

that it used existing funds, without fundamentally changing or improving its services.

Plan for Providing Technical Assistance and Sub-Awards. As part of its application to ACF, each applicant must submit a basic outline of its sub-award approach, describing the kinds of organizations in its community that would benefit and examples of activities that it expects these groups will undertake with sub-award funding. Intermediary organizations that receive CCF awards will be required to develop, with guidance from and in consultation with ACF, a detailed plan for this process within 60 days of receipt of award under this announcement. ACF must review and approve this plan prior to the issuance of any sub-awards using Federal funds awarded under this announcement. Intermediary organizations must report on the use of funds for sub-awards as they do for other types of expenditures of Federal funds received as a result of an award under this announcement and as specified in the Cooperative Agreement. Intermediary organizations will also be required to develop, with guidance from and in consultation with ACF, a plan within six months of receipt of award for working with sub-awardees to develop outcome measures and to evaluate the activities supported by the sub-awards made with Federal funds under this announcement.

Applicants must coherently describe their plan both for providing technical assistance and sub-awards. In providing technical assistance and in making sub-awards, these plans must provide for the establishment of ongoing supportive relationships with those faith-based and community organizations served, rather than single or short-term interactions. Technical assistance conferences and workshops may be parts of an applicant's plan, but they must not be its sole focus of the plan. The plan must also describe how applicants will develop and build upon existing long-term supportive relationships with the faith-based and community organizations within their communities.

Further, approved applicants must be willing to work closely with ACF and any entities funded by ACF to coordinate, assist, or evaluate the activities of the intermediary organizations providing technical assistance and issuing sub-awards. Proposed budgets should include the cost of travel-related expenses for key personnel with responsibility for the CCF award to attend two two-day meetings with Federal officials and others in Washington, DC, shortly after awards are made under this

announcement. This meeting will focus on orientation to Federal objectives for the project, information about related activities supported by HHS and other Federal agencies,² Federal grants management requirements, and coordination between and among the approved intermediary organizations and other entities funded by ACF to be involved in the CCF initiative.

Legal rules that apply to faith-based organizations that receive government funds. CCF monies shall not be used to support inherently religious practices such as religious instruction, worship, or proselytization. Grant or sub-award recipients, therefore, may not and will not be defined by reference to religion. Neutral, non-religious criteria that neither favor nor disfavor religion must be employed in their selection.

Part II. Project and Applicant Eligibility

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) invites eligible entities to submit applications for the Compassion Capital Fund Demonstration Program.

A. Eligible Applicants

ACF invites applications from a wide variety of organizations or entities with demonstrated knowledge and experience in the provision of the types of technical assistance described herein to a diverse group of faith-based and community organizations. Further, ACF encourages applications from applicants that propose to work with and have experience working with faith-based and community organizations that have not been well served or supported by governmental funds historically. If organizations propose to collaborate to provide Compassion Capital Fund intermediary services, they should have well-developed working relationships and a history of working together prior to announcement of this funding opportunity.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 ACF Compassion Capital Fund grantees who received FY 2003 continuation funds are ineligible to apply.

Non-governmental organizations, Tribal governmental organizations, non-profit agencies (including faith-based organizations) public agencies, State and local governments, colleges and universities, and for-profit entities may

² Under the President's Faith-based and Community Initiative program, Federal agencies have begun to provide technical assistance and training services to faith-based and community organizations and address barriers to their participation in Federally sponsored programs. Successful applicants under this announcement must coordinate and not duplicate services.

submit applications under this announcement. It should be noted, however, that no Federal funds received as a result of this announcement can be paid as profit to grantees or sub-grantees, *i.e.*, any amount in excess of allowable direct and indirect costs of the recipient (45 CFR 74.81).

Private, nonprofit organizations are encouraged to submit with their applications the optional survey located under "Grant Manuals & Forms" at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofsf/forms.htm>

B. Project and Budget Periods

This announcement is inviting applications for project periods up to three years (36 months). Awards, on a competitive basis, will be for a 12-month budget period, although project periods may be for three years. Applications for continuation grants funded under these awards beyond the one year budget period but within the 36-month project period will be entertained in subsequent years on a noncompetitive basis, subject to the availability of funds, satisfactory progress on the part of the grantee, and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the Federal Government.

C. Type of Awards

This is a full and open competition for cooperative agreements to implement and operate CCF projects. A cooperative agreement is Federal assistance in which substantial Federal Involvement is anticipated. Responsibilities of Federal Staff and the successful applicants are negotiated prior to an award. The grantees funded under this announcement will work collaboratively with the CCF program office on the development of products and prior to finalization and dissemination will submit products such as sub-award plans and sub-award assessment plans to the CCF program office for review and approval.

D. Funding Availability

ACF will issue Financial Assistance Awards under this announcement as cooperative agreements. ACF expects to award approximately \$4,200,000 in Fiscal Year 2003 for the CCF program and estimates that 4–8 intermediary organizations will receive awards to provide technical assistance and make sub-awards to smaller faith-based and community organizations. Applicants shall specify in their budget documents estimates of the amount of funds to be used for each purpose (technical assistance and sub-awards). The program goals will be further