

NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS

- **PROGRAM PURPOSE**
- Program Purpose: NN centers provide computer and Internet access to public housing residents and offer a wide range of services including job training, GED preparation, literacy training, and other self-sufficiency activities.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

- **ELIGIBILITY:** PHAs only.
- **DUE DATE:** June 17, 2004
- **WHERE TO SEND YOUR APPLICATION:**
 - HUD Grants Management Center, Mail Stop: Neighborhood Networks, 2001 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 703, Arlington, VA 22202
- **Only one application is permitted**

FUNDING AMOUNTS

- **TOTAL FUNDING: \$21.4 million**
- **Maximum Awards –**
 - **Existing Centers:**
 - **\$150,000 for PHAs with 1-780 units**
 - **\$200,000 for PHAs with 781-2,500 units**
 - **\$300,000 for PHAs with 2,501- 7,300 units**
 - **\$400,000 for PHAs with 7,301 or more units**

FUNDING AMOUNTS

- **Maximum Awards – continued**
 - **New Centers:**
 - **\$250,000 for PHAs with 1-780 units**
 - **\$300,000 for PHAs with 781-2,500 units**
 - **\$400,000 for PHAs with 2,501- 7,300 units**
 - **\$500,000 for PHAs with 7,301 or more units**

FUNDING AMOUNTS

- Funding will be divided as follows:
 - 50% for existing NN centers
 - 50% will provide grants to establish and operate new Neighborhood Networks centers.

CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S NOFA

- The NOFA format has changed from last year
- No contract administrator fee
- Any application proposing one or more ineligible activity will be eliminated

CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S NOFA

- Applicants that request funding in excess of the maximum grant which they are eligible to receive will not receive funding consideration.
- Project Coordinator salary is up to \$63,000 or 30% of grant amount (last year it was 20%)
- More points under leveraging for partnerships.

CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S NOFA

- Nonprofit organizations are not eligible to apply. Only PHAs are eligible to apply.
- Applicants may not use funds to “maintain” an existing center, they can only use funds to update or expand an existing center.

CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S NOFA

- Resident salaries are not part of administrative costs (can use up to 5% of grant funds for this purpose).

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

- All applicants must clearly demonstrate a 25% match
- Past performance
- Contract Administrator partnership agreement
- Minimum score of 75 in order to be funded
- DUNN & Bradstreet number

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

- Ineligible activities – applicants proposing one or more will be eliminated.
- Applicants requesting funding in excess of the maximum grant which they are eligible to receive will not receive funding consideration.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Program evaluations – grantees should reserve a portion of their funds for this purpose.
- Physical Improvements – must meet accessibility requirements as outlined in the NOFA.
- Contract Administrators – must help grantees meet federal procurement and financial management regulations.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Project coordinator – 30% of grant funds but no more than \$63,000;
- Literacy training and GED preparation;
- Computer training, from basic to advanced;
- College preparatory courses and information;

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Job training;
- Physical Improvements – must relate directly to providing space for a NN center;
 - Renovation done on site– PHA must demonstrate control of space through lease or ownership document submitted with application
- Equipment maintenance and insurance;
- Purchase of equipment and software;

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Purchase of distance learning equipment;
- Security and related costs;
- Hiring residents to assist with grant implementation – up to 5% of the grant; and
- Administrative costs – up to 10% of grant.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Payment of wages and/or salaries to participants for receiving supportive services and/or training programs;
- Purchase, lease, or rental of land;
- Purchase, lease, or rental of vehicles;
- Entertainment costs;

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Purchasing food;
- Service Coordinator salary and fringe benefits;
- Stipends;
- Cost of application preparation;

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Costs which exceed limits identified in the NOFA for the following: Project Coordinator, resident salaries, physical improvements and administrative expenses; and
- Costs not eligible under section 9(d)(1)(E) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937.

ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENTS & PARTICIPANTS

- Only public housing developments may be served by Neighborhood Networks grant funds.
- All participants must be residents of public housing.

APPLICATION FORMAT

- Follow the format as described in the NOFA (Section IV, B, (2) (b))
- Submit documents and narrative responses under TABs as outlined in the NOFA
- Page limit for narrative is 35 pages
 - Times New Roman font size 12
 - Double spaced

RATING FACTORS

- In addition to eligibility and threshold requirements, applications will be evaluated based on the rating factors.

RATING FACTOR 1

- Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff (25 points)
 - Narrative Response
 - Staff experience
 - Extra points for hiring residents
 - Organizational capacity
 - Past Performance
 - Program Administration & Fiscal Management

RATING FACTOR 2

- Need/Extent of the Problem (20 points)
 - Narrative Response
 - Socioeconomic Profile
 - Local Training Program information
 - Local Social Service Information
 - Demonstrated Link Between Proposed Activities and Local Need
- Use quantifiable measures/statistics

RATING FACTOR 3

- Soundness of Approach (30 points)
 - Narrative Response
 - Quality of business plan
 - Specific Services/Activities
 - Logic order of progress
 - Feasibility and Demonstrable Benefits
 - Timeliness
 - Description of problem and solution

RATING FACTOR 3

- Soundness of Approach (30 points)
 - Budget Appropriateness
 - Justification of expenses
 - Budget efficiency
 - Addressing HUD's policy priorities:
 - Improving the Quality of Life in Our Nation's Communities
 - Providing equal access to Grassroots organizations
 - Removal of Regulatory Barriers

RATING FACTOR 4

- Leveraging Resources (20 points)
 - Narrative Response
 - Clearly indicate match
 - 25% minimum, more points for higher match percentage
 - More points for partnerships

RATING FACTOR 5

- Achieving Results and Program Evaluation (10 points)
 - Narrative Response
 - Must use Logic Model (HUD-96010)
 - Outputs
 - Outcomes
 - The application provides a list of sample performance measures to help with Rating Factor 5.

REVIEW PROCESS

- Four Types of Review:
 - Eligibility;
 - Complete, meets deadline and threshold;
 - Past performance; and
 - Technical review (Rating Factors)

REVIEW PROCESS

- Applicants must send local field offices an exact copy of their application by the deadline. Field offices will review applications for past performance using Rating Factor 1.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD APPLICATION

POST-AWARD INFORMATION

- **Performance Reporting**
 - Grantees must report to field offices twice a year (January and July). Reports must consist of the financial reporting form HUD-269A, a narrative explaining progress, problems, etc. and Logic Model.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)**
 - 24 CFR part 85;
 - 24 CFR part 905;
 - 24 CFR part 968;
- The CFR can be found at:
<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- **OMB Regulations**
 - OMB Circular A-87; and
 - OMB Circular A-133.
- OMB Circulars can be found at:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html>

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS