

Volunteerism Grant Information Session Meeting Transcript

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0:29

Hello, everyone.

0:56

We'll just wait a few more minutes as everyone is coming in.

2:12

Good morning, everyone.

2:14

I'm Tiffany Luke.

2:15

I am the manager of community engagement here with Oakland County and thank you for attending the Volunteerism Grant informational session.

2:25

I'm just gonna wait maybe another minute.

2:27

We have a few more people still coming into the webinar and we'll get started in just a few moments.

3:11

All righty, Good morning.

3:13

So this webinar will be recorded.

3:16

So I'm just going to go ahead and make sure you're recording.

3:23

And we are again, good morning and thank you for joining our volunteerism informational session.

3:32

Want to share my screen with our PowerPoint presentation?

3:51

The background for the volunteerism informational session is just giving more details of exactly why and how important it is to share the last of our opera dollars that we have available.

4:09

Because of the COVID pandemic, we were able to understand the needs of our seniors by

understanding that there was a detrimental impact socially and emotionally for the seniors of Oakland County.

4:26

And what we wanted to make sure is that we provide and have access for all health conditions, especially making sure that we are considering our social and economic hardships.

4:41

In 2022, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners has passed a resolution #22 280 for the American Rescue Plan Act to fund for funding the support of Oakland Together senior initiatives.

4:58

Because of this, this grant is for our nonprofit organizations that provide Senior Center services in Oakland County.

5:07

The funds that can be used for the variety of volunteer related of increase eligibility requirements.

5:24

And what we're going to do during this webinar is actually make sure that we provide, I'm sorry, there's a question that's here in the chat.

5:37

Will you share the PowerPoint presentation after the webinar?

5:41

Yeah.

5:42

So actually what's going to happen is the recording that we have, we're going to make sure that we put it on the actual web page of the actual grant.

5:52

So that way you can go back to it afterwards.

5:54

And if you need the actual PowerPoint, I'll be able to share that as well.

6:04

Thank you for your question.

6:08

Eligibility requirements this project is focused only to have are ARPA dollars for local rescue recovery funds and also this must be a non profit that provides senior services such as food delivery, transportation and home repairs existing senior volunteer programs and is not a recipient of any Oakland County ARPA funds in the past.

6:45

This must describe you must describe in your proposal in the application for funding of a Senior Center grant program of a long making sure that long term improvements of the senior centers in your community.

7:03

I'm sorry, senior citizens, in your community, you must describe the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic of your program and how to influence the plans under this grant.

7:20

You must include a implementation plan and a timeline used for the grant funds.

7:28

There is a maximum amount for the grant, up to \$10,000.

7:38

Grant funding can be used for the following background check screenings for volunteers, outreach, planning inquiries for the number of volunteers, and volunteer training in accordance to the upper reporting required for of the county.

8:00

Grantees must submit a quarterly report to Oakland County on the use of the grants.

8:07

A template will be provided to the grantees.

8:11

Grantees shall submit a final report by the end of the agreement within or within 30 days after project is completed.

8:23

However, the due date can be sooner if the grants include the following the project completion report, a full accounting of expenditures of the grant funds and certifications of use of the grant funds, and fulfillment of the terms of Agreement.

8:46

Funds received for this grant must be used by December 31st of 2026.

8:53

There's another question in the chat and that question is if your organization serves children but you have a great amount of seniors will disqualify.

9:05

Unfortunately, it will not.

9:08

This is just focused on our senior initiatives for volunteers, so unfortunately it won't.

9:26

Again, we just want to highlight the eligibility use for this grant.

9:32

So there are three areas where this volunteers are volunteerism grant can be used.

9:38

We will be use it for background screens.

9:41

So if you're using funds that you need to pay for to send out the background checks, you can use it for those for outreach plans to increase the number of volunteers.

9:51

So advertising or putting in newspaper or social media using it, use it for that and then also volunteer training.

10:01

So being able to have any training charges or any things that you use outside of your budget, it can be implemented for that.

10:16

The grant purpose questions So these are the questions that we have on the website that you will have to answer in order to make sure that you're in compliance to the grant.

10:27

Describe how the requirements to describe how the required grant program funding will address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the benefits of Oakland County seniors in the community.

10:42

Please identify the long term benefits of this program in the community.

10:49

We have another question in the chat.

10:51

Can you Can funds be used for integrate inner inter?

10:59

I'm sorry.

11:00

Can funds be used for intergenerational programs seeking youth volunteers to serve seniors?

11:08

That's a good question.

11:13

That's a good question.

11:14

You know what?

11:15

We could, let's have a chat about that one.

11:19

We could see what that might look like, send the information and that's a great way that you can actually go into these questions and really give us more details to really figure out what that looks like and how that can be of service.

11:34

So that would be a good argument.

11:38

The implementation plan you have to you must include details of the project cost estimate and the framework of the spending funds notes.

11:50

The maximum grant amount is up to is up to \$10,000.

12:00

So I just want to let you guys know it was going to be a quick presentation.

