

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Office of Refugee Resettlement; Grant Notice

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice to supplement funding to the 2008 Voluntary Agency Matching Grant Program.

CFDA#: 93.567.

Legislative Authority: Section 412(c)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1522(c)(1)(A)); Section 7(a) and (b) of the Refugee Assistance Extension Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-605) (8 U.S.C. 1522 note)

Amount of Award: \$2.17 million supplemental to 2008 awards of \$60 million federal funds plus \$30 million in cash and in-kind "match".

Project Period: February 15, 2008 to January 31, 2010.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Office of Resettlement, Division of Community Resettlement, will award supplemental funds without competition to nine agencies: Church World Service, Ethiopian Community Development Council, Episcopal Migration Ministries, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, International Rescue Committee, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, the United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and World Relief Corporation. The cost for these supplemental awards is \$2.17 million.

The Voluntary Agency Matching Grant program was created by Congress in 1979. Matching Grant services enable the Voluntary Agencies' resettlement agencies to work with recently arrived refugees and other eligible clients. The goal of the program is to assist refugees become economically self-sufficient without accessing public assistance within 120-180 days. Last year, 81% of clients entering the program were economically self-sufficient within 180 days.

Since the Presidential Determination was signed in October 2007, the ceiling for refugees was raised from 70,000 to 80,000 to accommodate 10,000 additional Iraqi refugees. In addition, legislation passed in December 2007 and January 2008 created a new class of individuals eligible for the refugee services. Thousands of Afghani and Iraqi interpreters who served the U.S. military have been provided "Special

Immigrant Visas" (SIV) and are now eligible for six or eight months of refugee services. The Matching Grant program is often the program of choice for these special populations as it is geared for readily employable cases and for SIV cases, conforms to the legislative time limits.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald A. Munia, Director, Division of Community Resettlement, Office of Refugee Resettlement, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20047. E-mail: rmunia@acf.hhs.gov and phone: 202-401-4559.

Dated: May 13, 2008.

David H. Siegel,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. DHS-2008-0049]

Science and Technology Directorate; Submission for Review; Information Collection Request for the DHS S&T Bio-Knowledge Center Expert Database

AGENCY: Science and Technology Directorate, DHS.

ACTION: 30-day Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) invites the general public to comment on a new data collection form for the Bio-Knowledge Center Expert Database: Subject Matter Expert (SME) Registration Form (DHS Form 10043). The Bio-Knowledge Center Database will collect SME information in order to understand who can provide scientific expertise for peer review of scientific programs, and who can provide expertise in the event of a perceived biothreat. In addition, the directory will make it easier to identify scientific specialty areas for which there is a shortage of SMEs with appropriate security clearances. SME contact information, scientific expertise, and level of education will be collected electronically through a Web portal currently being developed by DHS S&T. The SME information will be shared with U.S. Government program managers and other members of the biodefense community who have a legitimate need to identify biological SMEs. Cleared SMEs are necessary to accomplish scientific reviews, attend topical meetings, and to consult in the event of a perceived biothreat. This notice and request for comments is

required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35). Previously, a 60-day notice was published in the **Federal Register** on March 14, 2008.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until June 23, 2008.

Comments: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to Desk Officer for the Department of Homeland Security, Science & Technology Directorate, and sent via electronic mail to oir_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395-6974. Please include docket number [DHS-2008-00XX] in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Bowerbank (202) 254-6895 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Counterproliferation Center has identified the need for a comprehensive and readily available list of biological agent SMEs that includes security clearance status. In particular, there is no database that contains security clearance information, biological domain expertise, and contact information. Therefore, the SME Directory is being coordinated at the national level to address this need. If a similar database is identified in the future, we will work with the identified collection agent to ensure a cooperative partnership is developed.

The SME Directory will use electronic (Web-based) technology to collect, maintain, and transmit SME information. The SMEs will have access to their own data and will be able to edit and update the information electronically.

DHS is particularly interested in comments that:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Suggest ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Suggest ways to minimize the burden of the data collection on those who respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological