

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Training and Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement Limited Competition Announcement

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of limited competition cooperative agreement.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announces that it will award limited competition cooperative agreements for four Training and Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreements to the following four national AIDS organizations: AIDS Action Foundation (AAF), National Association of People Living with AIDS (NAPWA), National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), and the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC).

The purpose of these cooperative agreements is to assist people who work with Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act funded programs and other programs with an interest in HIV/AIDS, to understand and put into action the requirements of the CARE Act as reauthorized in October, 2000.

The new requirements of the CARE Act can be summarized into the following primary goals:

(1) Improving access to HIV services and addressing the unmet HIV-related needs of people who are living with HIV, but are not in care.

(2) Improving health outcomes for people living with HIV through quality management.

(3) Increasing the service capacity of organizations in underserved areas to address the HIV health and support needs communities living with and affected by HIV.

(4) Increasing the availability of needed resources in communities facing new and emerging HIV epidemics.

(5) Increasing coordination and linkages among federally funded programs in communities to improve health outcomes and better use resources for people living with HIV.

These goals will be achieved through the provision of targeted training and technical assistance to health professionals working in and with CARE Act funded programs and other programs providing services to people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Health professionals will include

administrative and direct service staff of State/local AIDS programs, State/local health departments, CARE Act grantees and their subcontractors, other AIDS service organizations (ASO) and community based organizations (CBO); members of CARE Act planning bodies; and consumers.

HRSA will provide consultation, including administrative and technical assistance as needed, for the execution and evaluation of all aspects of these cooperative agreements. HRSA may also participate and/or collaborate with the organizations in any workshops or meetings to exchange current information, opinions and best practice findings during these cooperative agreements.

Authorizing Legislation: These cooperative agreements are authorized under Title XXVI, Part F of the Public Health Service Act, (Title 42, U.S.C.) as amended by Public Law 106-345, the Ryan White CARE Act Amendments of 2000, dated October 20, 2000.

Background: Assistance will be provided to: AIDS Action Foundation, National Association of People Living with AIDS, National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, and the National Minority AIDS Council. No other applications are solicited. These four organizations are uniquely qualified to develop and provide TA in several priority areas identified by Congress, HRSA and HAB staff, grantees and other constituents.

These organizations have significant experience in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In particular, their three to five years of experience working closely with HAB has made them intimately familiar with the Ryan White CARE Act funded programs and their most recent challenges.

(1) The AIDS Action Foundation, founded in 1984, is the only organization solely dedicated to supporting the development of policies that improve HIV/AIDS care and services, vigorous medical research and effective prevention. The Foundation is a highly respected source for news and updates on the latest developments in AIDS related policies. It represents a network of 3,200 national AIDS service organizations whom they assist, through educational activities, in working with a variety of populations.

(2) NAPWA has an extensive history responding to the diverse needs of those infected. They do so through national campaigns, publication development, provider and consumer education and training, and community strengthening. It has the ability to reach 40,000 people to forward the most up-to-date HIV/

AIDS related news and information of the field.

(3) NASTAD is the only officially established organization that represents and convenes the State and Territorial AIDS Directors of all 50 States and U.S. Territories. For the past nine years, the organization's constituents have included all the program administrators responsible for managing federally and state-funded HIV/AIDS programs, including HIV/AIDS care and treatment programs funded by Title II of the Ryan White CARE Act, and the HIV prevention programs funded by the CDC.

(4) Finally, NMAC is the only national organization founded specifically to develop leadership within communities of color to fight AIDS. NMAC has a thirteen-year history working with minority-controlled organizations and other representatives from communities of color to foster new leadership and address the unique challenges HIV/AIDS presents for racial/ethnic minorities. NMAC has taken a lead on helping minority CBOs to increase their comfort with, knowledge of, and proficiency in the rapid technological advancements of recent years.

Approximately \$800,000 is available in Fiscal Year 2001 for the first year of a 3-year project period. It is expected that awards will be made on or before September 30, 2001. Continuation awards within the project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress and the availability of funds.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional technical information may be obtained from Rene Sterling, HIV/AIDS Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 7-36, Rockville, MD 20857. The telephone number is (301) 443-7778, the fax number is (301) 594-2835, and the e-mail address is Rsterling@hrsa.gov.

Dated: June 29, 2001.

Elizabeth M. Duke,
Acting Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Notice of Intent To Fund International Social Service, United States of America Branch, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), ACF, DHHS.

ACTION: This is a Notice of Intent to Fund a Sole Source Cooperative Agreement to International Social Service, United States of America Branch, Inc. (ISS-USA), Baltimore, Maryland, to provide services to U.S. citizens returned from abroad through the U.S. Repatriate Program.

SUMMARY: The purpose of the technical assistance agreement is to ensure the provision of direct assistance to repatriates to aid in their return to the U.S. from abroad. Repatriates are referred from officials of the U.S. Consular offices, Department of State, and are provided services upon arrival in the U.S. through U.S. human service organizations, public and private.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sue Benjamin at (202) 401-4851.

Legislative Authority

Title XI, Section 1113 of the Social Security Act (Assistance for United States Citizens Returned from Foreign Countries) [42 U.S.C. 1313 (a) (1)]; Public Law 86-571 (Hospitalization for Mentally Ill Repatriates and Other Services) [24 U.S.C. parts 321-329]; and Executive Order 12656 which assigns DHHS the responsibility for planning for the reception, temporary care, and onward transportation for U.S. citizens and dependents returned to the U.S. in a national emergency.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number assigned to this announcement is 93.579.

Funding Availability—ORR intends to award one cooperative agreement to ISS-USA, Baltimore, Maryland, for up to \$850,000.

Project Period and Budget Period—The project period is for five years, from September 30, 2001—September 29, 2006. Each award will be for a one-year budget period, with the first budget period from September 30, 2001—September 29, 2002.

Part I: Background

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for administering the U.S. Repatriate Program. In 1996, ORR awarded a five-year technical assistance cooperative agreement to ISS-USA, Baltimore, Maryland, to ensure that direct assistance would be provided to repatriates to aid in their return to the U.S. from abroad.

ISS-USA is a member of a consortium entitled the Refugee Council USA, whose members are private organizations that provide assistance in almost all communities in the U.S. ISS-USA also has established links with

state and county public human service organizations. Additionally, as a member of an international consortium of international social services organizations, ISS-USA is able to respond to a U.S. repatriate who requires services prior to returning to the U.S. Finally, ISS-USA staff have the required social work credentials and have experience working with the mentally ill, with criminal cases, and with child welfare cases.

ISS-USA has capably provided technical assistance and coordination of services in all counties in the U.S., assisting repatriates returning from abroad, for the past five years under the current agreement. This sole source cooperative agreement will permit ACF to continue funding ISS-USA, which has proven abilities to be responsive to repatriated persons anywhere within the U.S.

The ISS-USA performed the following types of activities under this technical assistance cooperative agreement.

Client Services

- Casework
- Data and financial services
- Maintenance of the State Contact List
- Group or emergency repatriation

Archive Maintenance

- Maintaining case files prior to archiving according to DHHS policies and procedures.

Since ISS-USA has successfully performed under the current cooperative agreement, ACF intends to fund them for another five-year project period, subject to availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the grantee and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the Government. Organizations who believe they have the capacity to provide the required services and are interested in competing for the award must contact Sue Benjamin, within 30 days from date of publication in the **Federal Register**, at the following address: Office of Refugee Resettlement, 37 L'Enfant Promenade, Washington, DC 20447, Tel: (202) 401-4851, Fax: (202) 401-0981, Email: sbenjamin@acf.dhhs.gov.

Dated: July 2, 2001.

Carmel Clay-Thompson.

Acting Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Refugee Resettlement Program: Final Notice of Allocations to States of FY 2001 Funds for Refugee Social Services

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), ACF, HHS.

ACTION: Final notice of allocations to States of FY 2001 funds for refugee social services.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the allocations to States of FY 2001 funds for social services under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP).

This notice includes \$20.5 million in two set-aside funding allocations to: (1) Provide outreach and referral services to ensure that eligible refugees access the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and other programs for low income working populations and provide specialized interpreter training and the hiring of interpreters to enable refugees to have equal access to medical and legal services; and (2) provide outreach, referral, and social services to ensure that persons granted asylum access programs to help them attain economic self-sufficiency, as needed.

DATES: July 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara R. Chesnik, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, (202) 401-4558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice of proposed allocations to States of FY 2001 funds for refugee social services was published in the **Federal Register** on April 27, 2001 (66 FR 21224).

I. Amounts for Allocation

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has available \$143,621,000 in FY 2001 refugee social service funds as part of the FY 2001 appropriation for the Department of Health and Human Services (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001, as enacted into law by Section 1(a)(1) of Pub. L. No. 106-554).

The FY 2001 House Appropriations Committee Report (H.R. Rept. No. 106-645) reads as follows with respect to social services funds:

The bill provides \$143,621,000 for social services, the same as the fiscal year 2000 appropriation and \$305,000 above the budget request. Funds are distributed by formula as well as through the discretionary grant making process for special projects. The Committee agrees that \$19,000,000 is available for assistance to serve communities affected by the Cuban and Haitian entrants and refugees whose arrivals in recent years have increased. The Committee has set aside