

section 501(a)(2) of the Social Security Act, the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Federal Set-Aside Program (42 U.S.C. 701(a)(2)) and will be administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), HRSA. HRSA will encourage collaboration from other Federal agencies that have an interest in abstinence education, such as the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and the Office of Population Affairs (OPA). Contingent on the availability of funding, up to 70 three-year implementation grants, with annual awards ranging from \$250,000 to \$800,000, will be awarded. Projects may be located in any State, the District of Columbia, and United States territories, commonwealths, and possessions. However, to ensure that there is a more even geographic distribution of grantees, special consideration will be given to highly ranked applications in States that do not have a Federally-funded Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) Community-Based Abstinence Education grant.

This **Federal Register** announcement will appear on the HRSA Home Page at: <http://www.hrsa.gov>. **Federal Register** notices are found by following instructions at: [www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html](http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html).

**DATES:** Applicants for this program are requested to notify MCHB's Division of State and Community Health by December 31, 2003. Please note that a "notice of intent to submit an application" will be used as a mechanism to deliver technical assistance and to assist in the planning of the objective review; it is not a requirement of the application process. Notification can be made in one of three ways: telephone, 301-443-2204; fax, 301-443-9354; or mail, MCHB, HRSA; Division of State and Community Health; Parklawn Building, Room 18-31; 5600 Fishers Lane; Rockville, MD 20857. MCHB is sponsoring five, one-day pre-application workshops in December 2003 to assist potential applicants in preparing applications that address the requirements of the SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education Project Grant program, as described in the Application Guidance. Attendance at a pre-application workshop is not mandatory. The tentative dates and locations of the five workshops are as follows: Kansas City, December 16; San Diego, December 18; Atlanta, January 5; Boston, January 6; and Baltimore, January 9. Registration information and possible schedule changes for these workshops will be posted on the MCHB Homepage at [www.mchb.hrsa.gov](http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov), and can be viewed

at the logistics contractor's Web site at [www.psava.com/abed](http://www.psava.com/abed). The deadline for receipt of applications is February 9, 2004. Applications will be considered "on time" if they are either received on or before the deadline date or postmarked or E marked on or before the deadline date and received in time for the Independent Review Committee review. In the event that questions arise about meeting the application due date, applications must have a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks will not be accepted as proof of timely mailing. Applications submitted electronically will be time/date stamped electronically, which will serve as receipt of submission. The projected award date is July 1, 2004.

Applications which do not meet the criteria above are considered late applications. HRSA shall notify each late applicant that its application will not be considered in the current competition.

**ADDRESSES:** To receive a complete application kit, applicants may contact the HRSA Grants Application Center at 1-877-477-2123 (1-877-HRSA-123) by telephone, or register on-line at: <http://www.hrsa.gov>, or by accessing [http://www.hrsa.gov/g\\_order3.htm](http://www.hrsa.gov/g_order3.htm) directly. This program uses the standard Form PHS 5161-1 (rev. 7/00) for applications (approved under OMB No. 0920-0428). Applicants must use the appropriate Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number when requesting application materials. The CFDA is a Government wide compendium of enumerated Federal programs, projects, services, and activities which provide assistance. The CFDA Number for the Community-Based Abstinence Education Project Grant Program is #93.110.

If applying on paper, the entire application may not exceed 80 pages in length, including the abstract, project and budget narratives, face page, attachments, any appendices and letters of commitment and support. Pages must be numbered consecutively. If applying on-line, the total size of all uploaded files may not exceed 10 MB. Applications that exceed the specified limits will be deemed non-compliant, and will be returned to the applicant without further consideration.

If you choose to submit a paper application, please send the original and two copies to: Grants Management Officer (MCHB), HRSA Grants Application Center, ATTN: Program Announcement No. HRSA-04-0777, The Legin Group, Inc., 901 Russell Avenue, Suite 450, Gaithersburg,

Maryland 20879, telephone: 877-474-2345, E-mail: [hrsagac@hrsa.gov](mailto:hrsagac@hrsa.gov). Upon receipt of a paper application, the Grants Application Center will mail an acknowledgment of receipt to the applicant organization's Program Director.

HRSA encourages applicants to submit applications on-line. To register and/or log-in to prepare your application, go to <https://grants.hrsa.gov/webexternal/login.asp>. For assistance in using the on-line application system, call 877-GO4-HRSA (877-464-4772) between 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET or e-mail [callcenter@hrsa.gov](mailto:callcenter@hrsa.gov).

When available, application guidance and the required form for the Community-Based Abstinence Education Grant Program may be downloaded in either Word or Adobe Acrobat format (.pdf) from the HRSA homepage at <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/preview/>.

Applicants should note that HRSA is currently accepting grant applications online. Please refer to the HRSA grants schedule at <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants.htm> for more information. The automated application process should be faster, easier and better for applicants and for HRSA. We encourage you to take advantage of this new option. Applicants will be notified through the same channels that currently announce the availability of downloadable and paper application materials, including notices on HRSA Web sites and e-mail communications. Once the automated system is in place, applications can be submitted on-line and applicants will receive an electronic confirmation of the submission. Applicants will need to print the face page, sign it, and submit it to the HRSA Grants Application Center, 901 Russell Avenue, Suite 450, Gaithersburg, MD 20879; telephone 1-877-477-2123.

Beginning October 1, 2003, all applicant organizations are required to have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number in order to apply for a grant from the Federal Government. The DUNS number is a unique nine-character identification number provided by the commercial company, Dun and Bradstreet. There is no charge to obtain a DUNS number. Information about obtaining a DUNS can be found at <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/duns.htm> or call 1-866-705-5711. Please include the DUNS number next to the OMB approval number on the application face page. Applications will not be reviewed without a DUNS number.

Additionally, the applicant organization will be required to register