



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

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

August 31, 2020

Lori Shibinette
Commissioner
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, N.H. 03301

Dear Commissioner Shibinette,

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 COVID-19 Public Health Emergency:

1. Accept and expend Emergency Grant funds from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the amount of \$31,476 for the purpose of addressing needs arising due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through June 30, 2021. (100% Federal Funds)
2. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to extend one (1) temporary full-time position, a Program Specialist IV (LG 25 – Position #9T3004), responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project activities, internal and external coordination, developing materials, and conducting meetings, effective through June 30, 2021. (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



Lori A. Shiblinette
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox
Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
BUREAU OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

105 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301
603-271-5000 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 5000
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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 ORDER 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15 AND
2020-16**

REQUESTED ACTION

1. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health to accept and expend funds from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), entitled Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19, in the amount of \$31,478 effective upon your approval through August 19, 2021. Funding source: 100% Federal Funds.
2. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to extend one (1) temporary full-time position, a Program Specialist IV (LG 25 – Position #9T3004), responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project activities, internal and external coordination, developing materials, and conducting meetings. Effective upon your approval through August 19, 2021. Funding source: 100% Federal Funds.

**05-92-92-922010-19090000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS DEPT,
HHS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIV, BUREAU OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, SAMHSA GRANT**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>SFY21 Current Adjusted Authorized</u>	<u>Requested Action</u>	<u>Revised SFY21 Adjusted Authorized</u>
000 - 400146	Federal Funds	\$1,964,122.00	\$31,478.00	\$1,995,600.00
020 - 500200	Current Expense	\$68,120.00	\$0.00	\$68,120.00
037 - 500173	Technology Hardware	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
039 - 500188	Telecommunications	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
041 - 500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
042 - 500260	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$8,216.00	\$0.00	\$8,216.00
059 - 500117	Full Time Temp	\$55,818.00	\$20,932.00	\$76,750.00
060 - 500601	Benefits	\$28,123.00	\$10,546.00	\$38,669.00
102 - 500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$1,797,945.00	\$0.00	\$1,797,945.00
	Total	\$1,964,122.00	\$31,478.00	\$1,995,600.00

EXPLANATION

The US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is administering the Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19 grant. This grant is to address an expected increase in mental health and/or substance use disorder needs as a result of the current national crisis of COVID-19. Americans across the country will struggle with increases in depression, anxiety, trauma, and grief. There is also an anticipated increase in substance misuse as lives are impacted for individuals and families. The New Hampshire (NH) COVID-19 Rapid Crisis Response Program (NH Rapid Response) will provide crisis intervention services, mental and substance use disorder treatment, and other related recovery supports for youth and adults impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this program is to address the needs of individuals with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) or Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED), with substance use disorders (SUD), and/or co-occurring SMI/SED and SUD who are under- or uninsured. We will also provide crisis services for other individuals in need of behavioral health supports, including health care personnel. This funding is also for one full-time temporary position, for overseeing the implementation of the project activities, internal and external coordination, developing materials, and conducting meetings

The funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Funds in class 059, Temp Full Time, are needed to pay for one (1) full-time temporary position titled Program Specialist IV (LG 25 - Position #9T3004).

Funds in class 060, Benefits, are needed to pay benefits costs associated with the full-time temporary staffing.

These funds are being accepted in to ensure the position is fully appropriated through the end of the grant period.

The following information is provided in accordance with the comptroller's instructional memorandum dated September 21, 1981.

1) List of personnel involved: One (1) full-time temporary positions titled Program Specialist IV (LG 25 - Position #9T3004).

2) Nature, Need, and Duration: This position is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the project activities, internal and external coordination, developing materials, and conducting meetings. The position will also develop and oversee subcontracts and coordinate project communications, information dissemination, training, and reporting. The proposed grant funding for this position ends on August 19, 2021.

3) Relationship to existing agency programs: This position will work in coordination with the ten (10) Community Mental Health Centers to oversee and support implementation of the required grant activities. The position will also work in collaboration with the University of NH's Institute for Health Policy and Practice to collect, analyze, and report data and program evaluation activities as required by the grant.

4) Has a similar program been requested of the legislature and denied? No.

5) Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request? These funds were unanticipated at the time the budget was created.

6) Can portions of the grant funds be utilized? Grant funds are being utilized for these positions.

7) Estimate the funds required to continue this position: Funds for these positions are estimated at \$115,419.00 for the duration of the grant through August 19, 2021.

Area served: Statewide.

Source of Funds: 100% Federal Funds

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
August 20, 2020
Page 3 of 3

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support the program expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

*The Department of Health and Human Services' Mission is to join communities and families
in providing opportunities for citizens to achieve health and independence.*