12:04

So we have a lot of time for questions.

12:07

But also wanted to let you know that this grant section is actually going to move fairly quickly and we have the informational that we wanted to really host today.

12:18

So that would allow time for any questions that you may have working through and getting information together for the actual grant process.

12:29

So the grant opened up on February 7th, 2024.

12:33

Today on February 13th, we're having our grant informational meeting and the Grant's going to close on February 28th.

12:41

So we allow between the 13th and the 28th this time for you to get into the portal, look at the application, answer any questions, and feel free to reach out to myself if you have any questions during that time.

12:58

At this point in time we will open it up for questions.

13:02

Feel free to use the chat if you need me to go back over anything.

13:07

Be more than happy to answer.

13:08

OK, we have a chat and a question.

13:11

Our organization has previously received ARPA funds, but not directly from Oakland County.

13:17

It has come through a grant for the Pontiac Community Foundation in the United Way.

13:21

We will still be out.

13:23

Will we still be eligible if we did not receive funds directly from Oakland County?

13:30

Yes, you would still be eligible.

13:35

OK, another chat.

13:37

When will the awards be announced and what is the actual grant term?

13:44

If awarded?

13:45

So we would in a perfect world, I would love to try to have everything wrapped up by the end of March.

13:55

I have a colleague who's assisting with going through the applications and we also have another person that I need to reach out to for the three of us to come together and make sure that we go through all of that applications.

14:08

So we're giving ourselves at least the end of March and the total amount of for the grants is \$50,000.

14:16

So the Max amount that you can get is up to \$10,000.

14:22

So that's what's gonna determine.

14:26

We only have 50,000 that's available for this grant, but the Max amount organization can get is \$10,000.

14:34

I hope that answers your question.

14:49

OK, Tina, put in the chat.

14:52

Is there additional guidance or eligible expenses under the grant training, under volunteer training?

15:02

Can you use these funds to pay for food during the training sessions and external contractors to provide training supplies for trainees etcetera?

15:12

Are there any restrictions?

15:14

No, there aren't any restrictions.

15:15

So I can go back into the PowerPoint and these are all areas that you can use it use the grant for.

15:28

So a perfect example is the volunteer training.

15:32

Tina, with your question, if you're going to use this for those purposes, this will be a great way for you to explain that in the questionnaire and provide that in detail to really let us know the purpose and why you feel your organization will really benefit and highlight that it will be for the volunteer training and the details of it.

15:56

OK.

15:57

So Ashley put in the chat.

15:59

Thank you.

16:00

My first question was answered.

16:03

Question if awarded, what date does the grant start and what day does it need to be.

16:09

So if awarded, once you're announced that you will receive the grant, we will reach out to you and make sure we get the information to you.

16:20

And the grant needs to be completed by December 31st, 2026.

16:26

So if there's any questions that you have leading up to it, if you need to put it on pause or if there anything that you does kind of want to reach back out to us.

16:36

And I have more questions about you have time.

16:40

OK.

16:40

Hi Erin, this is from the Waterford Senior Center has Arbor fund from the grant through Oakland County.

16:46

I'm assuming that we are not eligible for that is correct, Erin.

16:50

Unfortunately our senior centers because you are not nonprofits are not eligible.

16:57

This grant is only open to nonprofits throughout the county.

17:04

Sorry about that.

17:16

Are there any other questions?

17:36

OK, if there are any other questions, I just want to let oh Oh yes, please.

17:42

OK.

17:43

We are a non profit historical village.

17:50

Paul, can you explain a little more detail in that please?

17:55

I'm not familiar with what that means.

17:58

Anne, will you post the FAQ portal?

18:05

Sorry, the chat's going a little fast.

18:06

Will you post the FAQ on the portal?

18:09

If people have more questions, you know what?

18:13

I will work with IT to see if that's something that we can do.

18:17

I'm not sure if we can do that, but you have my contact information.

18:22

It is on the website of the application and you can always feel free to reach out to me directly.

18:30

OK, Tina, is there a budget template that we are required to use?

18:35

No, no, Tina, there is not.

18:38

OK, Paul, thanks for more detail.

18:41

It says we do not directly serve seniors, but we do have a lot of seniors that work as volunteers.

18:53

Paul, I'm going to if you can reach out to me directly and that way we can talk more about that.

19:02

Once again this is a non profit opportunity and it's for background screenings.

19:08

It is for the increasing number of the outreach plan for volunteers and that's for volunteer training.

19:16

So if you think any of these sections that your organization fits in or can provide, we can have a conversation about that and see what that looks like.

19:27

OK, Ashley, can we bill for our staff time, implement, implement to eligible activities or only to the cause of the eligible activities themselves?

19:40

So this is only for volunteers, so not for staff.

19:45

So another way you can think about it is if you were using a advertisement or if you wanted to do a campaign.

20:01

Something to increase your number of volunteers.

20:04

That's something that's eligible if you were looking into your budget and you were noticing that you wanted or needed to have more assistance to pay for or to reach out.

