

**Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration**

**PPHF 2014-Cooperative Agreements to Implement the
National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (PPHF-2014)**

(Short Title: National Strategy Grants)

(Initial Announcement)

Request for Applications (RFA) No. SM-14-016

Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.: 93.764

Key Dates:

Application Deadline	Applications are due by July 16, 2014.
-----------------------------	---

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION.....	5
1. PURPOSE.....	5
2. EXPECTATIONS	6
II. AWARD INFORMATION.....	14
III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	15
1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.....	15
2. COST SHARING and MATCH REQUIREMENTS	16
3. OTHER.....	16
IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	17
1. CONTENT AND GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION.....	17
2. APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS	22
4. FUNDING LIMITATIONS/RESTRICTIONS.....	22
V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	23
1. EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	23
2. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS.....	30
VI. ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION.....	31
1. AWARD NOTICES.....	31
2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS.....	31
3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	33
VII. AGENCY CONTACTS	33
Appendix A – Checklist for Formatting Requirements and Screen-out Criteria for SAMHSA Grant Applications	35
Appendix B – Guidance for Electronic Submission of Applications	37
Appendix C – Using Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs).....	44
Appendix D – Statement of Assurance.....	46

Appendix E – Funding Restrictions.....	47
Appendix F – Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions.....	49
Appendix G – Sample Budget and Justification (no match required).....	50
Appendix H – Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects Guidelines	60
Appendix I – Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities.....	65
Appendix J – Electronic Health Record (EHR) Resources	70
Appendix K – 2010 CDC Fatal Injury Report (Number of Deaths by Suicide)	71
Appendix L – 2010 CDC Fatal Injury Report (Age-Adjusted rates of Deaths by Suicide).....	74
Appendix M – 2012 NSDUH Suicide Attempt.....	77

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2014 PPHF-2014 Cooperative Agreements to Implement the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (Short Title: National Strategy Grants) (PPHF-2014). The purpose of this program is to support states in implementing the 2012 *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* (NSSP) goals and objectives focused on preventing suicide and suicide attempts among working-age adults 25-64 years old in order to reduce the overall suicide rate and number of suicides in the U.S. nationally.

Funding Opportunity Title:	PPHF-2014 Cooperative Agreements to Implement the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (PPHF-2014)
Funding Opportunity Number:	SM-14-016
Due Date for Applications:	July 16, 2014
Anticipated Total Available Funding:	\$1,880,000
Estimated Number of Awards:	4
Estimated Award Amount:	Up to \$470,000 per year
Cost Sharing/Match Required	No
Length of Project Period:	Up to 3 years.
Eligible Applicants:	States, the District of Columbia, and territories. [See <u>Section III-1</u> of this RFA for complete eligibility information.]

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

1. PURPOSE

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2014 PPHF-2014 Cooperative Agreements to Implement the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (Short Title: National Strategy Grants) (PPHF-2014). The purpose of this program is to support states in implementing the 2012 *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* (NSSP) goals and objectives focused on preventing suicide and suicide attempts among working-age adults 25-64 years old in order to reduce the overall suicide rate and number of suicides in the U.S. nationally.

While youths have the highest rates of suicide attempts, middle aged adults have the highest number of deaths by suicide nationwide. Between 1999-2010 suicides among adults aged 35-64 increased by 28% (CDC MMWR, 62[17]: 321-325). Suicide is also the 2nd leading cause of death among adults 25-34 (CDC WISQARS Fatal Injury Data, 10 Leading Causes of Death Reports, 1999-2010). In 2010 more than 70 percent of the suicides in the U.S. took place among adults between ages 25-64 (CDC Fatal Injury Data, 1999-2010 US Suicide Deaths). The nation's suicide prevention efforts must address the issues of suicidal thoughts, plans, attempts, and deaths among adults to accomplish the goal of turning around the growth in deaths by suicide, and actually reducing that number significantly over the next few years.

