

Assets for Independence Demonstration Program (AFI)

Purpose

The goals for the AFI program are to

- Create meaningful asset accumulation opportunities for eligible low-income individuals and families, including households eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the projects and project designs and determine the extent to which an asset-based program can lead to economic self-sufficiency of participants
- Determine the social, civic, psychological, and economic effects of providing to low-income individuals and families an incentive to accumulate assets and the extent to which an asset-based policy stabilizes and improves families and communities

Eligibility

The AFI program offers 5-year Federal grants to not-for-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations; tax-exempt faith-based organizations; State, local, or tribal government agencies applying jointly with a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization; and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) or Low Income Credit Unions, provided that the CDFI or Credit Union has a collaborative relationship with a local community-based antipoverty organization.

How Funds May Be Used

An AFI grantee establishes a Reserve Fund, combining Federal grant money and the required non-Federal funding, to match the project participants' investment of savings from earned income in matched savings accounts called Individual Savings Accounts (IDAs). The IDA savings may be used for acquisition of the following assets:

- The purchase or building of a first home,
- The capitalization of a business,
- The costs of post-secondary education, and/or
- Transfers of IDAs to family members.

Households eligible to participate in the project are those eligible for TANF or the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), or those whose income over the previous year was less than 200 percent of the poverty line.

Sponsoring Bureau

Office of Community Services

See Also

AFI Fact Sheet: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/assetbuilding/assets.html>

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Community and Rural Economic Development (CED)

Purpose

The focus of the Urban and Rural Community Economic Development program is to create projects that provide employment and business ownership opportunities for low-income people through business, physical, or commercial development. Generally, the projects should improve the quality of the economic and social environment of TANF recipients, low-income residents including displaced workers, at-risk teenagers, custodial and non-custodial parents (particularly those of children receiving TANF assistance), individuals residing in public housing, individuals who are homeless, and individuals with developmental disabilities.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants for the Community Economic Development Program are private, nonprofit Community Development Corporations (CDCs), including faith-based and community-based organizations. A CDC is a private, nonprofit corporation, governed by a board of directors consisting of residents of the community and business and civic leaders. The principal purpose of a CDC is planning, developing, or managing low-income housing or community development projects.

How Funds May Be Used

Grants are available in eight different priority areas. Grantees must develop projects that will

- Further HHS goals of strengthening American families and promoting their self-sufficiency, and OCS goals of promoting healthy families in healthy communities.
- Create a significant number of business ownership opportunities for low-income residents of the community or significantly aid such residents in maintaining economically viable businesses. Projects may include business startups, business expansions, development of new products and services, and other newly undertaken physical and commercial activities.
- Create full-time permanent jobs except where an applicant demonstrates that a permanent part-time job produces actual wages that exceed the HHS poverty guidelines.

Sponsoring Bureau

Office of Community Services

See Also

CED Fact Sheet: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ced/fact_sheet.html

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Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program, established in 2003, is to make competitive grants to applicants serving urban, suburban, rural, or tribal populations with substantial numbers of children of incarcerated parents and to support the establishment and operation of mentoring programs.

Eligibility

Those eligible to apply for funding under this grant competition include faith- and community-based organizations, tribal governments or consortia (federally and non-federally recognized), and State or local governments, as well as nonprofit organizations in areas where substantial numbers of children of prisoners live. Eligible applicants must apply to establish new mentor programs or expand existing mentor programs. Collaboration among eligible entities is strongly encouraged.

How Funds May Be Used

Projects funded under this program must link children with mentors, incorporate the elements of Positive Youth Development, and partner with private business, nonprofit, community-based, State, and local entities to support and enhance mentoring programs. This may include connecting children and families to additional support services.

Funding supports the recruitment, screening, and training of mentors, identification of children, matching children with suitable adult mentors, and supporting and monitoring the mentoring relationship.

Sponsoring Bureau

Administration for Children and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)

See Also

MCP Fact Sheet:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/youthdivision/programs/mcpfactsheet.htm>

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Community-Based Abstinence Education Program

Purpose

The Community-Based Abstinence Education program supports communities across the country in delivering the message that abstinence is the surest way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy and STDs. Funding through this program will also finance comprehensive evaluations of abstinence education programs. This program provides funding directly to individual organizations to support public and private entities in the development and implementation of abstinence education programs for adolescents, ages 12 through 18, in communities across the country. Applicants must indicate how proposed programs will target the prevention of teenage pregnancy, premarital sexual activity, and the incidence of sexually transmitted disease among adolescents using culturally sensitive and age-appropriate materials. For the purposes of this program, the term “abstinence education” means an educational or motivational program which

- Teaches the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity as its exclusive purpose;
- Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the expected standard outside marriage for all school-age children;
- Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other associated health problems;
- Teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in the context of marriage is the expected standard of human sexual activity;
- Teaches that sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects;
- Teaches that bearing children out of wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child’s parents, and society;
- Teaches young people how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances; and
- Teaches the importance of attaining self-sufficiency before engaging in sexual activity.

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations and other community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, are eligible to apply for funding. There is no match requirement for Federal funds received under the Community-Based Abstinence Education Grant program. Projects must clearly focus on the designated definition of “abstinence education” and applicants must agree not to provide a participating adolescent any other education regarding sexual conduct in the same setting.

Sponsoring Bureau

Administration for Children and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau

See Also

Fact Sheet: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fbci/progs/fbci_cbaep.html

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Runaway and Homeless Youth Basic Center Program

Purpose

Through the Basic Center Program, the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) provides financial assistance to establish and strengthen community-based programs that address the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. The central purpose of the program is to provide youth with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care. The Basic Centers seek to reunite young people with their families whenever possible, or to locate appropriate alternative placements.

