STOP Violence Against Women - Enhancing Services to Culturally Specific Populations

Funding Announcement Q&A Tracker

Funding Announcement Link:

https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Active-Funding-Announcements.aspx

About this Document:

This guide will provide an overview of questions and answers regarding the STOP Violence Against Women Enhancing Services to Culturally Specific Populations funding announcement and application process, which opened on May 6, 2022. Responses will be provided as staff is able to process questions through June 16, 2022.

Questions?

Please contact PCCD staff at RA-OVSSTOPGrants@pa.gov with “Stop Violence Against Women Enhancing Services to Culturally Specific Populations” in the subject line.
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1. Eligible Applicants

A. We are a non-profit 501 ©(3) organization and we work with immigrants and refugees from over 100 countries to provide trauma-informed, multi-disciplinary and culturally and linguistically competent services through our five departments – Health and Wellness, Employment and Economic Growth, Legal, Language Access, and Survivor Services. Under our Survivor Services department, we work with immigrant victims of crime (Domestic violence, Sexual assault, Trafficking, Torture, etc.) and provide wraparound supports in areas of case management, legal, housing, employment, training, group work, and therapy with clients coming from over 46 different countries, 35 different languages, and 20 different ethnic groups. Approximately 80% of our clients who have experienced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking are Latina immigrant women and though our agency and department are not strictly culturally specific (where we exclusively work with only 1 or 2 racial/ethnic groups), there are certain programs within our agency that have more culturally specific groups. We also have majority bi/tri-lingual and bi-/multi-cultural staff. Additionally, as an agency as a whole, our mission is to empower immigrants and refugees and our work is centered around providing high-quality, comprehensive services to immigrants and refugees in the Greater Philadelphia area. Would we qualify since our organization as a whole provides culturally and linguistically specific services to many racial and ethnic communities?

Answer: Eligibility for these funds is open to culturally specific, community-based organizations. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20124 (c), a culturally specific community-based organization is a private nonprofit organization for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to one or more of the following racial and ethnic communities: 1) American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); 2) Asian Americans; 3) Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; 4) Blacks; and 5) Hispanics. Additionally, the applicant organization must meet the following eligibility requirements:
1. Have an advisory board or steering committee and staffing which are reflective of the culturally specific community it serves; and
2. Have demonstrated expertise in serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking or have entered into a formal partnership with an organization having such experience.

Please see page seven (7) of the funding announcement under Eligible Applicants.

Question. I have a question regarding our qualifying for the STOP funding opportunity that was recently posted. Our organization aims to help victims of domestic violence, however, we work very closely with the Positive Health Clinic through a General Hospital. They work to provide services to HIV positive patients in the county, and we work with them because there is often times a relationship between DV/IPV and HIV. I was wondering if we would qualify for this grant because there is certainly a tie in between HIV and minority populations. Any guidance you could recommend is appreciated! Thank you!

Answer: Eligibility for these funds is open to culturally specific, community-based organizations. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20124 (c), a culturally specific community-based organization is a private nonprofit organization for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to one or more of the following racial and ethnic communities: 1) American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); 2) Asian Americans; 3) Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; 4) Blacks; and 5) Hispanics.
Additionally, the applicant organization must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Have an advisory board or steering committee and staffing which are reflective of the culturally specific community it serves; and
2. Have demonstrated expertise in serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking or have entered into a formal partnership with an organization having such experience.

Please see page seven (7) of the funding announcement under Eligible Applicants.

2. Application Process

3. Eligible Activities

A. We are interested in applying for this grant opportunity and would like clarification on eligible projects and what "core services" includes. Does it only include organizations that implement programs for their participants, or can a train the trainer model be used (which provide support services to organizations that offer direct programs)?

Answer: Eligibility for these funds is open to culturally specific, community-based organizations. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20124 (c), a culturally specific community-based organization is a private nonprofit organization for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to one or more of the following racial and ethnic communities: 1) American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); 2) Asian Americans; 3) Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; 4) Blacks; and 5) Hispanics.

Additionally, the applicant organization must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Have an advisory board or steering committee and staffing which are reflective of the culturally specific community it serves; and
2. Have demonstrated expertise in serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking or have entered into a formal partnership with an organization having such experience.

STOP Funds may be used to support cross-system, collaborative efforts related to development of services and supports to culturally specific populations. Eligible activities and expenses include the following:

- Personnel and benefit costs associated with provision of services to the culturally specific population.
Example: bilingual/bicultural response advocate who provides accompaniment and expertise in response to violence against women crimes;

- Supplies and operating expenses related to provision of services and supports through the project;
- Consultants;
- Equipment (other than standard issue law enforcement items) necessary for project implementation; and
- Training for funded personnel to improve their understanding of victim services and ability to provide services to victims.

PCCD cannot comment on the eligibility of an idea for a competitive project. Applicants need to demonstrate through their submission in Egrants that what they are proposing to do is within the parameters set forth in the solicitation.

Please see page 7 of the funding announcement (FA) for eligible applicants, page 12 of the FA for Eligible Program Activities and Expenses and page 17 for the Project Description.

**Question:** I wanted to follow up on our question about eligibility. Can you provide clarification on eligible projects and what "core services" includes? Does it only include organizations that implement programs for their participants, or can a train the trainer model be used (which provide support services to organizations that offer direct programs)?

**Answer:** As noted in our prior answer, the intent of this solicitation is to provide funding directly to culturally specific community-based organizations to actually provide direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. The list of these specific services is found under #5 on page 17 of the solicitation.

Due to the competitive nature of this solicitation process, we are unable to provide additional guidance. It is up to you as the applicant to utilize the information on eligible applicants and eligible activities to determine whether the programming you wish to implement fits under the eligibility parameters. If you believe it does, submit an application and be sure to articulate how it fits as part of your project description.

**4. General Questions**