

All responses will be available for public inspection at the Center for Practice and Technology Assessment, telephone (301) 594-4015, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. AHCPR will not reply to individual responses, but will consider all nominations in selecting topics. Topics selected will be announced, from time to time, in the **Federal Register** and AHCPR press releases.

For Additional Information

Additional information about topic nominations can be obtained by contacting: Jacqueline Besteman, EPC Project Officer, Center for Practice and Technology Assessment, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, 6010 Executive Boulevard, Suite 300, Rockville, Maryland 20852; telephone (301) 594-4017; E-mail address: jbestema@ahcpr.gov.

Dated: April 27, 1999.

John M. Eisenberg,

Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Announcement Number 99049]

National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC); Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces that grant applications are being accepted to establish a National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) for fiscal year (FY) 1999. This program addresses the priority area of Violent and Abusive Behavior.

The purposes of the program are to:

1. Strengthen the existing support system serving sexual assault survivors;
2. Provide leadership in the prevention of sexual violence;
3. Provide comprehensive information and resources, policy analysis and development; and
4. Provide technical assistance and professional consultation to sexual assault programs, national, State and local organizations, community volunteers, and the media designed to enhance community response to and prevention of sexual violence.

B. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by National sexual assault coalitions and

State sexual assault coalitions. National sexual assault coalitions are membership organizations of state sexual assault coalitions which work to end sexual violence through public awareness, education, and public policy advocacy. State sexual assault coalitions are State level organizations that represent and are supported by the majority of the rape crisis centers and sexual assault programs in a given state. National and State coalitions both have a 501 (c) (3) designation and work with State and national systems (e.g. criminal justice, health, etc.) for sexual assault survivors.

Competition is limited to National and State sexual assault coalitions because:

1. The resource center will provide an infrastructure that supports the field of prevention of sexual violence that has been characterized by a lack of resources to adequately address the issue;
2. The resource center will provide immediate access to information and resources needed by people who work with women who are victims of violence;
3. The Senate appropriation committee encourages CDC to supplement state sexual assault coalitions' rape prevention and education efforts and to support state sexual assault coalitions focused on ending sexual violence; and
4. State sexual assault coalitions have a long history of providing victim services, educating students, training various groups including professionals and increasing public awareness of sexual violence.

Note: Pub. L. 104-65 states that an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engages in lobbying activities shall not be eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant, cooperative agreement, contract, loan, or any other form.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$700,000 is available in FY 1999 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 1, 1999 and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to five (5) years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

Applications with year 1 annual budgets that exceed \$700,000 (total direct and indirect costs) will be determined as ineligible and returned to the applicant.

Use of Funds

a. Allowable Uses of Funds:

Funds may be used for planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating projects. Accordingly, funds can be used to support personnel, purchase furniture appropriate to the establishment of this center, and to purchase hardware and software required to implement the project. Applicants may enter into contractual agreements to purchase goods and services, or to support collaborative activities, but the applicant must retain proper stewardship over funds and responsibility for tasks associated with the project.

b. Prohibited Uses of Funds:

Funds for this project may not be used for construction, renovation, the lease of passenger vehicles, or supplanting current applicant expenditures.

D. Program Requirements

The applicant requirements:

1. Provide technical assistance and training to assist organizations, programs and communities to adapt available resources to meet local needs.
2. Establish and maintain (for public use) a central resource of materials that addresses a wide range of sexual violence issues.
3. Develop systems for providing an assortment of information relative to sexual violence prevention.
4. Establish and maintain a full working partnership with an academic institution, research institution, or a consultant with demonstrated scientific expertise in the area of sexual violence programs.
5. Establish and maintain a full working partnership with appropriate National/State Sexual Assault Coalitions.
6. Provide a full-time manager and other staff as appropriate.
7. Develop and implement a mechanism(s) for assessing the informational and data needs of the diverse populations working in the field of sexual violence prevention.
8. Provide a detailed evaluation plan that will document program process, effectiveness, impact, or outcomes.

E. Application Content

Use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. Your application will be evaluated on the criteria listed, so it is important to follow them in laying out your program plan. The narrative should be no more than 40 pages, excluding the abstract, budget justification, and attachments

(i.e., letters of support, data collections forms, resumes, etc.) All material must be typewritten, double-spaced, with type NO SMALLER THAN 12 CPI, on 8.5" x 11" paper, with at least 1" margins, headings and footers, unbound, and printed on one side only. Do not include any pamphlets, spiral or bound materials.

Applicants must explain in detail how the proposal will accomplish the goals of this announcement within a project period not to exceed five years and must include the following sections:

1. Abstract

A one-page summary of the proposed National Sexual Violence Resource Center, outlining the goals and objectives, the working partners and collaborators, resources to be provided, the desired outcomes, and program evaluation plan.

2. Background and Need

a. The applicant should clearly describe the need for a National Sexual Violence Resource Center. This description should include the applicants' vision for this resource center, their understanding of, access to, and the exchange of information and resources, technical assistance and professional consultation to sexual assault programs, national, State, and local organizations, community volunteers, the media, geographically and culturally diverse communities, racial and ethnic communities, as well as those communities in which English is not the primary language to enhance community response to and prevention of sexual violence.

b. Include in this section the background and need for information regarding racial/ethnic, and cultural communities, people with disabilities, etc. who have experienced sexual violence.

3. Goals and Objectives

a. The goals and objectives should be specific, time-phased, measurable and achievable.

b. The goals and objectives should describe the program activities that are consistent with accomplishing the Center's goals and objectives, and specifically who among the core staff is responsible for doing what and when.

c. A detailed time line should be provided illustrating concurrent activities.

d. The applicant should clearly describe short term objectives (year 1) and long-term objectives (years 2 through 5) related to the establishment

of the national sexual violence resource center.

4. Project Management and Staffing

a. The applicant should provide a description of the key staff, their qualifications and experience in the sexual violence field, and the role each person will play in designing, implementing, and assessing the NSVRC. The applicant must include a plan for continued contact with the field.

b. The applicant should clearly describe the proposed and or existing relationship of the working partnership with an academic, research institution, or consultant with documented scientific expertise.

c. The applicant should provide resumes or curriculum vitae of key staff, an organizational chart that shows the Center's proposed structure.

d. The applicant should demonstrate that the facilities and resources are sufficient to conduct the Center's activities.

5. Plan of Operation

a. The applicant should demonstrate the ability to identify, document and develop materials for specific program needs.

b. The applicant must demonstrate the ability to provide technical assistance, training, and consultation to improve program administration, service delivery, and to promote the utilization of resources and techniques for program implementation and evaluation.

c. The applicant must demonstrate the ability to develop, and disseminate proposed materials and identify additional areas of research needed to address issues relevant to sexual violence.

d. The applicant should clearly demonstrate a full working partnership with an academic institution, a research institution, or consultant capable of providing the organization with sexual violence prevention expertise.

e. The applicant must demonstrate the ability or experience to deliver highly individualized technical assistance which enables a user to solve a specific problem.

6. Evaluation Plan

a. The applicant should provide a detailed description of the proposed evaluation plan to document program progress and how the proposed plan will measure success in developing a national resource center. The evaluation plan should include progress in meeting program objectives.

b. The applicant should document staff availability, expertise, experience, and capacity to perform the evaluation.

c. The applicant should include a plan for reporting evaluation results and using evaluation information for programmatic decisions. Indicate willingness to participate in a process of continuous improvement which may require frequent reviews of progress and processes utilized, remediation of identified barriers, and adoption of modified methods and measures.

7. Collaboration

The applicant must show evidence of collaboration with National/State sexual assault coalitions. Include letters of support or memoranda of understanding that precisely state the nature of past and proposed collaboration and the specific contribution the collaborator intends to make to the Center should be fully described.

8. Proposed Budget

The applicant must provide a detailed proposed first-year budget and narrative justification. The budget should include cost for travel for 2 project staff to attend at least 2 meetings in Atlanta with CDC staff in the first year of the program. The budget request should be reasonable and consistent with the intended use of cooperative agreement funds.

F. Submission and Deadline

Submit one original and two copies of PHS 5161-1 (OMB Number 0937-0189). Forms are in the application kit.

On or before June 28, 1999, submit the application to the Grants Management Specialist identified in the "Where to Obtain Additional Information" section of this announcement.

1. Deadline

Applications shall be considered as meeting the deadline if they are either:

a. Received at the above address on or before the deadline date; or

b. Sent on or before the deadline date, and received in time for orderly review and processing. (Applicants must request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks shall not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing.)

2. Late Applications

Applications which do not meet the criteria in F.1.a. or F.1.b. above, are considered late applications, will not be considered, and will be returned to the applicant.

G. Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be evaluated individually against the following criteria (maximum 100 total Points):

1. Background and Need (10 Points)

The extent to which the applicant clearly describes the need for a National Sexual Violence Resource Center, demonstrates an understanding of, access to, and the exchange of information and resources, technical assistance and professional consultation to sexual assault programs, national, state, and local organizations, community volunteers, the media, racial ethnic and language minority communities to enhance community response to and prevention of sexual violence and its sequelae.

2. Goals and Objectives (15 Points)

a. The extent to which the applicant's goals are clearly documented and objectives are time-phased, specific, measurable, and achievable.

b. The extent to which the objectives demonstrate a results-oriented program with specific activities that are consistent with and appropriate to the stated outcome.

c. The quality and specificity of the applicant's proposed plan to establish and maintain a resource center for sexual violence.

d. The ability of the applicant to achieve the stated program objectives and for successfully operating the resource center.

e. The extent to which the applicant can meet the information needs identified by center staff, collaborators, and consumers.

f. The extent to which the proposed activities are realistic and meet the intended purposes of the funding, the description of the program components, the evidence of applicability to potential consumers, an explanation of the center's capacity for producing the desired outcomes.

g. The availability of the staff and facilities to carry out the described program plan.

3. Project Management and Staffing (20 Points)

a. The extent to which the project staff are clearly described, appropriately assigned, and have appropriate skills and experiences.

b. The extent to which the applicant has the capacity and facilities to maintain a national sexual violence resource center.

c. The extent to which the applicant provides details regarding the level of effort and allocation of time for each staff position.

4. Plan of Operation (20 Points)

a. The quality and specificity of the applicant's proposed plan to establish the center; the ability of the applicant to achieve stated program goals and objectives, and the extent to which the proposed activities are realistic and meet the intended purposes of the funding.

b. The extent to which the applicant documents a full working relationship with a academic, research institution, or consultant to provide scientific expertise around the synthesis of literature reviews, research findings and evaluation, and documented experience to draw conclusions from research findings.

c. The extent to which the academic institution or research institution staff, or consultant are clearly described, appropriately assigned, and have appropriate skills and experiences.

5. Evaluation Plan (20 Points)

a. The extent to which the applicant provides a detailed description of the methods to be used to evaluate program effectiveness, including what will be evaluated, data to be collected and analyzed, who will perform the evaluation and the time-frame.

b. The extent to which the applicant documents staff availability, expertise, and capacity to evaluate program activities and effectiveness.

6. Collaboration (15 Points)

a. The extent to which the applicant documents evidence of collaboration with organizations such as National/ State sexual assault coalitions.

b. The extent to which the applicant documents experience in the management and delivery of resources through various mediums around sexual violence issues.

c. The applicants expertise and capacity to collaborate among a wide spectrum of individuals, representatives of local and State organizations, underserved racial and ethnic communities, and special populations.

7. Proposed Budget (Not scored)

The extent to which the budget is clearly explained, adequately justified, reasonable, sufficient for the proposed project activities, and consistent with the intended use of the cooperative agreement funds.

H. Other Requirements**Technical Reporting Requirements**

Provide CDC with the original plus two (2) copies of

1. Progress reports (semi-annually).

2. Financial status report (FSR), no more than 90 days after the end of each budget period.

3. Final financial status report and performance report, no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.

Send all reports to the Grants Management Specialist identified in the "Where to Obtain Additional Information" section of this announcement.

The following additional requirements are applicable to this program. For a complete description of each see Addendum 1 in the application package.

AR-7 Executive Order 12372 Review

AR-8 Public Health System Reporting Requirements

AR-9 Paperwork Reduction Act Requirements

AR-10 Smoke-Free Workplace Requirement

AR-11 Healthy People 2000

AR-12 Lobbying Restrictions

AR-13 Prohibition on Use of CDC funds for Certain Gun Control Activities

AR-14 Accounting System Requirements

AR-15 Proof of Non-Profit Status

I. Authority and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

This program announcement is authorized under Sections 301, 393 and 394 of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. sections 241, 280b-1a, and 280b-2], as amended. The catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.136.

J. Where to Obtain Additional Information

This and all other CDC Announcements may be found and downloaded from the CDC homepage. Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov> (click on funding).

To receive additional written information and to request an application kit, call 1-888-GRANTS4(1-888-472-6874). You will be asked to leave your name and address and will be instructed to identify the Announcement number of Interest.

If you have questions after reviewing the contents of all the documents, business management technical assistance may be obtained from: Ricky Willis, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Announcement 99049, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2920 Brandywine Road, Suite 3000, Mailstop E-13, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146, Telephone: (770) 488-2719, E-mail address: rqw0@cdc.gov.

For program technical assistance contact: Denise Johnson, Team Leader, or Joyce McCurdy, Acting Assistant Team Leader, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center

for Injury Prevention and Control, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Mailstop K-60, Atlanta, GA 30341, Telephone: (770) 488-4277 (Denise Johnson), (770) 488-4266 (Joyce McCurdy), E-mail addresses: dxj@cdc.gov (Denise Johnson), Jmm6@cdc.gov (Joyce McCurdy).

Dated: April 28, 1999.

John L. Williams,

Director, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 99117]

Prevention Research Using Genetic Information To Prevent Disease and Improve Health; Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of Genetics and Disease Prevention, in cooperation with the Office of Prevention Research, Office of the Director, announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1999 funds for a cooperative agreement program for Prevention Research Using Genetic Information to Prevent Disease and Improve Health.

This program addresses the "Healthy People 2000" priority areas of Maternal and Infant Health, Heart Disease and Stroke, Cancer, and Diabetes and Chronic Disabling Conditions.

The purpose of this program is to strengthen science for public health action, collaborate with healthcare partners for prevention, and promote healthy living at every stage of life and is consistent with the implementation of an agency-wide strategic plan for genetics and public health.

The program will provide funding for conducting population-based research to:

1. Assess how risk for disease and disability in well-defined populations is influenced by the interaction of human genetic variation with modifiable risk factors.
2. Ensure that genetic tests and services are incorporated in population-based interventions that promote health and prevent disease and disability.

B. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public and private nonprofit

organizations and by governments and their agencies; that is, universities, colleges, research institutions, hospitals, other public and private nonprofit organizations, State and local governments or their bona fide agents, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Indian tribes, or Indian tribal organizations.

Note: Pub. L. 104-65 states that an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant, cooperative agreement, contract, loan or any other form.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$700,000 is available in FY 1999 to fund two awards. It is expected that the average award will be \$350,000 to begin on or about September 30, 1999 for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to 3 years. Funding estimates may vary and are subject to change.

The maximum funding level for any award for year one will not exceed \$400,000 (including both direct and indirect costs). Applications that exceed the funding cap of \$400,000 will be excluded from the competition and returned to the applicant. Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

Use of Funds

Cooperative agreement funds will not be made available to support the provision of direct care, facility or capital outlay. Eligible applicants may enter into contracts, including consortia agreements (as set forth in the PHS Grants Policy Statement, dated April 1, 1994), as necessary to meet the requirements of the program and strengthen the overall application.

D. Programmatic Interests

Immediate programmatic interest is focused on research in two categories:

1. Epidemiologic research that assesses the interaction of modifiable risk factors (e.g., diet, chemical exposures, infections, lifestyle) with known genetic disease risk factors in well-defined populations, and demonstrates how this information can help target disease prevention efforts.
2. Prevention effectiveness research that demonstrates in well defined populations the effectiveness and safety of using genetic information to prevent disease, disability and death by identifying persons at risk and carrying out appropriate interventions.

For examples of research questions meeting these general criteria, see Addendum II (included in application kit).

Proposals for research in either category must address at least one of the five following disease groups, which represent some of the leading causes of mortality, morbidity, and disability in the United States, and which have identifiable genetic and environmental risk factors:

1. Cardiovascular disease.
2. Cancer.
3. Arthritis.
4. Diabetes.
5. Pediatric pulmonary disease (asthma, cystic fibrosis).

Proposals addressing genetic traits (e.g., hemochromatosis) that contribute to development of more than one of these diseases (e.g., cancer, diabetes, and arthritis) will also be considered.

Research studies proposed for either category must be community- or population-based, i.e., based on systematic samples of a population or on population-based registries. Proposals should seek to establish or strengthen collaborative efforts among public, private, and academic partners (e.g., state health departments, health maintenance organizations, and schools of public health) that can be sustained for subsequent research and program development. Proposals should also emphasize the potential applications of the research outcomes in guiding disease prevention program activities. An important component of such efforts is a commitment to training in the use of genetic information for public health and for developing community-based capacity for prevention program development.

E. Cooperative Activities

The recipient will be responsible for conducting the activities under 1., below, and CDC will be responsible for conducting activities under 2., below:

1. Recipient Activities

- a. Develop a comprehensive protocol and plan for implementing either epidemiologic or prevention effectiveness research.
- b. Establish procedures to maintain the rights and confidentiality of all study participants including the identification of applicable laws.
- c. Disseminate results of research studies through paper and electronic publications and presentations.
- d. Serve as a resource for professional and public information and education in use of genetic information for public health.
- e. Develop collaboration among public, private, and academic partners