

1. **Attachment 2 – LGU Letter of Support** - I am not sure who is supposed to fill out this section. Is this for my OASAS contact person to fill out? I am not sure what is referred to Local Government Unit.

Answer: As defined in New York State Mental Hygiene Law, section 41.03 paragraph 5, local governmental unit “means the unit of local government given authority in accordance with this chapter by local government to provide local services.” Please contact your OASAS Field Office to determine the appropriate LGU contact.

2. **Submission of Applications: Only one application per institution and location will be accepted. Applicants shall submit one (1) original and three (3) duplicates of the completed application and supporting attachments and/or appendices** - In addition to a limit of one application per institution, there is also a limit for location (please see statement below copied from p5 of the RFA). Could you please clarify?

Answer: An applicant may only submit one application per location. Location equates to each Economic Development Zone, thus an applicant can submit a maximum of ten applications if they wish to bid on establishing/expanding a coalition to each of the State’s zones.

3. **#1 Core Objective: “Develop a regional coalition that cuts across county lines representing a diverse group of stakeholders, including but not limited to parents and families, individuals living in recovery, both individuals with the disease of addiction and also family members/loved ones, prevention/treatment/recovery providers, educators, faith based, healthcare providers, judicial, law enforcement, state agencies, local leaders, business and media.”**

- (a.) Is the point of this grant opportunity to create a single coalition within each of the 10 ESD regions? For example, in Putnam, each town has or is developing their own coalition. Would they be eligible without the intention to develop a regional coalition?

Answer: The intent of the program is to develop coalitions that operate on a broader base in each Economic Development Zone rather than a single community in an effort to coordinate resources across a greater area and deliver a consistent message. However, this does not preclude a coalition serving a specific town or county from applying.

- (b.) Core Objectives Bullet #1 - Is this grant requiring the coalition be regional in its nature and scope of service or that an existing coalition must work with other counties?

Answer: The intent of the program is to develop coalitions that operate on a broader base in each Economic Development Zone rather than a single community in an effort to coordinate resources across a greater area and deliver a consistent message. The applicant may choose and should specify what area they propose to serve.

- (c.) Please explain exactly what will be looked at as “regional”. Does it have to include all of the Southern Tier counties?

Answer: The intent of the program is to develop coalitions that operate on a broader base in each Economic Development Zone rather than a single community in an effort to coordinate resources across a greater area and deliver a consistent message. However, this does not preclude a coalition serving a specific town or county or a group of counties from applying. The proposal does not have to address the entire Economic Development Zone. However, the broader the coverage proposed within an Economic Development Zone will rank higher than a proposal that is limited in geographic scope.

- (d.) To what extent do the other counties have to be involved or participate if the majority of the activities are focused in the communities of one county?

Answer: The intent of the program is to develop coalitions that operate on a broader base in each Economic Development Zone rather than a single community in an effort to coordinate resources across a greater area and deliver a consistent message. However, this does not preclude a coalition serving a specific town or county from applying. However, the broader the coverage proposed within an Economic Development Zone will rank higher than a proposal that is limited in geographic scope. Thus multi-county efforts will be ranked higher than proposals focused on a single county or locality.

4. Are the coalitions that are funded expected to cover the ENTIRE economic zone or is it acceptable for them to cover two counties?

Answer: The intent of the program is to develop coalitions that operate on a broader base in each Economic Development Zone rather than a single community in an effort to coordinate resources across a greater area and deliver a consistent message. However, this does not preclude a coalition serving a specific town or county from applying. However, the broader the coverage proposed within an Economic Development Zone will rank higher than a proposal that is limited in geographic scope. Thus multi-county efforts will be ranked higher than proposals focused on a single county or locality.

5. Can you please specify the contract start and end dates? Is the length of award/grant five years?

Answer: Funding for the Community Coalition is expected to be ongoing. However, continued funding of any specific provider is contingent on performance, quality of services, compliance with program requirements and the availability of appropriation.

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The start date will be determined after the responses are evaluated and the awards have been determined. Applicants should indicate how long it would take to begin implementation of their proposal if selected for award.

Please note, funding for this initiative will be made through the LGU to the awardee.

6. Can you please specify the start-up period (in reference to the Proposed Start-Up Operating Budget in Attachment 4, Page 12)?

Answer: Funding for start-up activities is equal to one-quarter (1/4) of the proposed annual operating budget. The start-up period should be no longer than three months.

7. Is it anticipated that this opportunity will be available for application next year should no application be submitted by our group this year?

Answer: One award per Economic Development Zone will be made under this RFA. In the event that there are no applicants from an Economic Development Zone, OASAS may reissue the RFA in the future for zones not receiving an award under this procurement. Future expansion of funding for additional coalitions will be determined when additional, if any, resource allocations are made to OASAS in future years.

8. Can a lead agency be a co-applicant on another grant in the same EDZ?

Answer: Yes

9. Is there a minimum number of co-applicants that needs to be on the application.

Answer: No.

10. Can one LGU for any county within the EDZ submit a letter of support and is that sufficient?

Answer: The applicant must obtain a letter of support from the LGU that will contract with the applicant if an award is made. Additional letters of support from other participating counties may also be submitted.

11. Is the LGU of the home county of the lead applicant required to submit a letter of support?

Answer: The applicant must obtain a letter of support from the LGU that will contract with the applicant if an award is made. Additional letters of support from other participating counties may also be submitted.

12. Can a co-applicant be connected with one or more lead agencies?

Answer: Yes

13. Can a 501c3 organization both write an application as a lead organization with various regional partners AND also agree to be written into another's application as a partner in the same region as a way of both competing for the RFA and collaborating with others who are also competing?

Answer: Yes

14. Will there be any start-up funds available for this program?

Answer: Funding for start-up activities is equal to one-quarter (1/4) of the proposed annual operating budget.

15. **Attachment 3-Work Plan:** Is there a template that we should use when developing the work plan for this proposal?

Answer: The applicant may use any format to develop and submit the work plan as long as the required information is submitted. The format should be clear and easy to follow so that an evaluation of the proposal can be readily completed.

16. Is there a preferred format for work plan referred to in "Attachment 3

Answer: See Question 15

17. When does OASAS anticipate announcement of the grant awards and what would be the potential program start-up time frame?

Answer: OASAS anticipates making award in January 2017. Funding for start-up activities is equal to one-quarter (1/4) of the proposed annual operating budget. The start-up period should be no longer than three months.

18. Can a coalition consist of several counties such as the 5 counties of NYC?

Answer: Yes.

19. Can partnering organizations sign on into multiple lead organization applications to better their chances of involvement?

Answer: Yes

20. **Section: Core Objectives #1** - Will a new regional coalition need to be formed, or can an existing community coalition simply expand its scope to a regional level (i.e. building partnerships, communication, coalition meetings, prevention initiatives, etc.)?

Answer: Applications may be to create a new community coalition or to expand an existing community coalition.

21. **Attachment 4 – Initiative Funding Request** - Is a full time staff person an allowable budget item?

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Answer: Up to \$100,000 will be made to support the coalition. Funds may be used for Personal or Nonpersonal Service costs.

22. **Submission of Applications** - This section states that “only one application per institution and location will be accepted.” Does one location refer to the entire region?

Answer: See Question #2

Question received after inquiry period:

1. Can you tell me who would be representative of the Local Government Unit?

Answer: As defined in New York State Mental Hygiene Law, section 41.03 paragraph 5, local government unit “means the unit of local government given authority in accordance with this chapter by local government to provide local services.” Please contact your OASAS Field Office to determine the appropriate LGU contact.