

Addendum

Application Posted Date: July 15, 2024

Addendum Issued Date: Aug. 7, 2024

Solicitation Title: Trusted Messenger Initiative (TM) 2024-2025

Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

- Change in Solicitation Response Due Date
 Change in Terms and Conditions
 Other

Please Note the Following Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

1. Could you please provide further details on the application criteria for organizations like ours that focus on community sustainability rather than direct health services?

A: From the Application Form, Trusted Messenger Initiative (TM) 2024-2025, Section 2, provides the Public Health Priority Areas under the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Infrastructure Grant

2. Are applicants required to have 501c-3 status or a fiscal sponsor?

A: No. See number 3 below for more info.

3. Can registered businesses also apply?

A: Applicants must be registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State or have a relationship with a fiscal agent. If you use a fiscal agent, you must provide the fiscal agent's name, contact information and a letter of support from the fiscal agent.

4. Is the county interested in funding existing programs / services that have outreach activities for the designated populations you spoke about? Or are you open to new services/programs or initiatives that an organization would perform under this contract, but may not be core or permanent service of the organization?

Most existing programs/services with outreach activities that we know the community responds to would interest the County. We are open to new programs/services/activities to expand and innovate. Share what you plan to do within the grant timeline and what you hope to see afterward. Please link it to your selected priority area. Refer to webpage section "Purpose" and "Focus and scope of service," both further described in the Application.

5. Can a national 501c3 organization headquartered in Saint Paul be eligible?

A: Please see number 3 above. Refer to "Eligibility" section in the Trusted Messenger Grant Solicitation webpage.

6. Are stipends or gift cards allowable expenses for participants and outreach?

A: Gift cards and stipends are allowable expenses.

7. Does the county have descriptions of past or current grantee projects for reference?

A: See the Trusted Messenger Initiative webpage. In the first line click the link to see current organizations.
<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/public-health-community-engagement/trusted-messenger-initiative/trusted-messenger-initiative-public-health>

8. If it is new initiative, does it need to be permanent, or can it be something that the community just needs right now?

A: It is important to have consistency in community, but we also know there are sometimes shorter term and effective interventions appropriate for community. We trusted that applicants know their community need and will plan accordingly to meet those needs over the 9-month term of the grant.

9. How many grants will you be giving out?

A: The County estimates an award to approximately 10 organizations.

10. What does the County see as things that are needed and may be missing from programs?

A: Refer to the Priority Area descriptions which list ways to collaborate with this initiative. Please share what you see in the community as a need or a service. We want to hear from you and the community for ideas and any additional priorities.

11. Is the county going to provide Public Health information for each priority area, and how will the messaging happen?

A: Yes, our staff and programs will provide reliable public health data for partners that pertains to your selected priority area. However, our intention is to collaborate with partners on messaging and join as content experts to provide culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate messaging.

12. What expectations do you have for reporting and any required meetings to attend during grant period?

A: Refer to the "Expectations" section of the webpage solicitation.

13. What is an example of conflict of interest?

A: As an employee of Ramsey County, if a direct member of my family is interested in this grant, they cannot discuss information or contents of their application with me, as a Ramsey County employee. Any discussions with personnel associated with this grant is now allowed.

14. Are for-profit businesses allowed to apply?

A: Businesses registered with the MN Secretary of State are eligible. See Eligibility Section.

15. What is the term/duration of this program?

A: Anticipated Term: September 30th, 2024 – June 30th, 2025. An estimated duration of 9 months.

16. Are religious organizations allowed to apply?

A: Businesses registered with the MN Secretary of State are eligible. See Eligibility Section.

17. Can organizations submit proposals for more than one Public Health Priority area?

A: Not for this solicitation.

18. Is it likely that this grant program will continue after this grant round?

A: When we find out more information we will announce it.

19. Are there a minimum # of people to be served by a project?

A: Serving a specific number of people was not listed as a work plan requirement at this time; we trust that we all have a goal to reach as many people as possible with the services provided. We have good faith that you will strive to reach as many as possible.

20. Is there a word limit for responses?

A: No, however please be mindful of the length of the responses so they are clear and concise.

21. What are the requirements for a fiscal agent? We are applying as a non-profit/LLC collaborative team and are wondering if we need a fiscal agent?

A: No, a fiscal agent is not required.

22. Do we need a direct health provider (hospital, clinic, etc.) partner for the application?

A: No.

23. Please detail or clarify what constitutes a good fit. Is that programmatic, service delivery or are you suggesting it should only fit within the Public Health Priority Areas listed?

A: If an organization is proposing an approach to work on housing stability, it would not align within Trusted Messengers Public Health and the priority areas. This is an example of what may not be a good fit for this grant. Please review the Purpose section in the Trusted Messengers page.

24. Is specific project funding preferred or is it ok to apply for general operations?

A: Please strive for a balance of funding allocated for general operations and funding allocated for community needs (e.g., community meals, gift cards for participation, etc.) and services/programs for community. Budgeting for subcontractors are allowable: time for an accountant to submit your invoices, community healers that will attend your events, etc.

Unless otherwise specified above, the Response due date and time all other Terms and Conditions remain the same.

Sincerely,

Tee Yang
Contract Manager

Ramsey County representatives recommending this Addendum acknowledge that all Ramsey County solicitation policies and procedures have been followed.