

enrolled in an abstinence-only education program.

2. Proportion of adolescents who understand that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease.

3. Proportion of adolescents who indicate an understanding of the social, psychological and health gains to be realized by abstaining from premarital sexual activity.

4. Proportion of participants who report they have refusal or assertiveness skills necessary to resist sexual urges and advances.

5. Proportion of youth who commit to abstain from sexual activity until marriage.

6. Proportion of participants who intend to avoid situations and risk behaviors, such as drug use and alcohol consumption, which make them more vulnerable to sexual advances and urges.

Each SPRANS Abstinence Education grantee will be required to submit an Annual Progress Summary on its activities, including a narrative discussion of the project's progress toward achieving its goals and objectives, an unduplicated count of clients served, total number of client encounters, a list of the communities served, and a description of the type of project activities being implemented.

Applications for SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education implementation grants are required to include a data collection plan that addresses the specified performance measures. In the Annual Progress Summary, implementation grantees will document program data for each performance measure. Further information on reporting requirements for this program and instructions regarding application requirements are included in the Program Guidance.

Curriculum developed or selected for implementation in the SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education Grants Program must address all eight elements of the Section 510 abstinence education definition and may not be inconsistent with any element of that definition.

Applicants are required to complete a Curriculum Summary form for every proposed curriculum, which includes documentation that the curriculum is responsive to and consistent with each of the eight elements of the section 510 abstinence education definition.

Applicants are required to describe any proposed modifications to the curriculum(a) to address areas of non-compliance. Consistent with other

SPRANS programs, consultation and collaboration between the SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education grantees and State section 510 grantees are encouraged throughout the life of the project.

Applicants should be aware that SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education Project grantees and their contractors/sub-grantees may not expend Federal funds for sectarian instruction, worship, prayer, or proselytization.

Eligibility: Under SPRANS project grant regulations at 42 CFR part 51a.3, any public or private entity, including an Indian tribe or tribal organization (as defined at 25 U.S.C. 450b), is eligible to apply for grants covered by this announcement. State agencies responsible for the administration of the Section 510 Abstinence Education Grant, non-profit organizations and other community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, are eligible to apply for funding under a SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education Project Grant. Projects must clearly and consistently focus on the designated definition of "abstinence education" and applicants must agree not to provide a participating adolescent any other education regarding sexual conduct in the same setting.

Funding Level/Project Period: Contingent on available funding, approximately \$33 million will be awarded to support up to 70 new three-year implementation grants in FY 2004, with awards ranging from \$250,000 to \$800,000 per year. The project period consists of three budget periods, each generally of one year duration. Continuation of any project from one budget period to the next is subject to satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

Review Criteria: The following are generic review criteria applicable to all MCHB programs:

(1) The extent to which the project will contribute to the advancement of maternal and child health and/or improvement of the health of children with special health care needs;

(2) The extent to which the project is responsive to policy concerns applicable to MCH grants and to program objectives, requirements, priorities and/or review criteria for specific project categories, as published in program announcements or guidance materials;

(3) The extent to which the estimated cost to the Government of the project is reasonable, considering the anticipated results;

(4) The extent to which the project personnel are well qualified by training

and/or experience for their roles in the project and the applicant organization has adequate facilities and personnel; and

(5) The extent to which, insofar as practicable, the proposed activities, if well executed, are capable of attaining project objectives.

More specific review criteria used to review and rank applications for the SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education grant program are included in the application kit. Applicants should pay strict attention to addressing all the criteria delineated in the application kit program guidance, as they are the basis upon which their applications will be judged.

Special consideration will be given to entities in local communities which demonstrate a strong record of support for abstinence education among adolescents. In addition, previous SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education grantees will receive this special consideration.

To ensure that there is a geographic distribution of grantees, special consideration may be given to highly ranked applications in States that do not currently have a funded SPRANS Community-Based Abstinence Education grant.

Public Health System Reporting Requirements: This program is subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements (approved under OMB No. 0937-0195). Under these requirements, the community-based nongovernmental applicant must prepare and submit a Public Health System Impact Statement (PHSIS). The PHSIS is intended to provide information to State and local health officials to keep them apprised of proposed health services grant applications submitted by community-based nongovernmental organizations within their jurisdictions.

Community-based nongovernmental applicants are required to submit the following information to the head of the appropriate State and local health agencies in the area(s) to be impacted no later than the Federal application receipt due date:

(a) A copy of the face page of the application (SF 424).

(b) A summary of the project (PHSIS), not to exceed one page, which provides:

(1) A description of the population to be served.

(2) A summary of the services to be provided.

(3) A description of the coordination planned with the appropriate State and local health agencies.

It is also permissible to substitute the Project Abstract in place of the PHSIS.