How Modernizing the Grants Process Can Reshape Community Impact  
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Content Summary

State agencies struggle to create and maintain grant development, distribution, and oversight in the current world where these programs and changes come quickly and regularly. Grants stimulate the economy by supporting critical recovery initiatives, innovative research, and improving delivery of public service programs. These funds can be used to improve existing services or develop new initiatives that directly address the specific needs of the communities they serve. By securing grant funding, human services agencies can potentially extend their reach, strengthen their impact, and better serve individuals, families, and communities; however, sometimes it is a Herculean effort to get those funds out the door and track them to success.

Hillsborough County in the State of Florida partnered with EY to use the EY Grants Accelerator (EYGA) platform which supports the application and administration of grant funding and monitors those funds to create compliance and improve confidence in grant distribution. With use of the platform, the county was able to process more than 40,000 applications and disburse more than $163 million in funds.

Learn more about how Hillsborough County developed a program and implemented tactics for effective grants change, and how your agency can create grants administration differently to be more supportive to your constituents.

Presenters

Amy Fenstermacher, Senior Manager, Ernst & Young LLP

Amy Fenstermacher is a Senior Manager at Ernst & Young LLP. She helped design and deliver the first client implementation of the EY Grants Accelerator (EYGA) and now serves as the Product Leader, overseeing product roadmap and refinement for delivery and core product development. She identifies new use cases for EYGA, works across EY service lines and serves as a grants management subject-matter resource.

Angela Medero, Social Services Manager, Hillsborough County, Florida

Angela Medero is currently the manager of contracts, projects, and training for the Hillsborough County Social Services Department. A Tampa native and graduate of the University of South Florida with a bachelor’s degree in communications, Angela has 20 years of experience in Social Services Programs.

Angela has led several successful projects to improve service delivery, streamline and standardize processes, and increase partnerships to expand programs and services for low-income residents. Most notably, she has led the Hillsborough County’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program since 2021.
Jeri Culley, Health and Human Services Lead, Ernst & Young LLP

Jeri Culley is EY’s Health and Human Services Solution Lead for the US Public Services Sector. She has over 25 years of professional experience in government administration, legislative coordination, policy development, and strategic implementations. Before EY she served as the Assistant Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families, the Associate Commissioner for the State of Texas Health & Human Services, and QA Manager with the State of Missouri Family Support Division. With her extensive experience and deep understanding of public assistance programs and policies, child welfare and family services, and performance management systems, she provides informed and valuable insights while leading strategic and large-scale transformation efforts.

Adrian Saldana, Organizational Effectiveness Consultant, American Public Human Services Association

Adrian has over 19 years of experience in human services, seeking to help individuals, families and communities thrive. His functions have encompassed frontline service delivery, learning and development, training evaluation, and change management. Prior to joining APHSA, Adrian worked at New York City’s Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) for six years. There he supported continuous quality improvement and participatory leadership initiatives at the ACS Workforce Institute as well as implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) in the Division of Family Permanency Services. He has also supported transformational reform efforts at the United Nations, the National Harm Reduction Coalition, Safe Horizon and Henry Street Settlement. Adrian received his Master of Public Administration from the New York University Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

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