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TO: Service Providers
FROM: Maureen McIntyre, Chief Executive Officer
DATE: February 1, 2023

RE: OLDER AMERICANS ACT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc. (NCAAA) is soliciting proposals for programs that serve older persons (age 60 and older) and their families in the North Central Connecticut Region under Title III-B, D, and E of the Older Americans Act (1965, as amended) and the American Rescue Plan ACT of 2021 (“ARPA”). The project period for proposals being solicited will run from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Proposals are due no later than FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023 at 11:59pm EST. Applications must be completed online and can be accessed from the NCAAA website at www.ncaaact.org. No paper applications will be accepted.

Federal Fiscal Year 2024 NCAAA Title III B, D, E Request for Proposal (RFP) Timetable

RFP Process Opens	February 1, 2023
Technical Assistance Session (Via TEAMS)	February 15, 2023
Application Final Filing Date	March 17, 2023, by 11:59pm
Allocation Committee Review & Applicant Presentations	May 9, 11, 16, and 18, 2023
NCAAA Advisory Council Recommendations	June 21, 2023
NCAAA Board of Directors Approval	June 28, 2023
Notification of Funding Status to Applicants	July 14, 2023
Title III Project Period Begins	October 1, 2023

ARPA FUNDING DEFINED

On March 11, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) was signed into law by President Biden. Section 2921 of the law appropriated \$1.434 billion to remain available until expended to carry out the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA). As the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affected older adults and especially within communities of color, it is NCAAA’s intention to use these funds to improve or build capacity for community-based programs who serve these populations. We will encourage program applications that address critical needs exacerbated by the pandemic such as mental health services, social isolation, home safety and repair, and food insecurity. ARPA funding has been categorized in the same manner as OAA funds. With ARPA B, D, and E to be used for Supportive Services & Senior Centers, Evidence Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, and National Family Caregiver Support Program respectively.

Proposals will be accepted for the following service categories for both OAA and ARPA funding streams:

- Title III-B: Supportive Services and Senior Centers;
- Title III-D: Evidence-Based Health Promotion; and
- Title III-E: Family Caregiver Support.

TITLE III-B: SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & SENIOR CENTERS

1. **Access** – Programs that decrease the isolation and alienation of older persons. Programs shall provide older persons access to available services. Services include outreach, transportation, and information and referral. Programs designed to provide enhanced and/or integrated access to community-based health services are also encouraged.

Enhancing the quality of life for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers in North Central Connecticut by ensuring that they have access to quality, cost-effective services.



2. Legal – Programs that will ensure free or low-cost legal services are available to low income, culturally and/or geographically isolated older persons in the North Central region.
3. In-Home – Programs that provide new or expanded services, which may include homemaker, home health aide, chore, and companion. These programs should give preference to older persons with the greatest social and economic need, with particular attention to low-income older individuals, low income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas.
4. Adult Day Care – Programs that provide a structured program of social, health, and rehabilitative services for frail older adults in an effort to prevent premature institutionalization and provide respite for caregivers.
5. Community Services – Programs that provide opportunities, foster independent action, create intergenerational opportunities, and provide specific services to the older adult community such as economic development, housing and job placement, and health services. Programs providing services that are coordinated and delivered through multipurpose senior centers are strongly encouraged.
6. Community Education/Counseling – Programs that educate communities about issues, services, and products designed to assist seniors their families and caregivers. Programs designed for older individuals with respect to mental health services, including outreach for, education concerning, and screening for such services, and referral to such services for treatment are strongly encouraged.

TITLE III-D: EVIDENCE-BASED DISEASE PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION

Evidence-based health promotion programs, including programs related to the prevention and mitigation of the effects of chronic disease (including but not limited to osteoporosis, hypertension, obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease), alcohol and substance abuse reduction, smoking cessation, weight loss and control, stress management, falls prevention, physical activity, and improved nutrition. Proposed programs must include an evidence-based intervention that meets the highest criteria level, established by the Administration on Aging (AoA), as noted below. The proposal must identify the evidence-based intervention upon which the program is based and describe the intervention and documented outcomes. The proposal must identify the core components of the evidence-based intervention that will be provided through the funded program. All programs using Title IID funds will have to meet these criteria:

- Demonstrated through evaluation to be effective for improving the health and wellbeing or reducing disease, disability, and/or injury among older adults; and
- Proven effective with older adult population, using Experimental or Quasi-Experimental Design; and
- Research results published in a peer-reviewed journal; and
- Fully translated in one or more community site(s); and includes developed dissemination products that are available to the public.

TITLE III-E: NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Programs that provide new or expanded caregiver support services to grandparents, step-grandparents, or relatives (other than the parent), by blood, marriage, or adoption, who are 55 years or older, and are primary caregivers and legal guardians of a relative child not more than 18 years of age, or the parent, grandparent, or other older relative of an adult relative with disabilities. These services may include, but are not limited to: information about the availability of support services, assistance in gaining access, individual and group counseling to help make decisions and solve problems, direct services such as child care for children while caregivers attend medical appointments, and transportation to medical appointments. These programs shall give priority to caregivers who provide care for children with severe disabilities.

All Older Americans Act, Title III and ARPA awards are contingent upon NCAAA's receipt of federal and state funding. Not-for-profit, public, and proprietary agencies are eligible to apply.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

If you have questions about completing the grant application, there will be an explanatory session offered on **Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** No further in-person assistance will be available during the grant application period. New applicants are *strongly encouraged to attend this session.* (see **TEAMS link below**) please contact Crystal Bailey at 860-724-6443 ext. 246 or crystal.bailey@ncaact.org with any questions you may have.

***APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023 at 11:59PM.***

**Applications can be accessed from the NCAAA website at www.ncaact.org.
The online application must be submitted.
*No other application form will be accepted. No paper applications will be accepted.***

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

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