

After the intermediary determines that a program may be covered, the intermediary may request additional documentation to make a claims determination.

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Public Health Service

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health; Availability of Grants for Minority Community Health Coalition Demonstration Projects.

AGENCY: Office of Minority Health, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, USPHS, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Funds and Request for Applications for Minority Community Health Coalition Demonstration Project Grants (Coalition Outreach Grants).

AUTHORITY: This program is authorized under section 1707(d)(1) of the Public Health Service Act, as amended in Public Law 101-527.

PURPOSE: The OMH announces the availability of grants to provide support to minority community health coalitions to develop, implement, and conduct demonstration projects which coordinate integrated community-based screening and outreach services and include linkages for access and treatment, to minorities in high risk, low income communities. These projects are to address socio-cultural and linguistic barriers to care and should have the potential for replication in similar communities.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY: Eligible applicants are public and private nonprofit organizations which will serve as the grantee organization for a coalition which has a history of OMH coalition grant support. This means prior support under: the Minority Community Health Coalition Demonstration Grant Program; the Minority Male Demonstration Grant Program (Intervention or Coalition Development); the Hispanic/Latino Community Health Coalition Development Project Grants; and the OMH/HRSA AIDS Coalition grants funded under the Rural Health Outreach for AIDS Education grants and Health Care Services for Residents of Public Housing. In most cases the applicant organization will be the same organization that served as the grantee on the original OMH grant. However, in a few instances: (1) The coalition has become a free standing entity, or (2) another member of the coalition has been designated to serve as the lead, grantee agency. In this case, the application must include a letter from

the original grantee organization verifying that the new applicant organization is a member of the coalition and is now designated to serve as lead for the same coalition which received prior OMH support. Only one application shall be submitted on behalf of any eligible coalition.

Applicant coalitions must include a health care facility such as a community health center, migrant health center, health department or medical center. The coalition should have the capacity to plan and coordinate services which reduce existing socio-cultural barriers. Specifically, the coalition will be called upon to carry out screening, outreach and enabling services to ensure that clients follow up with treatment and treatment referrals.

In order to verify that a viable coalition exists, the following must be provided: (1) The grant number of the prior OMH grant, (2) a concise narrative history of the existing minority community health coalition; (3) a copy of the coalition's mission statement and organizational chart; current membership roster indicating the race/ethnicity and roles of each coalition member organization; and (4) a dated copy of the founding bylaws or memorandum of agreement, and recent minutes or equivalent documents as proof that the coalition has been viable and operational over a sustained period.

Background

In prior fiscal years, the Office of Minority Health has focused on the establishment and enhancement of minority coalitions. Many coalition-conducted interventions included provision of health assessments and screening as an approach to improving the health of the targeted communities. Consistent with the broader public health experience, OMH found that many programs needed to go beyond provision of screening to provision of more systematic follow-up for access and treatment. Therefore, in FY 1995, OMH's coalition grants will focus on projects that address socio-cultural barriers and that will demonstrate effective coordination of integrated community-based screening, outreach and other enabling services thus insuring linkage to treatment or other indicated follow-up.

ADDRESSES/CONTACTS: Applications must be prepared on Form PHS 5161-1 (Revised July 1992). Application kits and technical assistance on budget and business aspects of the application may be obtained from Ms. Carolyn A. Williams, Grants Management Officer, Office of Minority Health, Rockwall II Building, Suite 1000, 5515 Security

Lane, Rockville, MD, 20852, (telephone 301/594-0758). Completed applications are to be submitted to the same address.

Technical assistance on the programmatic content for the Coalition Grants may be obtained from Ms. Joan S. Jacobs. She can be reached at the Office of Minority Health, Rockwall II Building, Suite 1000, 5515 Security Lane, Rockville, MD 20852, (telephone 301/594-0769) or by Interest E-mail [Jacobs.OASH.SSW.DHHS.GOV].

In addition, OMH Regional Minority Health Consultants (RMHCs) are available to provide technical assistance. A listing of the RMHCs and how they may be contacted is provided in the grant application kit. Applicants also can contact the OMH Resource Center (OMH/RC) at 1-800/444/6472 for health information and generic information on preparing grant applications.

DEADLINE: To receive consideration, grant applications must be received by the Grants Management Officer by March 6, 1995. Applications will be considered as meeting the deadline if they are either: (1) Received at the above address on or before the deadline date and received in time for orderly processing. A legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or U.S. Postal Service will be accepted in lieu of a postmark. Private meeting postmarks will not be accepted as proof of timely mailing. Applications which do not meet the deadline will be considered late and will be returned to the applicant unread.

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS: It is anticipated that in Fiscal Year 1995, the Office of Minority Health will have approximately \$2.0 million available to support approximately 14 awards of up to \$150,000 each under the Minority Community Health Coalition Grant Program.

PERIOD OF SUPPORT: Support may be requested for a total project period not to exceed 3 years. Non competing continuation awards will be made subject to satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

PROJECT BUDGETS: Budgets of up to \$150,000 total direct and indirect costs per year may be requested to cover: The cost of personnel; consultants; support services; materials; and travel. Project budget must include travel for one project staff member to meet with the OMH Coalition Grant Program Director in Washington, DC. Funds may not be used for building alternations, renovations, or to purchase equipment except as may be acceptability justified in relation to conducting the project activities. Funds are to be used to