SAMHSA has demonstrated that behavioral health is essential to health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover from mental and substance use disorders. Behavioral health services can improve health status and can reduce health care and other costs to society. Continued improvement in the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services provides a cost effective opportunity to advance and protect the nation's health. To continue to improve the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services, SAMHSA has identified eight Strategic Initiatives to focus the Agency's work on improving lives and capitalizing on emerging opportunities. The National Strategy grants closely align with SAMHSA's Prevention of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness Strategic Initiative and Health Reform as well as the expected impact on behavioral health disparities. ([See Appendix I: Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities](#)). More information on SAMHSA's Strategic Initiatives is available at the SAMHSA website: <http://beta.samhsa.gov/about-us>.

National Strategy Grants are one of SAMHSA's services grant programs. SAMHSA intends that its services grants result in the delivery of services as soon as possible after award. Service delivery should begin by the 4th month of the project at the latest.

National Strategy grants are authorized under section 520A of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. This program is financed by the 2014 Prevention and Public Health Funds (PPHF-2014). This announcement addresses Healthy People 2020 Mental Health and Mental Disorders Topic Area HP 2020-MHMD and/or Substance Abuse Topic Area HP 2020-SA.

2. EXPECTATIONS

SAMHSA expects the needs of working-aged adults (age 25-64) be addressed by implementing Goals 8 and 9 of the NSSP. Applicants are encouraged to visit <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/index.html> to access a copy of the 2012 National Strategy.

Grantees must advance the following components of the NSSP:

- Goal 8: Promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services.
- Goal 9: Promote and implement effective clinical and professional practices for assessing and treating those identified as being at risk for suicidal behaviors.

Recovery from mental disorders and/or substance use disorders has been identified as a primary goal for behavioral health care. SAMHSA's Recovery Support Strategic Initiative is leading efforts to advance the understanding of recovery and ensure that vital recovery supports and services are available and accessible to all who need and want them. Building on research, practice, and the lived experiences of individuals in recovery from mental and/or substance use disorders, SAMHSA has developed the following working definition of recovery: A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential. See <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SAMHSA-s-Working-Definition-of-Recovery/PEP12-RECDEF> for further information, including the four dimensions of recovery, and 10 guiding principles. Programs and services that incorporate a recovery approach fully involve people with lived experience (including consumers/peers/people in recovery, youth, and family members) in program/service design, development, implementation, and evaluation.

SAMHSA's standard, unified working definition is intended to advance recovery opportunities for all Americans, particularly in the context of health reform, and to help clarify these concepts for peers/persons in recovery, families, funders, providers and others. The definition is to be used to assist in the planning, delivery, financing, and evaluation of behavioral health services. SAMHSA grantees are expected to integrate the definition and principles of recovery into their programs to the greatest extent possible.

The National Strategy grants also seek to address behavioral health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities by encouraging the implementation of strategies to decrease

the differences in access, service use, and outcomes among the racial and ethnic minority populations served (See [Appendix I](#): Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities).

Over 2 million men and women have been deployed to serve in support of overseas contingency operations, including Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. SAMHSA strongly encourages all applicants to consider the unique needs of returning veterans and their families in developing their proposed project and consider prioritizing this population for services where appropriate.

2.1 Required Activities

Grantees are required to include the following activities, but may propose others with a justification:

- Develop and implement a plan for rapid follow-up of adults who have attempted suicide or experienced a suicidal crisis after discharge from emergency departments and inpatient units. This should include care transition and care coordination services.
- Establish follow-up and care transition protocols to help ensure patient safety, especially among high risk adults in health or behavioral health care settings who have attempted suicide or experienced a suicidal crisis, including those with serious mental illnesses. The plan should establish follow-up and care transition protocols to help ensure patient safety, especially among high risk adults including those with serious mental illness. The plan should include how you will work with medical professionals including, but not limited to, primary care and emergency department personnel and ensure the transfer of relevant demographic and treatment information between the medical provider and the behavioral health entity.
- Provide, or assure provision of, suicide prevention training to community and clinical service providers and systems serving adults at risk.
- Incorporate efforts to reduce access to lethal means among individuals with identified suicide risk. This effort will be done within all appropriate federal, state, and local laws.
- Work across state departments and systems in order to implement comprehensive suicide prevention. Relevant state agencies should include, but are not limited to, agencies responsible for Medicaid; health, mental health, and substance abuse; justice; corrections; labor; veterans affairs; and the National Guard.

