

features which contribute to a favorable quality of life for arriving refugees.

ORR suggests that applicants will want to consider refugees for preferred community sites who have the following characteristics:

a. Free cases: Those refugees who are determined in the allocation process to be "free cases," which means they are unrelated to persons already living in high-impact communities.

b. New refugee populations: Those refugees from populations recently determined to be refugees who have no/few existing communities within the impacted areas of the United States.

c. Other refugees: The applicant may identify refugees who would accept the opportunity for resettlement in (diversion to) the preferred community: e.g., refugees who would otherwise be resettled under the rubric of "family reunification", but in fact are distant relatives and friends. These refugees may voluntarily elect placement in the designated sites.

B. Preferred Community Site Selection

ORR recognizes that extensive planning has to occur in order to increase placements to preferred communities while concurrently reducing placements in impacted sites. Thus, under the Cooperative Agreement it will be incumbent upon ORR and the grantee to assure that planning and coordination occur locally and nationally. This means that the grantee and its local sites will plan and coordinate with ORR, Department of State and other voluntary agencies where their local affiliates place refugees in the same sites, and with State governments for both site selection and the program strategies to be developed.

The application must be submitted with the sites selected. The application shall include a description of the site, the rationale for selection, the planning process and coordination activities that occurred prior to selection. Site selection after application approval will require ORR concurrence under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement.

The site selected may be one that has had successful refugee placements and may have capacity for additional successful placements. Or the site may be one where refugees have not previously been placed, but which has all the elements of a successful refugee resettlement community, listed in section E. 2, below.

To resettle refugees successfully, the community must have adequate social services. ORR formula social services funding is awarded proportionate to the number of new arrivals in the previous

three years. This announcement recognizes that increasing resettlement in specific sites will not be reflected fully in the ORR formula social services awards until three years after the placements. For this reason, services that would otherwise be provided through the State formula social services allocations may be included in the applications to this announcement. Planning to assure an orderly transition and complement of services must be done in concert with the State. The applicant shall describe and document this coordination and planning.

C. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants are public and private non-profit agencies which currently resettle newly arriving refugees under a Reception and Placement Grant with the Department of State or with the Department of Justice. This announcement is restricted to these agencies, because placements of new arrivals are implemented under the terms of these grants and no other agencies place new arrivals or participate in determining the sites where they will be placed. Applications shall include documentation that the applicant is a recipient of a Reception and Placement Grant. Applications lacking this documentation will not be considered.

D. Allowable Activities

ORR will accept applications under this announcement for the costs incurred in diverting new refugee placements from one area, for increasing placements in preferred communities, for services needed for the increased placements in the preferred communities, for the planning and coordination processes, and for the national and local program management costs associated with these activities.

E. Application Content

In preparing the application, the applicant must include the following:

1. Description of the proposed program. Include the rationale for how the program will meet the goals of this Notice: the increased placement of refugees in preferred communities and the diversion of refugees from communities with histories of extended use of welfare. Description should include anticipated improved resettlement opportunities; the employment services available in the new location including those to be funded under this grant, if awarded; and the cost implications in both the impacted and preferred sites for the population shifts in local resettlement services.

2. A description of sites from which placements will be diverted and the rationale. A list of the designated and potential sites and the rationale for each site with respect to the following criteria:

- Local community support: Show by letters, financial and in-kind donations, news clippings, etc. that the community supports the placement of these refugees in their area;
- State consultation: Provide documentation, e.g. copies of letters; notes of planning/coordination meetings;
- Evidence of availability of entry level and other appropriate employment opportunities: e.g., Letters from employers who have refugees working for them and would hire more;
- History of low out-migration rates for proposed sites (show documentation for the last two years);
- Moderate cost of living: Needs and payments standards from AFDC programs from the state, statements of volag affiliates, statements from refugees;
- Low welfare grant level relative to earnings potential;
- Qualified staff: give job description and show how they will be linguistically and culturally appropriate to the prospective refugee(s);
- Affordable housing: provide average rental costs for apartments of specified number of bedrooms and describe access to and distance from services and potential employment.

3. A description of the caseload(s) (free cases, ethnicity, new or existing ethnic group, etc.) to be served, what interventions will be used to promote stability of placements, proposed numbers, proposed placement schedule, back-up strategy should the proposed placement schedule fail.

4. Budget, including line items and a narrative justification for each line. Clearly state the costs for national and local planning and project coordination. Discuss relationship between costs proposed for this grant and costs, e.g., for services, which will be covered by existing refugee or mainstream funding and which will be covered by this grant.

5. A description of the national and local planning process, of coalitions formed to support the new placements, and the consultative process used to support the implementation. If several local agencies are planning a coordinated project, e.g., placing refugees from the same ethnic groups in the same designated sites, describe the coordination of these plans. Include