Eligibility

States, localities, private nonprofit community and faith-based entities, and coordinated networks of such entities are eligible to apply for a Runaway and Homeless Youth Program grant unless they are part of the law enforcement structure or the juvenile justice system.

How Funds May Be Used

The Basic Center Program funds youth shelters that provide emergency shelter, food, clothing, outreach services, and crisis intervention for runaway and homeless youth. The shelters also offer services to help reunite youth with their families whenever possible.

Sponsoring Bureau

Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau

See Also

Fact Sheet: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/youthdivision/programs/bcfactsheet.htm>

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Adolescent Family Life (AFL) Program

Purpose

The Adolescent Family Life (AFL) program supports demonstration projects to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions to promote abstinence from sexual activity among adolescents and to provide comprehensive health care, education, and social services to pregnant and parenting adolescents. Every program that receives AFL grant funds is required to include an independent evaluation component.

Eligibility

Any public or nonprofit private entity, including faith-based and community organizations, located within the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of the Marshall Islands is eligible to apply.

How Funds May Be Used

This program supports three categories of funding opportunities: Care, Prevention (Abstinence Education), and Research projects.

Care

Care demonstration projects develop interventions that combine health, education, and social services for pregnant and parenting adolescents, their children, family members, and young fathers that focus on achieving good pregnancy outcomes, prevent repeat pregnancies and school drop outs, and reduce the risk of child neglect and abuse.

Prevention (Abstinence Education)

Abstinence demonstration projects allow communities to develop and implement abstinence education programs. Abstinence education programs teach young people to avoid unhealthy risks such as premarital sexual activity, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. This may be accomplished by using existing curricula and materials or developing and testing new curricula and materials in collaboration with youth development activities.

Research

This program also supports research to identify the risk factors and consequences of adolescent premarital sexual relations, and adolescent pregnancy and parenting. Grants are awarded to organizations rather than individuals. The organization must establish its nonprofit status prior to the issuance of a grant award and accept the responsibility for the use of Federal funds.

Sponsoring Bureau

Adolescent Family Life Program, Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs, Office of Population Affairs

See Also

Fact Sheet: <http://www.hhs.gov/opa/familylife/index.html>

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Compassion Capital Fund Targeted-Capacity Building Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Compassion Capital Fund Targeted Capacity-Building Program is to increase the capacity of faith-based and community organizations with a proven record of accomplishment in serving the needs of at-risk and/or low-income individuals and families.

Eligibility

Nonprofit, faith-based and community organizations that provide social services in the priority area(s) are eligible for this program. Applicants must have a proven record of accomplishment for at least one year working in the priority social service delivery area(s). ACF may give preference to applications submitted by organizations that are members of partnerships or coalitions of faith-based and/or community organizations that are working together.

How Funds May Be Used

Grantees must use these awards to increase efficiency and capacity within their organization, including improving their program effectiveness and sustainability, accessing funds from diverse sources, and emulating model programs and best practices.

Sponsoring Bureau

Office of Community Services: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/>

See Also

CCF Web page: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fbci/progs/fbci_ccf_minigrants.html

Contact

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Recovery Community Services Program

Purpose

The Recovery Community Services Program (RCSP) responds to a need, consistently voiced by people in recovery and their families, for community-based recovery support services that help prevent relapse and promote long-term recovery. Such services can

- Reduce the strain that relapse places upon the already overburdened treatment system;
- Minimize the negative effects of relapse when it does occur; and
- Contribute to the quality of life for people in recovery and their families and communities.

Eligibility

Different types of grants are awarded through a competitive process to eligible entities, including domestic public and private nonprofit entities. For example, State, local, or tribal governments; public or private universities and colleges; community—and faith-based organizations; and tribal organizations may apply. The statutory authority for this program precludes grants to for-profit organizations.

How Funds May Be Used

The RCSP builds upon the desire of many people in recovery and their families to “give back” by becoming a part of an expanded continuum of recovery in their communities. RCSP projects strengthen the continuum by bringing together peers (i.e., people who share the experience of addiction and recovery) to provide social support for each other’s recovery. Peer recovery support services include the various forms of social support cited in the literature:

- **Emotional support** – demonstrations of empathy, love, caring, and concern. Peer mentoring, coaching, and support groups are examples.
- **Informational support** – assistance with knowledge, information, and skills. Examples include life skills training, job skills training, citizenship restoration, educational assistance, and health and wellness information.
- **Instrumental support** – helping others to do needed activities. Examples include providing transportation to attend support groups, child care, clothing closets, and help in filling out applications or obtaining entitlements.
- **Companionship support** – connections with people in the community. Leisure opportunities in an alcohol- and drug-free setting are examples.

Sponsoring Bureau

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

See Also

RCSP Overview: <http://rcsp.samhsa.gov/about/overview.htm>

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Compassion Capital Fund Demonstration Program

Purpose

The goal of the Compassion Capital Fund Demonstration Program is to help faith-based and community organizations increase their effectiveness and ability to provide social services, expand their organizations, diversify their funding sources, and create collaborations to better serve those most in need through training, technical assistance and financial support through intermediary organizations.

Eligibility

The types of organizations that receive funding as intermediary organizations through this program include nongovernmental organizations; State, local, and tribal governmental organizations; nonprofit agencies (including faith-based and community-based organizations); public agencies; colleges and universities; and for-profit entities.

How Funds May Be Used

Intermediary organizations receiving Compassion Capital Funds should provide technical assistance to a diverse range of faith-based and community organization as well as technical assistance and financial support through sub-awards to a defined group of faith-based and community organizations.

Sponsoring Bureau

Office of Community Services

See Also

CCF Web page: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fbci/progs/fbci_ccf.html

Contact

Compassion Capital Fund National Resource Center
1-866-223-5129