- Collaborate with mental health and substance abuse service settings, primary care and specialty behavioral health settings, integrated primary/behavioral health care delivery settings, emergency departments, and Lifeline crisis centers. In addition to the health care sector, include other relevant sectors such as workplace or justice settings. Develop a plan to ensure coordination across sectors.
- Incorporate the input of suicide attempt and suicide loss survivors, including family members and friends.
- Demonstrate the impact of grant activities on adult suicide deaths and attempts within key sectors, including health and behavioral health, by utilizing timely surveillance data at the beginning, during, and at the end of their grant. Modify your efforts as needed during the grant cycle based on this surveillance data.
- Grantees must screen and assess clients for the presence of co-occurring mental and substance use disorders and use the information obtained from the screening and assessment to develop appropriate treatment approaches for the persons identified as having such co-occurring disorders, including identifying, assessing, and treating their suicide risk.

Incorporation of relevant health plans and managed health and behavioral health organizations is strongly encouraged.

SAMHSA strongly encourages all grantees to provide a tobacco-free workplace and to promote abstinence from all tobacco products (except in regard to accepted tribal traditions and practices).

Grantees must utilize third party and other revenue realized from provision of services to the extent possible and use SAMHSA grant funds only for services to individuals who are ineligible for public or commercial health insurance programs, individuals for whom coverage has been formally determined to be unaffordable, or for services that are not sufficiently covered by an individual's health insurance plan. Grantees are also expected to facilitate the health insurance application and enrollment process for eligible uninsured clients. Grantees should also consider other systems from which a potential service recipient may be eligible for services (for example, the Veterans Health Administration or senior services) if appropriate for and desired by that individual to meet his/her needs. In addition, grantees are required to implement policies and procedures that ensure other sources of funding are secured first when available for that individual.

2.2 Infrastructure Development

Although services grant funds must be used primarily for direct services, SAMHSA recognizes that infrastructure changes may be needed to implement the services or improve their effectiveness. Activities may include:

- Develop partnerships in order to implement collaboration activities described above in section 2.1, Required Activities.
- Adopting and/or enhancing your computer system, management information system (MIS), electronic health records (EHRs), etc., to document and manage client needs, care process, integration with related support services, and outcomes.
- Training/workforce development to help your staff or other providers in the community identify mental health or substance abuse issues or provide effective services consistent with the purpose of the grant program. Please note that grantees will be asked to demonstrate the impact of grant activities by measuring the competence/confidence of health and behavioral health clinical staff at the beginning, during, and end of their grant. Impact of grant activities on skills in the following areas must be measured: assessment of suicide risk and protective factors, formulation of a risk summary to inform the choice of intervention, use of best-practice interventions to ensure safety including lethal means safety, treatment of suicide risk, and follow-up to ensure continuity of care.
- Develop a plan for assuring that suicide prevention activities supported by this grant program will be sustained post-grant cycle

The Affordable Care Act and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act place strong emphasis on the widespread adoption and implementation of electronic health record (EHR) technology. Accordingly, all SAMHSA grantees who provide services to individuals are encouraged to demonstrate ongoing clinical use of a certified electronic health record (EHR) system in each year of their SAMHSA grant. A certified EHR is an electronic health record system that has been tested and certified by an approved Office of National Coordinator's (ONC) certifying body.

In [Section F: Electronic Health Record Technology \(EHR\)](#), of the Project Narrative, applicants are asked either to:

- Identify the certified EHR system and describe how the EHR system will be used and/or modified to enhance suicide prevention efforts through grant activities. SAMHSA strongly recommends integrating into the EHR system: suicide screening and risk assessment, the ability to monitor patient progress and transition through analytics, the ability for multiple providers who may be

involved with a patient to share common information regarding suicidal persons, and the ability to create and share safety plans between the provider and patient.

For more information and resources on EHRs, see [Appendix J](#).

This activity is considered infrastructure development; not more than 30% of the total grant award may be used for infrastructure development activities.

If your application is funded, you will be expected to develop a health disparities impact statement. This statement consists of three parts: (1) proposed number of individuals to be served by subpopulations (i.e., racial, ethnic, sexual/gender minority groups) vulnerable to health disparities; (2) proposed quality improvement plan to decrease the differences in **access, service use** and **outcomes** among those subpopulations; and (3) the quality improvement plan should include alignment with the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care. (See [Appendix I: Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities](#).)

