NYS CDBG-CV: CARES ACT

GRANTS FOR FOOD INSECURITY

Basic Requirements

Units of local government (UGLG) (i.e. Town, Village, City, County) and Not-for-Profits may apply. Funds will be made available for activities that are either a <u>new service or a quantifiable increase</u> in the level of the service or, improvements to public facilities. Funds can be used to ensure low-to-moderate income (LMI) persons can readily access food and food services from pantries, mobile deliveries, school lunch programs, and kitchen-to-plate.

The activity must prepare, prevent, or respond to impacts of COVID-19 and potential variants or, future pandemics.

Examples of Eligible Activities

- Purchase of a vehicle for new or increased 'meals-on-wheels' deliveries

- Purchase of kitchen or storage equipment for pantries

- Purchase of PPE for staff and volunteers that facilitate meal services

- Reconfiguration of space at food pantries or kitchens

COVID Connection Examples

- Increased accessibility to food in a safe, COVID-19 resilient process

- Expanding access to fresh and healthy foods for households that have lost income due to COVID-19

- Enable vulnerable or immunocompromised populations to access food

- Expanding capacity to meet increased demand for food services

- Increasing ability to socially distance while accessing or facilitating food services

Program Compliance

CDBG Activities must meet at least one of the "National Objectives" below:

LMI Area Basis (LMA)

At least 51% of the area being served must be low/moderate income (LMI). Requires either a screenshot of the targeted community(ies) using the HUD LMI Data Tool **OR** conducting a community wide income survey to determine LMI area eligibility.

LMI Limited Clientele (LMC)

Activity benefits a defined group that HUD presumes are low/moderate income (LMI). Requires documentation showing that the activity is designed to be used <u>exclusively</u> by that group.

12 Month Deadline

All activities must be completed within 12 months from the date project is awarded.

Contact Us

Email questions about CDBG CARES funding to CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov.

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Project Example 1: Renovation of Food Pantry Facility

Project Description & COVID Connection

County will use $700,000 (includes program delivery and grant administration costs) to give LMI persons across the county access to food in a safe, COVID-19 resilient process, and to enable expansion of services based on increased demand.

Use of Funds

Funds will be used to equip and renovate the food pantry's new operation facility. This includes HVAC improvements, and reconfiguration of space for: two walk-in coolers, dry goods storage, and a food prep kitchen.

Program Compliance & Required Documentation

LMI Area Basis — The project will assist an estimated 5,000 LMI persons served by the food pantry across the county.

Required documentation for LMI Area Basis — Census data demonstrates at least 51% of individuals served by the food pantry are low/moderate income (LMI).

Project Example 2: Purchase of Vans for Meals-on-Wheels

Project Description & COVID Connection

A local not-for-profit will use $300,000 (includes program delivery and grant administration) to deliver foods to seniors in a safe, COVID-19 resilient method.

Use of Funds

Funds will be used to purchase two cargo vans to deliver food and prepare meals directly to seniors at their homes and to senior facilities. This is a new service that the organization developed based on need.

Program Compliance & Required Documentation

Limited Clientele — The project will benefit 1,000 elderly persons *(this group is presumed to be low-to-moderate income).*

Required documentation for Limited Clientele — Evidence demonstrating that the activity is designed to be used exclusively by seniors that are 62 and older.

Application Process

Step 1: Assess all COVID-19 needs in your community

- Evaluate needs by speaking with potential partners such as: *municipal offices and committees, school districts, shelters, food banks, food pantries, organizations, and not-for-profits.*
- If needed, conduct a community or facility income survey.

Step 2: Project Proposal

- Units of local government or not-for-profits may apply directly for funding
- Submit one consultation form with all proposed activities to CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov
- OCR will consult, provide technical assistance then provide authorization to submit a full application.

Step 3: Application Submission

With OCR authorization, submit a full application directly to CDBGCARES@hcr.ny.gov

Step 4: Application Award

Applications will be reviewed against threshold eligibility and awarded on a rolling basis.

All CDBG CARES materials, including the consultation form and application materials can be found on:
https://hcr.ny.gov/communityrecovery