



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY

Lori A. Shibillette
 Commissioner

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 Director

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April 19, 2021

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Economic and Housing Stability, to enter into **Retroactive, Sole Source** amendments to existing contracts with the Contractors listed below for the provision of community-based services and anti-poverty programs through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) by increasing the total price limitation by \$3,696,129 from \$17,352,721 to \$21,048,850, effective retroactive to January 22, 2021, upon Governor approval. 100% Federal Funds.

This request is contingent upon a corresponding request that will be submitted to Governor and Council, upon approval of this request, to extend the completion date of the current contract from September, 30 2022, to September 30, 2023, with no change to the price limitation.

The original contracts were approved by Governor and Council on February 20, 2019, item #23. They were subsequently amended with Governor and Council approval on September 18, 2019, item #16, and most recently amended with Governor approval, on June 29, 2020, as presented to the Executive Council on August 5, 2020 (Information Item #H1).

Vendor Name	Vendor Code	Area Served	Current Amount	Increase (Decrease)	Revised Amount
Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	177200-B004	Strafford County	\$1,793,347	\$426,903	\$2,220,250
Community Action Programs Belknap and Merrimack Counties	177203-B003	Belknap and Merrimack Counties	\$2,187,101	\$510,805	\$2,697,906
Southern NH Services	177198-B006	Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties	\$8,432,962	\$1,601,903	\$10,034,865

Southwestern Community Services	177511-R001	Cheshire and Sullivan County	\$1,877,578	\$448,710	\$2,326,288
Tri-County Community Action Program	177195-B009	Grafton, Carroll, Coos County	\$3,061,733	\$707,808	\$3,769,541
		Total:	\$17,352,721	\$3,696,129	\$21,048,850

Funds are available in the following accounts for State Fiscal Year 2021, and are anticipated to be available in State Fiscal Year 2022 and State Fiscal Year 2023, upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget, with the authority to adjust budget line items within the price limitation and encumbrances between state fiscal years through the Budget Office, if needed and justified.

See attached fiscal details.

EXPLANATION

This request is **Retroactive** because the Federal Notice of Award budget period allows states to go back to March 27, 2020. The Department, however, previously released funds to meet the immediate needs of the pandemic and is only requesting retroactive approval to January, 22, 2021. This request is **Sole Source** because the contracts were originally approved as sole source and MOP 150 requires any subsequent amendments to be labelled as sole source. The five (5) Community Action Agencies are the only entities eligible to receive Community Services Block Grant funding in accordance with Public Law 105 – 285 – October 27, 1998 – Community Opportunities, Accountability, and Training and Educational Services Act of 1998.

The CSBG CARES Act funds are required to be used to help prevent, prepare for, or respond to impacts from the coronavirus. The purpose of this request is to ensure these critically needed resources are available to Community Action Agencies to meet community needs at the local level due and address the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in financial challenges for many individuals due to changes to work hours, loss of employment, or lack of child care due changes in at-home learning. The increased demand in "stop-gap" measures for individuals or families who do not qualify for government assistance has drastically increased over the last year. The upward trend of need continues as the State recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

At this time, the Department cannot determine the number of individuals to be served, as the agencies are in the process of assessing the need.

The Contractors provide services to individuals at the local level and assist them in becoming or remaining financially and socially independent. The Contractors will use this funding to provide services to low-income individuals, including the elderly, who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some services provided may be "stop gap" measures that are used in instances when an individual or family does not financially qualify for government assistance. The household may be in need of temporary assistance in order to get through a heating season or a temporary

emergency that would otherwise result in the individual or family becoming eligible for full government assistance.

These Contractors administer a variety of programs including, but not limited to:

- Fuel and utility assistance.
- Neighbor Helping Neighbor programs.
- Rental assistance, security deposits and senior housing.
- Senior Community Service Employment Programs.
- Head Start.
- Supplemental Foods Women, Infants and Children (WIC).
- Weatherization.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: CFDA #93.569. FAIN #2001NHCS3.

In the event that the Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibinette
Commissioner

I hereby approve this request pursuant to RSA 4:45, RSA 21-P:43, and Section 4 of Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, 2020-18, 2020-20, 2020-21, 2020-23, 2020-24, 2020-25, 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-04, 2021-05, and 2021-06, and suspend the Manual of Procedures 150, V., B., 1 requirements.

5.6.21

Date



Name: Governor Christopher T. Sununu