2.3 Using Evidence-Based Practices

SAMHSA's services grants are intended to fund services or practices that have a demonstrated evidence base and that are appropriate for the population(s) of focus. An evidence-based practice (EBP) refers to approaches to prevention or treatment that are validated by some form of documented research evidence. In [Section B](#) of your project narrative, you will need to:

- Identify the evidence-based practice(s) you propose to implement for the specific population(s) of focus.
- Identify and discuss the evidence that shows that the practice(s) is (are) effective for the specific population(s) of focus.
- If you are proposing to use more than one evidence-based practice, provide a justification for doing so and clearly identify which service modality and population of focus each practice will support.
- Discuss the population(s) for which the practice(s) has (have) been shown to be effective and show that it (they) is (are) appropriate for your population(s) of focus.

[Note: Please see [Appendix E](#), Funding Restrictions, regarding allowable costs for EBPs.]

SAMHSA recognizes that EBPs have not been developed for all populations and/or service settings. See [Appendix C](#) for additional information about using EBPs.

2.4 Data Collection and Performance Measurement

All SAMHSA grantees are required to collect and report certain data so that SAMHSA can meet its obligations under the Government Performance and Results (GPRA) Modernization Act of 2010. You must document your ability to collect and report the required data in “[Section E: Data Collection and Performance Measurement](#)” of your application. Grantees will be required to report performance on the following performance measures:

- The number of policy changes (e.g., infrastructure and organizational) completed as a result of the grant.
- The number of organizations or communities that demonstrate improved readiness to change their systems in order to implement mental health-related practices that are consistent with the goals of the grant.
- The number of organizations that entered into formal written inter/intra-organization agreements (e.g., MOUs/MOAs) to improve mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant.
- The number of organizations that establish management information/information technology system links across multiple agencies in order to share service population and service delivery as a result of the grant.
- The number and percentage of work group/advisory group/council members who are consumers/family members.
- The number of individuals contacted through program outreach efforts.
- The total number of contacts made through program outreach efforts.
- The number of programs/organizations/communities that implemented specific mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant.
- The number of programs/organizations/communities that implement specific mental health-related practices/activities as a result of the grant.
- The number of individuals screened for mental health or related interventions.
- The number of individuals referred to mental health or related services.
- The number and percentage of individuals receiving mental health or related services after referral.

This information will be gathered using the CMHS Transformation Accountability (TRAC) system using data collection instruments created by CMHS to promote accountability within its programs. TRAC is a web-based data entry and reporting system that provides a data repository for CMHS program performance measures. The TRAC system, including training materials and sample instruments can be viewed at <https://www.cmhs-gpra.samhsa.gov>. CMHS grantees will be given training and ongoing technical assistance to perform data collection requirements through a separate information technology contract. The collection of these data will enable CMHS to report on key priority areas related to mental health. In addition, data collected will be used to demonstrate how SAMHSA’s grant programs are reducing disparities in access,

services, and outcomes nationwide. Data will be collected quarterly through the TRAC system. Applicants should be aware that the TRAC reporting system will migrate to the Common Data Platform (CDP) during the life of the grant.

The collection of these data will enable CMHS to report on the National Outcome Measures (NOMs), which have been defined by SAMHSA as key priority areas relating to mental health. In addition to the NOMs, data collected by grantees will be used to demonstrate how SAMHSA's grant programs are reducing disparities in access, service use, and outcomes nationwide. If you have an electronic health records (EHR) system to collect and manage most or all client-level clinical information, you should use the EHR to automate GPRA reporting.

2.5 Local Performance Assessment

Grantees must periodically review the performance data they report to SAMHSA (as required above) and assess their progress and use this information to improve management of their grant projects. The assessment should be designed to help you determine whether you are achieving the goals, objectives and outcomes you intend to achieve and whether adjustments need to be made to your project. Performance assessments also should be used to determine whether your project is having/will have the intended impact on behavioral health disparities. You will be required to report on your progress achieved, barriers encountered, and efforts to overcome these barriers in a performance assessment report to be submitted quarterly. You will also be required to participate in monthly conference calls with a project officer to discuss current progress as well as for review and feedback about performance assessments.