20:18

So that way you could do a robust hire of volunteers.

20:23

Or if you were doing something to really help bring onboarding the training of your volunteers, that's what these funds can be used.

20:35

It says SO5OC5O1C3.

20:39

Nonprofits only.

20:41

Municipalities are not eligible.

20:43

That is correct.

20:46

I will Paul, Would recruitment and training of seniors as volunteers be eligible?

20:55

Yes, Paul, Yes, as we're using this to recruit and to train those volunteers, yes, this is eligible.

21:07

OK, Douglas, the Y provides services to seniors and children.

21:15

There are Pacific Services for seniors and seniors who will volunteer and do require training with us to be eligible.

21:31

Douglas, let's talk, reach out to me.

21:34

I'm not sure if the Y fits under A5 OC 1/3.

21:41

I'm not sure.

21:42

So let's talk offline about that one.

21:44

Please feel free to reach out and we can do a deeper dive and kind of talk about that.

21:49

But there are some areas in that that sounds like it could work.

21:52

But let's talk.

21:55

It's a volunteer training.

21:57

It's provided by staff.

21:59

Wouldn't that qualify to be a charge for those hours for the grant leading back to these are the questions, the grant purpose questions.

22:14

So as you're thinking about those, if you can make an argument for that by using and identifying, giving us more details on how you plan to use that, even if it is for your staff, we can look into that and see what that looks like.

22:29

So if that kinda helps your answer, we can look into that and feel free to reach out to me directly.

22:35

I'm gonna put my information, my e-mail in the chat right now and my phone number.

22:50

This is my direct mobile.

22:54

So that way if you guys have any questions, we can talk about that because and that's why we kind of wanted to give you guys as much time during the opening of the grant application and having this informational right now and allowing these next two weeks.

23:13

So that way you guys can take your time and think about some really great questions that you guys are providing and then also letting reaching out to me so that we can kind of talk through those.

23:24

All right, Tina, I'm following up on the staff cause question.

23:28

If a staff member is leading the training of the volunteers spending 20 hours preparing for leading those trainings, can we use those funds?

23:37

Once again, if you guys can make a argument for these two questions, we can always look into that and see what that looks like and that way.

23:46

These are some great questions and great ways to use that.

23:50

So we can definitely see how that works.

23:52

So once again, those 3 areas are the focus areas of how those grants, how the grant will be used.

23:59

But these are the questions that we really want to be able to have you think about and really provide those meat and potatoes of why your organization would be benefit from This Training is for volunteers, but provided by existing Staffs who have to be paid.

24:22

Is this a question or a statement?

24:24

I'm not quite sure.

24:32

There are more other nonprofits besides 5 OC one threes.

24:36

We have a 501C19 which is a nonprofit under our IRS code.

24:44

Should we be eligible?

24:48

Yes.

24:49

You would be eligible.

24:50

Yes.

24:57

OK.

25:00

Thank you for the explanation.

25:02

Appreciate it.

25:05

Do we have any other questions?

25:07

These are some really great questions everyone.

25:09

Thank you so much.

25:11

Very excited to really share this information with everyone and we hope that this will be something that's very beneficial to you and your communities.

25:23

We're super excited.

25:24

These are one of the actually the last of our opera dollars that we have available here at the county.

25:32

So we really want to be able to share this and get it out as much as possible.

25:37

OK, we have another question.

25:39

Is there a target number or range of volunteers we should seek to engage?

25:46

No, we don't have a range of volunteers that we want to seek to engage now.

25:54

This is all based upon what you expect your organization to do.

26:23

OK, do we have any other questions?

26:37

So I just wanted to bring to everyone's attention that we do have here our our for Dallas web page for the Grants.

26:47

So if you go here to the Grants, you'll be able to see how to actually go more and apply.

26:54

And then if you have any questions about requirements, we have it here in the hyperlink as well as my contact information is here within the application.

27:05

So let me click on the application for you and below you have my e-mail address as well as my phone number.

27:15

So if you guys have any other questions, please feel free to reach out.

27:22

I hope I didn't talk too fast for anyone.

27:26

If there any questions we are here.

27:29

I am here as a resource to help and assist any questions that you may have.

27:34

Nothing's too small.

27:36

You can always feel free to reach out for the individuals who happen to join a few moments late.

27:43

This session is recorded, so therefore we will post it on our grants page website for you to go back into and review.

27:56

So please allow us.

27:58

Hopefully we'll be able to have it by the end of Business Today, if not first thing tomorrow morning on the web page.

28:04

So that way you can go back and listen.

28:07

Once again, my contact information is in the chat as well as here on the application.

28:13

I am looking forward to reaching out and speaking with everyone, so feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

28:22

If there are no other questions, I'll leave it open for just a few more moments And thank you so much for your time everyone.

28:30

I greatly appreciate it.

28:35

Thank you.

28:36

Thank you everyone.

29:00

OK, I'm going to stop the recording now.