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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

September 8, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court.
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, authorize the Governor's Office For Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to accept and expend an amount not to exceed \$25,075,050 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) to provide grants through a program that will deliver funding for youth residential treatment and transitional living facility improvements, reimbursing grant awardees for project costs for facility improvements that promote prevention of COVID-19 in a congregate setting, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ARP SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2022 in the following account:

Table with 5 columns: CLASS, ACCOUNT, FY2022 CURRENT MODIFIED BUDGET, FY2022 BUDGET REQUEST, FY2022 REVISED BUDGET. Rows include EXPENDITURES, 040 - Indirect Costs, 041 - Audit Fund Set Aside, 042 - Additional Fringe Benefits, 072 - Grants Federal, 103 - Contracts for Op Services, and TOTAL EXPENSES.

All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0204A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0204Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

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Page 2 of 3

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>				
000 – Federal Funds	400338	\$6,909,213	\$25,075,050	\$31,984,263
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>\$6,909,213</b>	<b>\$25,075,050</b>	<b>\$31,984,263</b>

### EXPLANATION

Complying with the COVID-19 public health guidance has been challenging for New Hampshire nonprofit agencies that provide treatment programs to New Hampshire youth in a residential setting and/or transitional housing for youth in a congregate setting. In order to meet program needs while observing social distancing guidelines, these agencies have had to combine some spaces into a single larger room and/or spread out into other spaces not designed for the program purpose.

Where youth are separated, whether in common or residential areas due to close confines, agencies have had to bring on additional staff or reduce capacity. Some agencies have also had difficulty obtaining the technology necessary to conduct virtual trainings, meetings, and conferences (with parents, school districts, therapists, etc.). An additional challenge for these agencies, highlighted by the pandemic, is the lack of adequate outdoor resources, such as an accessible playground, which is vital to the health and wellbeing of the youth served and can also be a beneficial resource during the pandemic for safely allowing parent/caregiver visits and other gatherings.

This program will provide grants for facility improvements to New Hampshire nonprofit agencies that are currently licensed by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services to provide youth treatment programs in a residential setting and/or transitional housing for young adults under the age of 22. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts.

Funds are being budgeted in the classes listed below as follows:

Class 040 – Indirect Costs to recover, per by RSA 21-I:75, a proportional share of the outside funding source to alleviate agency indirect costs.

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside to comply with RSA 124:16 that requires all agencies that receive federal funds to set aside a percentage (0.1%) of the federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 072 – Grants-Federal to provide funding for grants to sub-grantees.

GOFERR will facilitate this program, which will include Residential Child Care Programs licensed as a Group Home, Child Care Institution, Homeless Youth Program, or Independent Living Home and entities providing transitional housing for young adults under the age of 22.

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Page 3 of 3

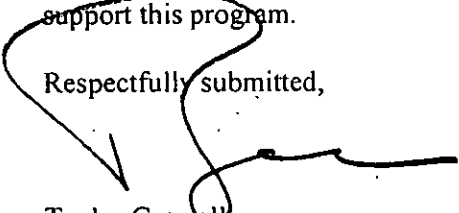
This program will assist in improving these facilities to meet:

- 1) Indoor air quality standards; and
- 2) Program delivery needs under social distancing guidelines through facility improvements necessary to maintain established program capacity.

Any funds awarded will be available to agencies through a sub-award grant with payment of funds made on a reimbursement basis for expenditures incurred by December 31, 2023.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell,  
Executive Director, GOFERR