

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability of Funds

COVID -19 Emergency Housing for Victims

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

a) Name of the Program: COVID-19 Emergency Housing for Victims Program. This program is supported by the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 (FFY20) Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) grant.

b) Purpose: The purpose of the COVID-19 Emergency Housing for Victims Program is to provide funding for the relocating of high-risk victims of crime who face threats within their community, and whose victimization is directly related to, or heightened by, the pandemic. In many instances, geographic proximity to certain individuals or groups plays a major factor in perpetuating cycles of violence. Case management and social services can only be so effective if an individual remains in a high-risk environment, or depends on their perpetrator for shelter. Funding will be used to provide emergency housing services to victims of crime, including gun violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking victims in need of immediate relocation during the COVID-19 pandemic. This approach will remove individuals from high-risk, retaliatory environments, and help fill a resource gap in current violence prevention programs.

Funding may be used for hotel stays, relocation costs, temporary shelter operations, apartment deposits and rent payments for permanent housing, and to hire temporary staff to serve as housing navigators and/or coordinators, identifying available housing and coordinating relocation. All housing services must comply with OAG Grants' Housing Policies, which can be found at <https://www.nj.gov/oag/grants.htm>.

Purpose Area 1 – Statewide Provider for Domestic Violence Victims. The State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General seeks one entity to provide COVID-19 emergency housing for domestic violence victims. Of the \$2,000,000 in the program, \$1,000,000 is set aside for one entity capable of providing Statewide emergency housing services specifically to victims of domestic violence. The applicant must demonstrate, in their scored narrative (outlined in section “e” below), their ability to provide these services on a Statewide basis.

Purpose Area 2 – Community Focused Providers for All Victims. The State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General seeks applicants to provide COVID-19 emergency housing for all other victims of violence, including sexual assault, human trafficking, gun violence, etc. Of the \$2,000,000 in the program, \$1,000,000 is set aside for this purpose. Applicants may apply for up to \$50,000. The applicant must demonstrate, in their scored narrative (outlined in section “e” below), their knowledge and ability to provide these services in their specified community.

Applicants may only apply for ONE of the above purpose areas. Applicants that apply for more than one will not be considered for funding.

c) Available Funding: The State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, was awarded \$11,816,087 in its Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020 CESF award. Of this amount, \$2,000,000 will support the COVID-19 Emergency Housing for Victims Program. \$1,000,000 is set aside for each of the specified purpose areas. These funds will be awarded 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 service coverage practicable, taking into account the type of services to be delivered, the types of victims to be served, and the geographic distribution of the project.

The project period will begin February 1, 2022, and end on January 30, 2023. Extensions will not be granted. Only one application per applicant will be accepted. Matching funds are not required for this program.

d) Organizations that may apply for funding under this program: Private, nonprofit organizations and public agencies that provide crime victim services are eligible to apply. Private, nonprofit organizations must be organized under Title 15A of the New Jersey Revised Statutes or be qualified for a nonprofit tax exemption under the Internal Revenue Code 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3).

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 a grant or contractual relationship. Where appropriate, all applicants must hold current professional and State licenses and certifications.

Charitable organizations and professional fundraisers based, operating, or soliciting within New Jersey must register with the Division of Consumer Affairs Charities Registration Section, unless specifically exempted under the provisions of the Charitable Registration and Investigation Act, N.J.S.A. 45:17A-18 et seq. Proof of charity registration compliance or proof of exemption shall be submitted with the organization's application. The Office of the Attorney General reserves the right to decline any and all applicants who cannot demonstrate proof of eligibility.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 requires an agency to obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and **register with the System for Award Management (SAM)**, to receive a federal award or subaward. **Applicants without a current DUNS number(s) and SAM registration will be considered ineligible.** Successful applicants will be required to complete a FFATA form upon award.

To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant must file a **completed** application including the below scored narrative, in accordance with the requirements of the program, by the submission deadline. **Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered for funding.**

The following scored components must be included in the application narrative:

1. Agency Background, Mission, Experience, and Capability 10 points
Describe in detail the agency's mission, background, and experience as it relates to the purpose and objectives of the proposed project. Explain the agency's knowledge and capability to carry out the project, based on demonstrated experience in providing services to the target population

2. Problem Statement/Needs Assessment

15 points

Please identify the specific problem(s), target population, and geographic area that the proposed project will address. Describe the needs and characteristics of the target population; local needs and conditions; describe existing services and identify gaps and/or barriers in services. Include current statistics and relevant facts to substantiate the need and selection of the proposed project.

3. Goals, Objectives and Implementation; and Project Work Plan

40 points

Please specify a clear, realistic goal for the proposed project. Identify objectives that are concise, measurable, and directly relate to the goal, problem statement/needs assessment, and target population. Measurable objectives shall include, but are not be limited to, the level of service to be provided. Describe in detail the project's approach or strategy for attaining each objective. Include a project work plan that specifies each objective along with the major activities, responsible staff, and feasible time frames for each objective and activity.

4. Key Project Staff

10 points

Please identify all project management and staff. Describe how personnel are uniquely qualified to manage and implement the project. Indicate if you will use existing staff or if you will recruit new staff for each position requested in the budget.

5. Data Collection/Performance Measures/Evaluation

10 points

Provide a description of how you will collect data, measure performance and complete an overall evaluation of the project.

6. Budget Detail and Budget Narrative

15 points

Applicants must provide an itemized list of costs and a narrative explanation as to why those costs are necessary to the success of the project. Costs must be specific and tied to the project objectives. Applicants should refer to the Program Administration and Funding Guidelines for a description of budget categories, allowable expenses and match requirements.

f) Procedures for Eligible Organizations to Apply:

Application packages are available on the OAG website at

<https://www.njoag.gov/resources/grant-opportunities/notices-of-available-funds/>. Applicants must complete and submit a complete application with all applicable documents and signatures by the submission deadline. Applications must be emailed to the following email address:

covidvictimhousing@njoag.gov **Applicants must indicate which Purpose Areas they are applying for in the subject line of their e-mail.** Applications that do not comply with the requirements of this Notice of Availability of Funds and the Program Administration and Funding Guidelines will not be considered. The Office of the Attorney General 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) The address* of the office receiving the application:

William H. Cranford, Chief Administrative Officer
Office of the Attorney General
Division of Administration
Richard J. Hughes Justice
Complex 25 Market Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

* ONLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS VIA EMAIL:

COVIDVICTIMHOUSING@NJOAG.GOV. BE SURE TO INCLUDE WHICH PURPOSE AREA YOU ARE APPLYING FOR IN THE SUBJECT LINE OF YOUR E-MAIL.

h) Deadline by which applications must be submitted:

Applications must be completed and emailed to covidvictimhousing@njoag.gov on or before **11:59 pm on December 22, 2021**.

i) Date by which notices shall be sent of approval or disapproval of applications:

All applicants will be notified on or about **January 26, 2022**, whether or not their proposed project(s) 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 is expressly dependent upon the availability to the Department of funds appropriated by the State or Federal legislature from State and/or Federal revenue to such other funding sources as may be applicable. A failure of the Department 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 the Department or an event of default under a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from the Department 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 the Department to expend funds beyond the termination date set forth in a grant agreement.