforcement and community stakeholders, and how it leverages its resources. Detail experience in developing and implementing a similar project, including any prior experience working with the State of New Jersey and county or local law enforcement in a designated site.

***2. Project Description, including Goal, Objectives, and Timeline. 30 points***

Please specify a clear, realistic goal for the proposed project in at least one of the identified municipalities. Identify, in a concise manner, deliverables and objectives that are measurable and clearly related to the goal. Focus in particular on the applicant's ability to plan, develop, and implement LEAD in at least one of the designated sites, including anticipated project partners and stakeholders. Describe

in detail the project's approach or strategy for working with stakeholders, including local law enforcement in a designated site, and community partners to attain each objective, and how any other existing projects will be leveraged, but not duplicated, for this project. Include a timeline that specifies each objective along with the major activities, responsible staff and feasible time frames for each objective and activity. Include how/when the applicant will work with the LEAD National Support Bureau for technical assistance and the academic partner for data collection and analysis in the timeline.

***3. Project Management and Staff. 5 points***

Please identify all project management and staff responsible for carrying out program or project activities. Demonstrate how personnel are uniquely qualified to manage and implement the project. Provide current resumes along with job descriptions for each position. The job description should detail the title and job responsibilities, as well as the education and experience necessary for the positions. Describe how effective communication and coordination among the team members will be implemented throughout the program period.

Additionally, state if the positions are full-time or part-time and the number of hours and percentage of time devoted to the project. Indicate if you will use existing staff or if you will recruit new staff for each position.

**4. *Data Collection, Performance Measures, and Evaluation. 20 points***

Describe the applicant's willingness to work with an academic partner provided by DL&PS, what data and performance measures the applicant plans on collecting, and how it will utilize the academic partner for data collection and analysis purposes. Explain how this project may provide meaningful insights into solving local or state challenges or contribute to a national body of knowledge with respect to best practices. Indicate how the evaluation findings will be used to inform future programming and services of the applicant and a designated site.

**5. *Budget. 20 points***

Please provide a detailed narrative explaining what the subaward funding will be expected to be used for. Awards are fixed amount subawards. In compliance with 2 CFR 200.201, funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis only and will be contingent upon receipt and approval of specified deliverables. Payments will be made in phases as deliverables are considered complete and satisfactory.

Describe any existing funding or resources that will be used to leverage to support the proposed project and a proposed sustainability plan when funding expires.

**f) Procedures for Eligible Organizations to Apply:**

Application packages are available on DL&PS website at [Grant Opportunities - New Jersey Office of Attorney General \(njoag.gov\)](https://www.njoag.gov/grant-opportunities). Please follow the requirements of this Notice of Availability of Funds when drafting the application; and submit completed application by the

submission deadline. DL&PS reserves the right to decline any and all applications for funding and to award grants in amounts that may be other than requested. The submitted application may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

**g) Submit completed application to:**

levyk@njdcj.org

**h) Deadline by which applications must be submitted:**

Applications must be completed and emailed **before 4:00 P.M. on Monday, December 5, 2022.**

**i) Date by which notices shall be emailed of approval or disapproval of applications:** All

applicants will be notified in writing on or about December 16, 2022 whether or not their proposed project will be funded.

Please note that funding allocations and individual subaward amounts are subject to change. Subrecipients shall recognize and agree that both the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under a grant agreement expressly depends upon the availability to DL&PS of funds appropriated by the State or Federal Legislature from State and/or Federal revenue or such other funding sources, as may be applicable. A failure of DL&PS to make any payment under a grant agreement or to observe and perform any condition on its part to be performed under a grant agreement as a result of the failure of the State or Federal Legislature to appropriate funds shall not in any manner constitute a breach of a grant agreement by DL&PS or an event of default under a grant agreement and DL&PS shall not be held liable for any breach of

a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from DL&PS beyond the duration of the award period set forth in a grant agreement and in no event shall a grant agreement be construed as a commitment by DL&PS to expend funds beyond the termination date set in a grant agreement.