

Street Outreach Questions Pre-Conference Meeting on April 30, 2009

Q: Where will Questions & Answers (Q&A) be posted?

Questions and answers will be posted at the following website:
<http://www.rhyttac.ou.edu>

Q: It appears SOP is designed primarily for urban areas. We are a very "rural "area with many homeless youth, and wonder what consideration is given to agencies that operate in smaller rural areas for SOP funding.

All applications will be reviewed and scored based upon the evaluation criteria as stated in Section V.1 of the program announcement. All applicants are to describe the need for services in their particular community regardless to whether serving in a rural or urban setting. It is incumbent upon each applicant to make a compelling case for funding in their application.

Q: Will a listing of who registered for the webinar be available? I would like to identify possible partners in California.

RHYTTAC can provide peer to peer connections with other programs in your area. Contact RHYTAC either by phone at 1-800-806-2711 or email them your request at rhytechnicalassitance@ou.edu. Information on current grantees is also posted on the FYSB website.

Q: Does the SOP specify the age range for youth?

There is no minimum age for SOP services and the maximum age for services to be provided to runaway, homeless and street youth is 21.

Q: Please explain the up to 21 age requirement. Can we serve someone who is 21?

You can serve a runaway or homeless youth through age 21, if the services are initiated prior to their 21st birthday. The services must be terminated prior to the youth's 22nd birthday as stated in the definition for "homeless youth" in Section 1 of the program announcement.

Q: Will there be required trainings/coordinating efforts in Washington DC?

The Family and Youth Services Bureau will annually host a Runaway and Homeless Youth Conference. The participation of Runaway and Homeless Youth grantees is strongly encouraged. The locations for the conferences are to be determined.

Also, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center will periodically host training sessions throughout the nation on topics designed to enhance Runaway and Homeless Youth programs.

Q: Is the average award \$100,000?

The average projected award amount is \$100,000 as stated in Section II of the program announcement. However, grantees are eligible to apply for up to \$200,000 per year.

Q: Is the average amount supposed to be \$200,000 or \$100,000? Please confirm the average projected award amount. The RFP says "\$100,000" but the webinar said "\$200,000" (same as ceiling).

The average projected award amount is \$100,000. The slide presentation for the pre-conference meeting erroneously provided an average projected award amount of \$200,000. This award information is found in Section II of the program announcement.

Q: Are current SOP grantees eligible to apply for a different region if our current grant doesn't end this year?

Yes. SOP grantees are eligible to apply for this grant if the identified service areas are distinct from the service areas stated in their current grant. Current SOP grantees with one or two years remaining in their project period may not apply for a new Street Outreach grant for the community they currently serve as stated in Section III.1 of the program announcement.

Q: Do we need to include the entire Emergency Preparedness Plan in the application, or will a summary suffice?

No. The entire plan is not required. However, the evaluation criteria does require a description of the Emergency Preparedness and Management Plan by addressing steps to be taken in case of a local or national situation that poses risk to the health and safety of the program staff and youth as stated in Section V.1 of the program announcement. Applications cannot exceed the 90-page limit which is stated in Section IV.2 of the program announcement.

Q: Where should the Disaster/Preparedness Plan be included?

The Emergency Preparedness and Management Plan or the description of the plan can be included in the Approach section of the application.

Q: The RFA in 2006 mentioned drop-in centers as a locale for SOP activities in addition to outreach on the street. Is providing a drop-in center no longer an eligible activity?

Applicants can propose the utilization of Drop-In Centers as a model for street outreach services in addition to describing effective plans to conduct street outreach efforts to reach runaway, homeless and street youth in areas where they congregate as stated in Section V.1 of the program announcement.

Q: What constitutes a documentation of experience?

Documentation of experience is a description of past activities that demonstrate an ability to functionally perform specific tasks. As stated in Section V.2 of the program announcement "Experience means that a major activity of the agency has been the provision of temporary shelter, street outreach, counseling and referral services to runaway, homeless and street youth."

Q: Should all letters of support be included in attachments at the end of the narrative?

Letters of support are optional and can be included as an attachment. Attachments are included in the 90-page limit application packet.

Q: Can you clarify the difference, if any, between Letters of Agreement and Letters of Support? I presume both of these are different from Third Party Agreements.

Letters of Agreement document the specific services to be provided by the partnering agency. Letters of Support are generally endorsements of the concept of the project provided by other organizations. A description of Third Party Agreements, which are documents utilized for sub-grants and sub-contracts, is located in Section IV.2 of the program announcement.

Q: Our current grant expires 8/31/09. Do the new grant awards start 10/1/09? Are there any provisions/exceptions for those of us that will fall in a funding gap?

No. The new grant awards should be made by September 30, 2009. Consideration will be made to award successful grant applications of current grantees, with projects expiring between August 31, 2009 and September 28, 2009, prior to the expiration of the project period. Good faith efforts will be made by FYSB to expedite the award process for successful applicants that fall in this category. All other grant awards will be made by September 30, 2009, as stated in Section V.3 of the program announcement.