

discussion of anticipated outcomes of the placement strategy for new arrivals.

6. A description of national/local project management. A discussion of the project's anticipated outcomes, e.g., employment and retention rates, welfare avoidance, reductions, and terminations. Include report form and narrative outline for the outcome measures which will be reported to ORR. These must include the increase in placements in Preferred Communities and the diversion of placements from communities where there is a history of extended welfare use.

F. Review Criteria

Preferred Communities applications will be reviewed, scored and ranked utilizing the following criteria:

1. Clarity of description of proposed program and soundness of rationale for achieving the goals of the Announcement. Reasonableness of cost implications in both the impacted and preferred communities. Adequacy of the anticipated improved resettlement opportunities as well as the diversion of placements from sites with histories of extended welfare usage. Soundness of refugee social services in the new community and choice of services to be funded by this grant. (20 Points)

2. Clear and comprehensive description of the preferred sites proposed in terms of community support, Federal, State/local government consultation, and linkages, cost-of-living, out-migration history, housing, and employment availability, welfare grant levels relative to potential earnings, and quality of life features, such as school environment and available religious facilities. Adequacy of description of sites from which refugees will be diverted and the rationale for diverting cases from them. (25 Points)

3. Appropriateness to the targeted population of the proposed shift, and strategies to be used to promote stability of placements. (15 Points)

4. Reasonableness of the budget and adequacy of line item narrative; coordination of these grant funds with other funds. (15 Points)

5. Adequacy of planning process and reasonableness of anticipated outcomes. (15 Points)

6. Adequacy of national/local management, including objectives and outcomes, reporting procedures, outcome measures, data collection and monitoring. (10 Points)

II. Category 2: Unanticipated Arrivals or Increases in Arrivals of Refugees to Communities Where Adequate or Appropriate Services Do Not Exist

A. Purpose and Scope

This grant program is intended to provide an emergency response capability by funding services for unanticipated new arrivals for whom the existing service system cannot respond adequately because available ORR funding is already committed. It is intended to enable communities to respond to the following situations: (1) The arrival of new ethnic populations of refugees and entrants in communities where the existing services system does not have appropriate bi-lingual capacity, or where the arrivals of such populations are in communities where refugee services do not presently exist; or (2) significant increases in arrivals of an already existing ethnic group where the existing service capacity is not sufficient to accommodate them. Applications will be accepted only for proposals of service in communities which have received, or expect to receive, minimally 100 or more persons annually as an unexpected population to a single local community. This is a minimum, not a standard. The reasonableness of the proposal will depend on the number of unanticipated arrivals relative to the anticipated number. The applicant will need to establish that the unanticipated number is significant in the local context by documenting all arrivals, both anticipated and unanticipated. Applications which do not satisfactorily document all arrivals will not be considered.

ORR encourages the formation of coalitions of organizations which propose to serve the new population(s) jointly, but only one agency may be designated as grantee, and that agency will be responsible for administration of the project.

As noted above, grantees should view these resources as a temporary solution to the challenge of program transition. This grant program is intended to supplement a State's existing refugee services network by responding to unmet needs of the new refugee populations, with the expectation that a State will have incorporated services for these new populations into their refugee services network, funded by formula social service dollars, by the end of the grant project period.

B. Eligible Applicants

Public and private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply.

C. Allowable Services

ORR will accept applications under this announcement for the types of activities generally funded by States under their social services formula allocation, in accordance with section 412(c)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act for refugee social services. In general, such service categories are defined as employment services, language services, and support services. Applications under this section should contain references to provision of appropriate bi-lingual and bi-cultural service delivery and the development and dissemination of appropriate orientation materials. Services provided by all grantees, whether private or public, must comport with the regulations at 45 CFR 400.147(b), .150, and .153-.156 regarding eligibility for services, scope of services and priorities for services.

D. Application Content

1. A description of the applicant agency's qualifications, including key personnel, to carry out the proposed activities for the target population to be served.

2. A discussion of the characteristics of the target population and the needs which cannot be addressed with the refugee program currently in existence in the community. Include a letter from the sponsoring national voluntary agency or agencies substantiating that there will be the unanticipated arrival of at least 100 or more refugees or entrants from the target population.

3. A description of the planning process used in developing the proposal, and the names and roles of the organizations participating in this process, as well as the roles of all organizations which will be involved in serving the population.

4. A description of the strategy to be used and services to be provided. If the proposal was developed by a consortium or other combination of entities, the role of each must be detailed. The applicant must describe the specific geographic area(s) and client group(s). Include a letter from the State verifying that the services are needed, not currently available and not fundable from existing resources, and discussing whether the State intends to integrate these services into the State refugee services network.

5. A description of the anticipated outcomes, including the number of job placements and 90-day retentions; and the anticipated cases of welfare avoidance, reductions and terminations.

6. A management plan providing for oversight, monitoring, and submission of reports.