



Stimulus Funding & the Financial Crisis

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 providing new spending and tax cuts totaling \$787.2 billion. Central to the Act are the following purposes:

- *To preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery.*
- *To assist those most impacted by the recession.*
- *To provide investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health.*
- *To invest in transportation, environmental protection, and other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits.*
- *To stabilize State and local government budgets, in order to minimize and avoid reductions in essential services and counterproductive state and local tax increases.*

The Act provides funding in a wide range of federal areas. (See Special Report, Number 1, *Federal Economic Stimulus Legislation: Nonprofit Grant Opportunities* at www.councilofnonprofits.org/stimulus.) Most ARRA funds will go to states, territories, and tribes. They will, in turn, distribute funds through grants, contracts, subsidies, loan programs, etc. That said, there are instances where nonprofits may be able to apply directly for funds. For example, HUD is expected to offer funds through its Community Development Block Grant, Neighborhood Stabilization Program, and Homelessness Prevention Fund; The Department of Justice has a national mentoring program; the National Endowment for the Arts (deadline already passed) allowed only organizations previously funded in the past four years to apply (approximately \$400,000 will be awarded through New York State Council on the Arts). It is also expected that the Serve America Act signed on April 21 (not part of ARRA), will include money for nonprofits through a Nonprofit Capacity Building Program to expand organizational development assistance to small and midsize nonprofit organizations. By May 3, federal agencies are supposed to begin reporting on the allocations of their entitlement programs.

Since many of the funds legally available to nonprofits through ARRA can be accessed by nonprofits only through state and local government agencies, it is essential that interested nonprofits check with the appropriate state or city agency that relates to their mission in order to get practical funding information.

The summary below speaks primarily to small and mid-size nonprofits and highlights some of the possibilities for nonprofits to approach federal sources (summary provided National Council of Nonprofits; the entire document can be found at www.councilofnonprofits.org/?q=node/670).

On April 9, the White House held a special briefing for outside organizations about ARRA to provide an opportunity to learn about how the ARRA funds are being distributed in the various departments and how you as organizations can participate. The White House Office of Public Liaison arranged for more than 20 government officials from 13 federal agencies to provide information, including presentations from the Vice President's Office, which is overseeing the Recovery efforts. The federal government will distribute about \$370 billion through formula and block grants, \$85 billion through competitive grants, and between \$60-65 billion through direct contracts. So far, the government already has obligated about \$40 billion, meaning, there is approximately \$480 billion more to go.

Nonprofits need to look carefully at what programs they realistically might qualify for and keep watching for announcements about those (at Grants.gov). Some grants have been fast-moving, with only two to four-week turnarounds from notice until an application is due.

Nonprofits that know they will want to apply for federal stimulus funding also need to complete as much pre-application work as possible. If your organization has not received a federal grant before, you need to get a Data Universal Number (DUNS number), register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR), set up an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and more. The steps in this process normally — without the crush of groups rushing to register — can take up to a couple of weeks each. Grants.gov is warning users not to wait until the last minute to submit applications due to high volume usage and possible computer system crashes. A guide on the registration process is at www.grants.gov/assets/OrgRegUserGuide.pdf.

Federal

The new Recovery.gov website offers information about the Act and serves as a vehicle for transparency and accountability.

☛ www.recovery.gov

Recovery.gov also has a page listing all federal agencies and links to their home pages. So far, most agencies have very little if any detail about actual grant/contract possibilities on their sites, and direct users to visit Grants.gov.

☛ www.recovery.gov/?q=content/agencies

For specific grant information, the Grants.gov website will function as it has in the past. Users can search for grant/contract announcements by date, category, agency, etc.

☛ www.grants.gov

New York State

New York's recovery website

☛ www.economicrecovery.ny.gov/index.htm

Included in the site above, is a page where grant seekers can submit project proposals

☛ www.recovery.ny.gov/system/proposal.cfm

An itemized list of ARRA funds to New York

☛ www.economicrecovery.ny.gov/DirectAid/aidnewyork.htm

New York City

To search for grants or contracts, go to the City Record Online

☛ <http://a856-internet.nyc.gov/NYCVendorOnline/vendorsearch/asp/Postings.asp>

NYC Mayor's Office of Operations has NYCStat Stimulus Tracker

☛ www.nyc.gov/html/ops/nycstim/html/home/home.shtml

Nonprofit Coordinating Committee's Government Grants Information Service (GGIS)

GGIS is a free service subscription service for NPCC members. Subscribers choose from over 60 different topic areas (arts, health, senior, etc.). Email summaries of federal, state, and city grant/contracts are sent within several days of their official publication.

☛ www.npccny.org/grants.htm



National Council of Nonprofits has issued seven reports on the Stimulus Act which are available to NPCC members

☛ www.councilofnonprofits.org/stimulus

The Council also has a section offering resources and information in their new Economic Vitality Center

☛ www.councilofnonprofits.org/economy

Four federal grant programs that nonprofits are eligible for:

Grant/Contract Name: Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) Demonstration Program

Deadline: 06/22/2009

Funding Amount: Estimated Total Program Funding: \$17,250,000

Expected Number of Awards: 35

Ceiling on Amount of Individual Awards: \$500,000 per project period

Eligibility: State governments; County governments; City or township governments; Public and State-controlled institutions of higher education; Indian/Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized and other than Federally recognized); Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education); Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) IRS status (other than institutions of higher education); Private institutions of higher education; For-profit organizations (other than small businesses); Small businesses; Special district governments; Independent school districts

Agency: Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children and Families

Grant ID: HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-EJ-0009

Grant Summary: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS), announces that applications will be accepted for new grants pursuant to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) authorized under Section 1110 of the Social Security Act governing Social Services Research and Demonstration activities; Department of Labor, HHS, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, P.L. 110-161, and; Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009, P.L. 110-329.

Pursuant to this announcement, ACF will award funds to experienced organizations to deliver capacity-building services to faith-based and community organizations through the provision of training, technical assistance, and sub-awards.

Intermediary organizations will assist faith-based and community organizations with capacity-building activities in four critical areas: 1) leadership development, 2) organizational development, 3) program development, and 4) community engagement. Capacity building activities are designed to increase an organization's sustainability and effectiveness, enhance its ability to provide social services, and create collaborations to better serve those most in need.

The goal of the CCF Demonstration program is to help grassroots faith-based and community organizations maximize their social impact as they provide services to those most in need including low-income individuals seeking to gain greater access to State and Federal benefits and tax credits; low-income individuals seeking to secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, and obtain better-quality jobs; low-income individuals and families in need of financial education, credit counseling, and access to individual development accounts and other asset building strategies; the homeless; elders in need; at-risk youth, including Native American youth; and families in transition from welfare to work.

The CCF Demonstration program provides funding for intermediary organizations in well-defined geographic communities with a proven track record of community involvement and experience in providing training and technical assistance to smaller faith-based and community organizations in those well-defined geographic communities. These intermediary organizations serve as a bridge between the Federal Government and the grassroots faith-based and community organizations that the CCF Demonstration program is designed to assist.

Intermediary organizations will provide two services within their communities: 1. Capacity building training and technical assistance to faith-based and community organizations; and 2. Financial support, through sub-awards, to some subset of the organizations receiving training and technical assistance.

Grant Web Link: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-EJ-0009.html>

Grant/Contract Name: National Providers of Training and Technical Assistance

Deadline: Jul 02, 2009

Funding Amount: Expected Number of Awards: 5. Estimated Total Program Funding: \$8,000,000

Eligibility: State governments; County governments; City or township governments; Special district governments; Independent school districts; Public and State controlled institutions of higher education; Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized); Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments); Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Private institutions of higher education; For profit organizations other than small businesses; Small businesses

Agency: Corporation for National and Community Service

Grant ID: CNCS-COOP-060209-001

Grant Summary: The Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) announces the availability of approximately \$8 million for the first year of potential three-year cooperative agreements to fund organizations to provide training and technical assistance (TTA) to build the capacity of local programs and organizations that use service and volunteering to meet community needs. Funding for years two through three of each agreement is contingent upon the availability of funds and the recipient's demonstrated results and satisfactory progress towards agreed-upon objectives. This assistance will be awarded and administered under the Uniform Administrative Requirements and OMB's Cost Principles applicable to the entity that receives the award.

There are five categories of awards:

Category 1 – Technology/Knowledge Management including Specialized Service Learning Services.

(Approximately \$2.5 million for year one, including at least \$750,000 for specialized service-learning services).

The purpose of this category is to support the Corporation's business goals of providing high quality online information and services in a broad range of topics of importance to developing the capacity of non-profit organizations, educational institutions and national service programs and make easily accessible to users.

Category 2 – Training Support. (Approximately \$3.5 million for year one) The purpose of this category is to meet the Corporation's business goal of providing high quality training and other events through innovative and cost effective means.

Category 3 – Training and Technical Assistance to AmeriCorps State*National Programs (Approximately \$ 1 million for year one). The purpose of this category is to support the Corporation's business goal of having state service commissions and national direct grantees effectively perform their roles of selection and oversight for subgrantees and sites and of providing leadership at the state and national levels in the service and civic sectors.

Category 4 – Effective Practices in Disability and Inclusion Services (Approximately \$1 million for year one)

The purpose of this category is to support the Corporation's business goal of demonstrating and identifying effective practices that link service and employment for individuals with disabilities.

Category 5 – Return on Investment for Managing Volunteers. (Approximately \$100,000 for year one)

The purpose of this category is to support the Corporation's business goal of helping organizations to measure in monetary terms the value that volunteers add to the organizations; and to calculate the return on their investment to the organizations in achieving their missions from recruiting and managing volunteers.

More about this opportunity is at www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/09_0521_tta_nofa.pdf

The Corporation will host one Technical Assistance Call to provide potential applicants with an opportunity to ask clarifying questions on the requirements of this funding opportunity. Applicants are encouraged to participate in one of the calls. Technical Assistance Call Information: Date: June 9, 2009 Time: 2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time Dial-In Number: 800-857-3059 Participant Passcode: TA NOFO Replay Information for the TA Call: If you are unable to participate in this call, please email us at TTANOFO@cns.gov for the replay number.

Grant Web Link: http://www.nationalservice.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=72

Grant/Contract Name: Strengthening Communities Fund - Nonprofit Capacity Building Program - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

Deadline: Jul 07, 2009

Funding Amount: Expected Number of Awards: 34
Estimated Total Program Funding: \$34,000,000
Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000

Eligibility: State governments; County governments; City or township governments; Special district governments; Public and State controlled institutions of higher education; Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized); Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments); Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Private institutions of higher education; For profit organizations other than small businesses; Small businesses; Others

Agency: Administration for Children and Families

Grant ID: HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-SI-0091

Grant Summary: This funding opportunity is being made available under Section 1110 of the Social Security Act, and Title VIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, P.L. 111-5 http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS), announces that applications will be accepted for new cooperative agreements to experienced organizations to provide nonprofit organizations serving as project partners, with capacity building training, technical assistance, and competitive financial assistance.

The focus of this program is to build the capacity of funded projects' nonprofit partners in order to address the broad economic recovery issues present in their communities, including helping low-income individuals secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, obtain better-quality jobs, and gain greater access to state and Federal benefits and tax credits. Lead organizations will assist nonprofit organizations working in distressed communities with capacity building activities that support economic recovery.

Specifically, lead organizations will assist grassroots organizations working in distressed communities with capacity building activities in five critical areas: 1) organizational development, 2) program development, 3) collaboration and community engagement, 4) leadership development, and 5) evaluation of effectiveness. Capacity building activities are designed to increase an organization's sustainability and effectiveness, enhance its ability to provide social services, and create collaborations to better serve those in need. Successful applicants will be subject to reporting requirements consistent with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 Standard Terms and Conditions. In addition, successful applicants will use a quarterly performance progress report (SF- PPR) format specific to Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF) awards.

Grant Web Link: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-SI-0091.html>

Grant/Contract Name: Strengthening Communities Fund - State, Local, and Tribal Government Capacity Building Program - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

Deadline: Jul 07, 2009

Funding Amount: Expected Number of Awards: 48

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$12,000,000

Award Ceiling: \$250,000

Eligibility: State governments; County governments; City or township governments; Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized); Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Others. NOTE: An applicant must be a State, city, county, or Indian/Native American Tribal government office or a designated private nonprofit organization authorized by such an office. All applicants, whether a government office or a private nonprofit organization, must be authorized by the State, city, county, or Indian/Native American Tribal government to apply for a SCF State, Local, and Tribal Government Capacity Building program grant through a statute, resolution, or executive order.

Agency: Administration for Children and Families

Grant ID: HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-SN-0092

Grant Summary: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) solicits applications to award 48 grants to State, local and Tribal governments to build their capacity to provide nonprofit organizations with capacity building training and technical assistance. Pursuant to this announcement, ACF will award funds to State, city, county, and Indian/Native American Tribal government offices (e.g., offices responsible for outreach to faith-based and community organizations or those interested in initiating such an effort), or their designees, to build their own capacity to partner with community-based and faith-based non-profits and to provide training and technical assistance to help nonprofit faith-based and community organizations better serve those in need and to increase nonprofit organizations' involvement in the economic recovery. Grantees will use program funds to provide free capacity building services to nonprofit organizations, such as a beneficiary benefits clearinghouse, outreach and education, facilitation of partnerships between and among nonprofits and other government agencies, and training and technical assistance to improve awareness of and access to ARRA efforts/benefits and to improve organizational capacity to be active participants in ARRA efforts/benefits. Grantees will also use program funds to build their own capacity to provide these services to nonprofits. The purpose of this grant program is to build the capacity of government offices (or their authorized designee) that provide outreach to faith-based and community-based organizations and to assist nonprofit organizations in addressing the broad economic recovery issues present in their communities, including helping low-income individuals secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, obtain better-quality jobs, and gain greater access to State and Federal benefits and tax credits. Successful applicants will be subject to reporting requirements consistent with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 Standard Terms and Conditions. In addition, successful applicants will use a quarterly performance progress report (SF- PPR) format specific to Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF) awards.

Grant Web Link: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-SN-0092.html>

This document can also be accessed online at <http://www.nppcny.org/info/arra.pdf>