

FY23 SIG Field Demonstration Projects Bidders Conference

Questions and Answers

Posted November 15, 2022

Question: Is it required to ask for the full \$8k grant amount?

Answer: You can request less however we suggest you think about how you could actually utilize that full \$8,000 grant amount.

Question: If you applied for an Innovation grant can you still apply for a SIG grants?

Answer: Yes

Question: What information is needed in the narrative?

Answer: See pages 4-5 of the [RFP](#) which contain what is required in the narrative which should not exceed 4 pages.

Question: Is there an assumption that this will be an either or (either Talk of the town OR Caregiver)? Is it reasonable to think that we could think of a way to do both and? Or is that not recommended?

Answer: It can be one or the other, or, it could be a combination of both either, you know best what your community needs are.

Question: How would scholarships be given - lump sum or would caregiver have to provide receipts?

Answer: That's up to the grantee(COA) to decide, however the grantee will need to provide documentation, invoices, and/or receipt for the services provided, and documentation that shows what services are provided, the number of hours they respite was provided, etc. Please contact Shari Cox, MCOAs Fiscal Manager for more details at shari@mcoaonline.com (**Note** Sandwich did a version of caregiver respite with invoices from the care agency. Susan Marancik of Sandwich offered to speak with anyone about the process they used, she can be reached at smarancik@sandwichmass.org)

Question: How do we qualify people for the grant, income or need based?

Answer: The grant doesn't require you to qualify individuals based on income or need, it is up to the grantee (COA) to decide if they wish to do that, and if so, how.

Question: Can you use the money to connect caregivers through programs specific for them?

Answer: Yes, you can use funds to connect caregivers to programs that are specific to them

Question: If the grant includes adding a new position to your staff, I am concerned about timing with recruitment and hiring and outcomes.

Answer: We understand the timeline is tight.

Question: Do ASAPs also provide this through their Family Caregiver Support Program?

Answer: The ASAPS Family Caregiver Programs do provide some respite. We are all aware that caregivers across the state are in need of more respite, which is why this initiative was included. In addition, the SIG Funds for these Field Demonstration Grant initiatives come from a different funding source than that which funds the ASAPs Family Caregiver Program.

Question: Can you expand what is meant by "providing reduced hour support day program"? Would this apply to those already providing the service?

Answer: It can apply to those already providing the service, (but doesn't have to), and to clarify, as the grant amount is relatively small, it was anticipated the funding a number of "full" supportive day slots, may more quickly exhaust the grant funds, so the reduced hours was another option.

Question: If we are planning to submit a Marketing AND Caregiver request for funding, must we submit two separate intents to bid?

Answer: If you are applying for outreach and marketing of your COA to older adults and caregivers for either becoming the "Talk of the Town", and/or educating and connecting Family Caregivers, **AND** you applying also for Caregiver respite services or scholarships, then you need to submit separate grant applications, (i.e.: one for marketing/outreach and one for caregiver respite), however you do not need to submit two intents to bid, submitting one intent to bid will suffice.

Resources: To learn about the Projects that were done in FY22, please log into the Members Services section of the MCOA Website and select "[SIG Reports from the Field](#)" to review the final reports submitted by your colleagues on their previous projects.