

Due Date for Applications: February 27, 2004.

You will be notified by postal mail that your application has been received.

Note: Letters from State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) in response to E.O. 12372 are due April 27, 2004.

Funding Instrument: Grant.

Funding Opportunity Description: The Statewide Family Networks program is one of SAMHSA's Infrastructure Grants programs. SAMHSA's Infrastructure Grants provide funds to increase the capacity of mental health and/or substance abuse service systems to support programs and services. SAMHSA's Infrastructure Grants are intended for applicants seeking Federal support to develop or enhance their service system infrastructure in order to support effective substance abuse and/or mental health service delivery. Statewide Family Network Grants are intended for applicants seeking Federal support to act as "Agents of Transformation" in developing or enhancing their service system infrastructure in order to support effective substance abuse and/or mental health service delivery which is consumer and family driven. The Statewide Family Network Program is a critical part of the SAMHSA/CMHS effort to implement the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health Report.

The purpose of the Statewide Family Networks program is to enhance State capacity and infrastructure to be more oriented to the needs of children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances and their families. The programs goals are to: (1) Strengthen organizational relationships; (2) foster leadership and business management skills among families of children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance; and (3) identify and address the technical assistance needs of children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances and their families. To achieve this goal, the program assists family members around the country to work with policy makers and service providers to improve services for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances and their families. The Statewide Family Networks Program is designed to ensure that families are the catalysts for transforming the mental health and related systems in their State by strengthening coalitions among family members, and between family members and policymakers and service providers, recognizing that family members are the best and most effective change agents.

Background: The Statewide Family Network Program builds on the work of The Child, Adolescent and Services Systems Program (CASSP), which helped to establish a child and family focus in programs serving children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances around the country. Today, nearly every State has active family organizations dedicated to promoting systems of care that are responsive to the needs of children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances and their families. Although significant progress has been made, further support will ensure self-sufficient, empowered networks that will effectively participate in State and local mental health services planning and health care reform activities related to improving community-based services for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances and their families.

Estimated Funding Available/Number of Awards: It is expected that \$2.8 million will be available to fund 43 awards in FY 2004, with a limit of one award per State. Only Category 1—Small Infrastructure Grant awards, as defined in the INF-04 PA, will be made. In general, these Category 1 awards are expected to be up to \$60,000 per year in total costs (direct and indirect). Up to 22 grantees with projects that include a youth leadership component may receive an additional \$10,000 per year. Applications without a youth leadership component that include proposed budgets that exceed \$60,000 in any year will be returned without review. Applications with a youth leadership component that include proposed budgets that exceed \$70,000 in any year will be returned without review. The actual amount available for the awards may vary, depending on unanticipated program requirements and the number and quality of the applications received. This program is being announced prior to the annual appropriation for FY 2004 for SAMHSA's programs, with funding estimates based on the President's budget request for FY 2004 and/or preliminary Congressional action on SAMHSA's appropriation. Applications are invited based on the assumption that sufficient funds will be appropriated for FY 2004 to permit funding of a reasonable number of applications hereby solicited. This program is being announced in order to allow applicants sufficient time to plan and prepare applications. Solicitation of applications in advance of a final appropriation will also enable the award of appropriated grant funds in an expeditious manner. All applicants are reminded, however, that we cannot guarantee that sufficient

funds will be appropriated to permit SAMHSA to fund any applications.

Period of Support: Awards will be made for project periods of up to three years, with annual continuations depending on the availability of funds, grantee progress in meeting program goals and objectives, and timely submission of required data and reports.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants are limited to domestic private, nonprofit entities, including faith-based entities, tribal family organizations, and currently funded Statewide Family Networks grantees that: (1) Are controlled and managed by family members; (2) are dedicated to the improvement of mental health services statewide; and (3) have a Board of Directors comprised of no less than 51 percent family members. SAMHSA is limiting eligibility to family-controlled organizations because the goals of this grant program are to: strengthen the capacity of families to act as agents of transformation in influencing the type and amount of services provided to them and to their children who have a serious emotional disturbance and to ensure that their mental health care is consumer and family driven. Applicants will be required to complete and sign a Certification of Eligibility and provide necessary supportive documentation. This certification will be provided in the application kit, available from the National Mental Health Information Center, and will also be posted on the SAMHSA Web page along with the NOFA.

Additional information regarding eligibility, including program requirements and formatting requirements, is provided in the INF-04 PA. Applications that do not comply with these requirements will be screened out and will not be reviewed.

Is Cost Sharing or Matching Required: No.

Exceptions to the INF-04 and Other Special Requirements: The following information describes exceptions or limitations to the INF-04 PA and provides special requirements that pertain only to the Statewide Family Network Grants:

- *Review Criteria/Project Narrative:* Applicants for Statewide Family Networks grants are required to address the following requirements in the Project Narrative of their applications, in addition to the requirements specified in the INF-04 PA:

- (1) In Section B, applicants must describe how the primary focus of the proposed project will be on training capacity, network development (*i.e.*, with other consumer and family organizations), organizational and