

MAR 30 2016

Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) invites you to apply for federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 funding under the **Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Formula Grant Program**.

The PATH Formula Grant Program provides funds to each state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands [hereafter referred to as state (s)], for provision of services to individuals who experience homelessness or are at imminent risk of becoming homeless and have serious mental illness or a co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorder. The PATH Program is authorized under the Public Health Services Act, Title V, Part C, Section 521, as amended. Enclosed is a copy of the PATH legislation for your reference and FOA. The following important items are identified here to assist in the preparation of an application for FY 2016 PATH funds.

Allocation of Federal PATH Funds

In FY 2016, approximately \$61.26 million will be distributed to states through the PATH Program. Each state will receive an allocation based on the formula set forth in the authorizing legislation. A table listing the allotment for each state can be found in Appendix A of the enclosed *Fiscal Year 2016 Funding Opportunity Announcement: Projects in Transition from Homelessness*.

Formula and Matching Requirements

As required by statute, states must agree to make available, directly or through donations from public or private entities, non-federal contributions that are not less than \$1 (in cash or in kind) for each \$3 of federal funds. This requirement is waived for the American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States Virgin Islands.

Maintenance of Effort

As required, states must maintain expenditures for services specified in the legislation at a level that is not less than the average level of such expenditures maintained by the state for a 2-year period preceding the fiscal year for which the state is applying to receive grant funds. SAMHSA will provide guidance on the maintenance of effort requirement in the coming months.

Due Date for Application

States are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, but no later than May 27th, 2016. To facilitate this process, a copy of this letter has been sent to the State Mental Health Commissioner and the designated state contact for your PATH Program.

States and territories are required to submit their PATH application through the web-based Block Grant Application System (WebBGAS). WebBGAS is a grant management system that allows for the submission, review, and archive of PATH applications. WebBGAS is located on the internet at <https://bgas.samhsa.gov>. Any question related to WebBGAS may be addressed to the WebBGAS Help Desk at BGASHelpdesk@SAMHSA.hhs or support desk staff at 1-888-301-BGAS (2427). SAMHSA is unable to accept or consider an application in any other format including those that are hand carried or sent by facsimile.

Hard copies of the Signature Pages, Assurances, Certifications, and Agreements must be submitted to the address below with five (5) business days of the state's electronic submission of the application:

Ms. Wendy Pang
Office of Financial Resources
Division of Grants Management
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Room 17E21C
Rockville, Maryland 20857
ATTN: PATH Formula Grant

If there are any programmatic questions or concerns, please contact CDR Marivic Fields, Acting Director, PATH Program at 240-276-1754 or by email at Maria.fields@samhsa.hhs.gov. For business and grants management questions contact Ms. Wendy Pang at 240-276-1419 or wendy.pang@samhsa.hhs.gov.

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We look forward to receiving your FY 2016 PATH application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paolo del Vecchio", written in a cursive style.

Paolo del Vecchio, M.S.W.
Director
Center for Mental Health Services

Enclosures

cc. State Mental Health Commissioner
Designated State Contact for PATH