

conflict resolution, financial management and job and career advancement.

- Conduct customized pre-marital education and marriage enrichment programs for refugee youth and young adults.
- Develop refugee resource centers to help enhance the relationships in refugee families.
- Teach effective child-rearing techniques, including positive and culturally-acceptable child disciplinary practices and parenting skills for refugees.
- Provide information about U.S. cultural and legal issues as they affect gender, parenting roles and intergenerational family relationships.

Category 1 Review Criteria—Category 1 applications will be reviewed and rated based on the following criteria:

1. *Organizational Profiles (30 points)*—Application demonstrates an extensive knowledge of and comprehensive experience in working with refugees through reception and placement services and ongoing resettlement activities. Application includes letters of support that demonstrate the organization's strong relationship with the local refugee resettlement community; experience in providing refugee resettlement services; and relationship with marriage enrichment programs. Individual staff position descriptions, volunteer positions, consultants and coalition organizations are appropriate to the goals of the project. The administrative and management features of the project, including a monitoring and technical assistance plan for program and fiscal activities, are adequately described. The applicant provides a copy of its most recent audit report.

2. *Objectives and Need for Assistance (20 points)*—Applicant (a) fully and clearly describes the need for activities to support and strengthen refugee marriages, (b) demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the refugees' experiences in resettlement services in local U.S. communities and demonstrates access to agencies that provide reception and placement services (c) clearly understands the marriage enrichment concept and can effectively integrate it with refugee resettlement activities, and (d) proposes establishing a coalition with marriage enrichment organizations at the local level for purposes of providing marriage education services to the refugee community.

3. *Approach (20 points)*—The proposed approach for the cooperative agreement and awarding of sub-grants is fully and clearly described. The strategy

and plan demonstrate the ability to achieve the proposed results. The proposed communities and the resident refugee groups along with strategies for recruiting them into the program are described in detail. Timeframes are reasonable and feasible. The proposed activities are likely to lead to the desired results, *i.e.*, healthy marriages among refugee communities.

4. *Results or Benefits Expected (20 points)*—Applicant describes outcomes that are consistent with the goals of marriage enrichment programs for refugee families. The outcomes are likely to be reached through the activities proposed. Proposed outcomes are measurable and achievable within the grant project period.

5. *Budget and Budget Justification (10 points)*—The budget and narrative justification are reasonable, clearly presented, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results. Approximately 90 percent of the funding is expended at the local level. The budget contains no more than one full-time staff position at the national level.

Category 2—Refugee Marriage Enrichment

Category 2 Purpose and Objectives

ORR is interested in funding, under cooperative agreements, two to four public or private non-profit agencies with extensive knowledge of, and comprehensive experience in, working with refugee community-based organizations. Through this category, ORR plans to meet the needs of more targeted populations of refugees who may have been in the country for a longer period of time. To reach this population and to ensure that the services provided are culturally and linguistically appropriate, the applicant should have an ongoing relationship with and the trust and respect of refugees within the community. Unlike Category 1, Category 2 applicants need not be conducting ongoing reception and placement activities. The successful applicants for Category 2 will provide funds and training to five to ten agencies including faith-based and community organizations, which may include (1) local affiliates of the applicant or affiliates of other non-applicant refugee national organizations with whom the applicant has formed a collaboration; (2) independent refugee organizations, or (3) entities that have demonstrated an ability to work closely with refugees. The successful applicants will provide financial and program support to enable families within the refugee community to receive marriage

enrichment training. The marriage enrichment activities proposed in this announcement may be outside the experience of many refugees and may be difficult to implement without a well-established relationship between the refugees and the grantee. Applicants should also demonstrate a relationship to marriage enrichment resources.

ORR is interested in projects which can address refugee needs for cultural and linguistic access to family enrichment services and this is often best achieved through partnerships with grass-roots organizations, including refugee community-based organizations or faith-based organizations. The successful applicants will, through grassroots organizations, provide culturally sensitive marriage enrichment to refugee couples.

Applicants should describe their efforts to create collaborations with marriage education providers and knowledge or expertise in marriage strengthening activities. Information about organizations providing marriage enrichment activities can be found on the ORR web site at: www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/orr/programs, or by contacting Irving Jones, Division of Community Resettlement, ORR, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), (202) 401-6533; E-mail: ijones@acf.hhs.gov.

ORR expects that approximately 90 percent of the funding will be expended at the local level, and that the applicant should budget for no more than one full-time staff person at the national level. Through this cooperative agreement, ORR intends to review and approve: (1) A plan for sub-grants, including plans for geographical distribution and technical assistance; (2) a plan for implementation, which should include the building of coalitions and client outreach; (3) all written materials developed and proposed for dissemination; (4) timelines and major program outcomes; and (5) a reporting format that outlines the difficulties refugee couples face, a description of the proposed intervention and the impact of the intervention on the refugee family.

Category 2 Allowable Activities—ORR is interested in the preservation of refugee families and in ensuring their long-term stability and self-sufficiency. ORR supports creative and unique approaches that address the needs of refugee families as well as the development of strategies for partnerships with marriage enrichment organizations. These projects may be designed to translate and adapt contemporary American approaches to traditional practices and cultural