

2022 Mini Grant Program
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

Released - April 30, 2022

Questions Due: 05/04/2022 by 5:00 PM

Q & A Document – To Be Release by 5PM 5/6/2022

Questions & Answers:

1. *May I operate programming out of a religious site like a church, my program **will NOT be affiliated with any religion** but will use the church gym or other space to house the program?*

Answer: Grants will not be made to organizations that discriminate based on ethnicity, race, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, economic circumstance, physical/mental abilities and characteristics, or marital status. Grants for sectarian religious purposes or any religious activities are not eligible. A site with religious affiliation is not independently excluded from application so long as that site is located within Genesee County.

2. *Can I pay a stipend to volunteers?*

Answer: Please see the Budget section of the FOA for allowable/disallowable expenses. The budget form and an accompanying narrative should include a thorough justification for all costs, including the basis for computing these costs. Please provide a gross budget reflecting all estimated expenses and identifying all funding sources that will support the program. Include a budget narrative explaining all costs associated with the proposed program. These items will be evaluated in full in accordance with the evaluation and review criteria as outlined in the FOA to determine if they will be accepted as part of a grant proposal.

3. *Can I hire a volunteer?*

Answer: The Mini Grant Program Funding Opportunity Announcement does not provide guidance on the hiring practices of a grant applicant specific to 'volunteers'. Grants will not be made to organizations that discriminate based on ethnicity, race, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, economic circumstance, physical/mental abilities and characteristics, or marital status.

4. *Can I donate a portion of funds for use of the office space?*

Answer: All requested funds must be included in the budget as instructed in the FOA. The exchange of grant funds for use of office space would fall within the category of “rent”. Please reference the FOA for allowable and disallowable expenses.

5. *How soon will funds be issued in order to officially put the program in motion?*

Answer: Agencies receiving awards must complete and return revised budgets for final approval based on the actual award amount within one month of receiving the award notification. Contracts with all required signatures must be received by Genesee Health System within 1 month of the award. Funds will be issued as soon as possible following execution of the contract.

6. *Is there an opportunity for further funding after December 31, 2022?*

Answer: Applicants may request any amount up to \$50,000, which is the maximum amount that will be awarded. Any funds that remain unused on December 31, 2022, shall be returned to GHS within 30 days from that date. An extension of use for these funds can be submitted and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Any new funding opportunities will be publicized at the time they are issued and details are available on the GHS website.

7. *Of the two programs below is there one that is a higher priority based on GHS recent community assessment?*

1. Schools: Prevention and Crisis De-escalation - Develop and launch a universal screening tool for student mental health and provide consultation to school staff on effectively addressing mental health needs.

2. Health and Wellness for Vulnerable Populations-Provide consultation, navigation and parent support services to children and families seeking Autism services.

Answer: The 2022 Mini Grant Program will provide funding coinciding with 7 key focus areas as identified by the Genesee County Mental Health Millage. Applicants must identify 1 key area they wish to address with the funding. Applications will be evaluated based upon criteria established in the Grant Review and Evaluation Criteria sections of the FOA.

8. *Are budget items able to be adjusted/moved if anticipated costs change throughout the grant period?*

Answer: Budgets and Budget Narratives must be submitted according to the FOA. Agencies receiving awards must complete and return revised budgets for final approval based on the actual award amount within one month of receiving the award notification. Any change requests applying to any element of the originally submitted application throughout the budget period are required to be submitted to GHS prior to any changes being made. These will be reviewed on an individual basis based upon criteria established in the FOA. There is a one-time allowance for budget amendments during the grant period.

9. *Is there an opportunity to discuss this further with a grant representative/officer to ensure program request eligibility?*

Answer: The Question Submission process is identified in the FOA as the only opportunity for communication around program eligibility at this time.

10. *Does the grant have to be completed by December? The project I was thinking about would not happen until spring of 2023.*

Answer: The identified project period for this FOA is June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. An extension of use for these funds can be submitted and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Any new funding opportunities will be publicized at the time they are issued and details are available on the GHS website.

11. *Will the grant application allow us to edit and put in the requested information that is needed in the application? (Is there a fillable form applicants can complete?)*

Answer: This FOA only includes 1 form; a required Applicant Information Form. The 2022 Mini Grant Program FOA document does provide an Application Checklist (3rd page) to assist respondents with a summary of elements to be included with the Proposal submission.

12. *How can I obtain the application?*

Answer: There is not a separate Application document. The 2022 Mini Grant Program FOA document does provide an Application Checklist (3rd page) to assist respondents with a summary of elements to be included with the Proposal submission.

13. *I have a question about the #2 for an event. Will an expungement fair qualify for the funding? Where do we have to pay the lawyers for their time? I do not want to hold a fair providing information. I want to be the solution and pay for the services needed. An expungement can cost up to \$600 after paperwork and paying for a lawyer. I would like to serve at least 50 people. I'm anticipating a budget of 10k for this event.*

Answer: The FOA outlines the application requirements and review/evaluation criteria. Applications will only be reviewed for funding eligibility in full with all required submission components included.

14. *My question is related to the demonstrated impact. For the Health and Wellness for Vulnerable Populations, does this include mental health as well?*

Answer: Yes.

15. *Can grant funds be used to set up clinic including:*

- a. obtaining needed licenses?*
- b. purchasing equipment?*
- c. can grant funds be used to pay salaries of ancillary personnel?*
- d. Can grant funds be used to pay liability insurance needed for clinics?*

Answer: Please see the Budget section of the FOA for allowable/disallowable expenses. The budget form and an accompanying narrative should include a thorough justification for all costs, including the basis for computing these costs. Please provide a gross budget reflecting all estimated expenses and identifying all funding sources that will support the program. Include a budget narrative explaining all costs associated with the proposed program. These items will be evaluated in full in accordance with the evaluation and review criteria as outlined in the FOA to determine if they will be accepted as part of a grant proposal.

16. *Can you give us an idea of specific outcome criteria that you need to verify that project has been successful from GHS perspective?*

Answer: The FOA identifies the following examples that would assist to evaluate if a project would be successful from the GHS perspective (not all inclusive, just a summary of examples for purposes of a Q/A response): meaningful impact demonstrated in one of the 7 focus areas; the ability to complete goals/objectives within the project period; number of individuals served; the way in which the proposed project/program intends to solve the problems identified in the application; the ability to carry out the program in full as identified in the application.

17. *Are we allowed to use funds for hosting e.g. (snacks, food, paper products etc.?)*

Answer: Please see the Budget section of the FOA for allowable/disallowable expenses. The budget form and an accompanying narrative should include a thorough justification for all costs, including the basis for computing these costs. Please provide a gross budget reflecting all estimated expenses and identifying all funding sources that will support the program. Include a budget narrative explaining all costs associated with the proposed program. These items will be evaluated in full in accordance with the evaluation and review criteria as outlined in the FOA to determine if they will be accepted as part of a grant proposal.

18. *Are we allowed to give the family incentives for participation?*

Answer: Please see the Budget section of the FOA for allowable/disallowable expenses. The budget form and an accompanying narrative should include a thorough justification for all costs, including the basis for computing these costs. Please provide a gross budget reflecting all estimated expenses and identifying all funding sources that will support the program. Include a budget narrative explaining all costs associated with the proposed program. These items will be evaluated in full in accordance with the evaluation and review criteria as outlined in the FOA to determine if they will be accepted as part of a grant proposal.