



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

August 18, 2020

Gerald Little
Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery
100 North Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, N.H. 03301

Dear Director Little,

Pursuant to my authority under RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; and Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, and 2020-16 I have approved your written request, in attachment, to take the following actions related to the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds:

1. Authority to enter into and approve the attached grant agreements with Granite United Way, vendor # 160015, Manchester, NH, in an amount not to exceed \$1,475,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds, to support individuals with substance use disorder and to support recovery friendly workplace initiatives. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)

The Department of Administrative Services is authorized to take the actions necessary to effectuate this authorization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

CC Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

August 17, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
Concord, NH 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION UNDER RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; AND EXECUTIVE ORDER
2020-04, AS EXTENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDERS 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14,
2020-15, AND 2020-16**

Dear Governor Sununu:

The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) requests authority to enter into and approve the attached grant agreements with Granite United Way, vendor # 160015, Manchester, NH, in an amount not to exceed \$1,475,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds, to support individuals with substance use disorder and to support recovery friendly workplace initiatives, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for this agreement are available in 01-02-002-020210 – Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery, 19110000 – Office of the Director, as follows:

	<u>FY 2021</u>
072-500575 – Grants Federal – (SUD Nonprofits)	\$750,000
072-500575 – Grants Federal – (RFW)	\$725,000

EXPLANATION

The Governor has authorized the allocation and expenditure of \$750,000 from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund ("flex funds") toward assistance for individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) by directing funding to nonprofit entities that provide basic need supports and have not otherwise received CARES Act funding. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, satisfying certain basic needs has become increasingly difficult for individuals with SUD. The pandemic has created high unemployment, and reduced the availability of certain social, medical, and therapeutic services. At the same time, the pandemic has increased isolation, stress, and anxiety, which may disproportionately impact individuals with SUD, placing them at risk of relapse, overdose, or other harm.

Granite United Way (GUW) will use the grant funds to identify and issue sub-grants to nonprofit organizations that contribute to the community-level provision of basic assistance, such as transportation, shelter, food, rent, childcare, and other forms of aid. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic the above-referenced services are in increased demand. Similarly, entities that provide these types of services have, as a result of the pandemic, had diminished revenue-generating capability. As a result of this high-need, reduced-capacity scenario, the provision of funding to community-level nonprofit organizations meeting the basic needs of those negatively impacted by the pandemic will support at-risk individuals, such as those with SUD, and nonprofit aid providers alike.

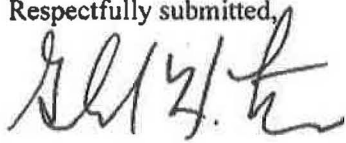
In addition, \$725,000 of the funds will be used to ensure that employees with SUD and their employers have access to efficacious, up-to-date Recovery Friendly Workplace (RFW) information and sufficient recovery community organizers (RCOs) to provide peer support to both employers and employees during the coronavirus pandemic.

The State of New Hampshire's RFW initiative is designed to educate employers as to SUD and assist them in adapting their policies and practices to best support employees who are in recovery. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption for employees and employers alike. High unemployment rates, remote working, and other challenges, including limitations on childcare and public transportation, have impacted employees with SUD as well as their employers, necessitating both enhanced RFW outreach as well as modifications to existing RFW practices.

GUW will use grant funding to digitize existing RFW modules, trainings, and other materials, and also update these media to address both new equity considerations and the needs of employees with SUD who work remotely. Similarly, GUW will use the grant funds to identify and work with a vendor to develop an informational campaign to notify employers that existing RFW programs require some adaptation in light of the pandemic. Finally, GUW will contract for additional RCOs to provide targeted peer support to employers and employees. Such peer supports, including remote peer support, is in high demand because the need for telephone and other remote assistance has increased significantly due to the pandemic.

Any subcontracts entered into by GUW will use the grant funding to address qualifying CARES Act costs only, and that are incurred as a result of COVID-19 between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald H. Little
Director, GOFERR