



Request for Proposals:
Capacity Funding Addressing Food Insecurity Related to COVID-19
For Network U.S. Member Agencies
Due Date: Friday, November 6, 2020

Introduction:

The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, with generous funding support from a prominent national foundation, announces an opportunity for Network U.S. member agencies in good standing to apply for funding to support capacity building and/or capital purchases/improvement to address the needs of those struggling with issues of food insecurity related to the impact of COVID-19. Target populations may include, but are not limited to, supporting the needs of individuals who have been furloughed or laid off due to COVID-19, as well as a range of vulnerable populations including older adults, Russian speaking elderly, Holocaust Survivors, single parents with school age children, persons with disabilities who have lost access to day programs or employment, refugees or asylum seekers and persons living in high conflict households characterized as such because of episodes of domestic violence.

The funding is available as a one year, 2:1, one-third challenge grant to increase the capacity of agencies to better address issues of food insecurity experienced by community members resulting from the impact of COVID-19. Funding will only be available to agencies whose client base for the requested program is at least 50% Jewish. Agencies will be required to either raise or provide two-thirds of the funding needed for the project to be eligible to receive the remaining one-third match. Match funding may come from internal agency resources or other funding sources. Grant requests may range from a minimum of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$100,000 (in other words, the total program cost must be between \$30,000 and \$300,000).

Funding requests may address the following needs:

- Purchase of equipment to increase capacity and scope (freezers, refrigerators, shelving or other capital purchases)
- Purchase, installation or training for database systems to track client usage/food inventory.
- Resources for new food products (establishing gardens for fresh fruit, vegetables, etc.).
- Mobile food pantries (purchase of vehicle or other equipment needs)
- Home delivered meals programs (purchase of vehicles or other equipment to address impact of COVID-19).

- Other capital improvement needs to increase the capacity and scope of food services provided/number of clients served, etc.

Please note: While this grant is meant to primarily provide support for the purchase of equipment, agencies may use up to 10% of the requested grant funds to support staffing expenses that are necessary in order to initially operate the program (for example, training of a staff member to operate a new database system). For purchases of equipment or other capital expenditures, agencies will be asked to document purchases with copies of paid receipts.

Agencies interested in applying should submit the [online application](#) by close of business on November 6, 2020. Here is the [application](#) (as a pdf) and [program budget](#) (as an excel sheet) both of which are included in the online application. Please use them for your convenience. **Please note the application must be completed and submitted online.** You will receive a confirmation of your submission. Grants will be announced by the end of December 2020. Grants will be paid in three installments according to the following schedule:

- 50% in early 2021.
- 40% after review and approval of a six-month report, which Agencies must submit by July 15, 2021.
- 10% after review and approval of a final report, which Agencies must submit by January 15, 2022.

If the reports reflect that the actual costs of the program are less than had been anticipated in the program budget, the second and third installments may be reduced so that the Grant covers no more than one-third of the actual costs of the program.

The grant period is January through December 2021. All grant funds must be used during this period.

Please contact [Reuben Rotman](#), CEO at the Network, with any questions.

The following is a narrative of the required application (linked above as an online application):

Section 1: Agency Information

- Agency Name:
- City, State:
- Agency EIN #:
- Contact Person at Agency:
 - Title:
 - Email Address:
- Name of Service/Program:
- Type of Program:

Section 2: Program Description and Grant Request

- Brief Summary of Grant Request (40 words max.)
- Amount of Grant Request:
- Program Description (350 words max.)

Describe the agency's current or proposed services which address food insecurity. Include service components, service objectives, target population, length of time in operation and track record of service to the community (for existing services). Indicate estimated percentage of current Jewish community clients and anticipated Jewish community clients who will be served with the increased capacity provided by the grant funding.
- Need Addressed (250 words max.)

Describe the issue or need addressed by this grant proposal. Include explanation of the impact this grant will have on the program and the community.
- Scope (250 words max.)

Indicate the current number of clients served per year and, the degree to which the grant funding will increase the capacity of the program, indicate the post-grant capacity as well:
- Sustainability Plan

What are your plans for continuing this service beyond the grant period?

Section 3: Financial Information

- Agency Annual Operating Budget
- Project Budget (please use [budget template](#) that is provided)

Indicate the total dollar amount of the project or program, with specific capital, staff, or material costs and other direct costs itemized as appropriate. Indicate the amount of the grant requested and the amount of funding anticipated to be received from other sources. The grant requested through this RFP should represent no more than one-third of the total project budget. Please use [the budget template](#) and upload where indicated.
- Other Funding Sources

Indicate the anticipated sources of the two-thirds matching funding, including the expected timing of receipt of this funding (received, committed, pending, not yet applied) and any anticipated challenges to raising the matching funds.

Please note: Agencies may use up to 10% of the requested grant funds to support staffing expenses. For purchases of equipment or other capital expenditures, agencies will be asked to document purchases with copies of paid receipts.

Section 4: Timeline

Please indicate the anticipated timeline from application to full implementation of the project (including the timing required to raise matching funds).

Section 5: Agency Approval

- CEO/ED: Please indicate that the CEO/ED of the agency has approved the submission of this application.
- Board: If a project of this type would require board approval at your agency, please indicate that the agency's board of directors is supportive of this application.