At a minimum, your performance assessment should include the required performance measures identified above. In addition, grantees must submit answers to the following questions in their quarterly reports to the SAMHSA project officer (GPO):

- Within the grant catchment area, how did the activities of the grant impact suicide deaths and non-fatal suicide attempts, including suicide deaths and attempts within key sectors such as health and behavioral health.
- How has the competence/confidence of health and behavioral health clinical staff changed over the course of the grant? In particular, how have the grant activities impacted clinical skills in the areas of:
 - assessment of suicide risk and protective factors;
 - formulation of a risk summary to inform the choice of intervention;
 - use of best practice interventions to ensure safety including lethal means safety, treatment of suicide risk, and follow-up to ensure continuity of care?

- How have the grant activities impacted the grantee's success in achieving the objectives of the NSSP they are trying to implement, including Goals 8 and 9?

You may also consider other outcome and process questions, such as the following:

Outcome Questions:

- What program/contextual factors were associated with outcomes?
- What individual factors were associated with outcomes, including race/ethnicity/sexual identity (sexual orientation/gender identity)?
- How durable were the effects?
- Was the intervention effective in maintaining the project outcomes at 6-month follow-up?

As appropriate, describe how the data, including outcome data, will be analyzed by racial/ethnic group or other demographic factors to assure that appropriate populations are being served and that disparities in services and outcomes are minimized.

Process Questions:

- How closely did implementation match the plan?
- What types of changes were made to the originally proposed plan?
- What types of changes were made to address disparities in access, service use, and outcomes across subpopulations, including the use of the National CLAS Standards?
- What led to the changes in the original plan?
- What effect did the changes have on the planned intervention and performance assessment?
- Who provided (program staff) what services (modality, type, intensity, duration), to whom (individual characteristics), in what context (system, community), and at what cost (facilities, personnel, dollars)?
- What strategies were used to maintain fidelity to the evidence-based practice or intervention across providers over time?
- How many individuals were reached through the program?

No more than 20 percent of the total grant award may be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment, e.g., activities required in Sections I-2.4 and 2.5 above

2.6 Grantee Meetings

Grantees must plan to send a minimum of two people (including the Project Director) to at least one grantee meeting in the first and third years of the grant. At these meetings, grantees will present the results of their projects, receive specialized technical assistance, and have opportunities to work with peers from other states. You must include a detailed budget and narrative for this travel in your budget. Assume that this will be a 3-day meeting held in the Washington, D.C., area. Attendance is mandatory.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

Proposed budgets cannot exceed \$470,000 in total costs (direct and indirect) in any year of the proposed project. Annual continuation awards will depend on the availability of funds, grantee progress in meeting project goals and objectives, timely submission of required data and reports, and compliance with all terms and conditions of award. This program is financed entirely with PPHF funds.

These awards will be made as cooperative agreements.

Cooperative Agreement

These awards are being made as cooperative agreements because they require substantial post-award federal programmatic participation in the conduct of the project. Under this cooperative agreement, the roles and responsibilities of grantees and SAMHSA staff are:

Role of Grantee:

The role of the grantee is to comply with the terms of the award and all cooperative agreement rules and regulations, and satisfactorily perform activities to achieve the goals described below:

- Seek SAMHSA approval for key positions to be filled. Key positions include, but are not limited to, the project director;
- Consult and accept guidance from SAMHSA staff on performance of programmatic and data collection activities to achieve the goals of the cooperative agreement;
- Maintain ongoing communication with SAMHSA, including a minimum of one call per month, keeping federal program staff informed of emerging issues, developments, and problems as appropriate;

- Include your Government Project Officer (GPO) on policy, steering, advisory, or other task forces;
- Maintain ongoing collaboration with the Suicide Prevention Resource Center and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline;
- Submit quarterly reports with the 4th quarter report being an annual report. The final report should integrate what has been learned and accomplished through the entire three years of the grant.
- Participate in data/program performance assessment efforts explained in Section 2.4 and 2.5 of this RFA.
- Work across state departments and systems in order to implement comprehensive suicide prevention.

Role of SAMHSA Staff:

- Approve proposed key positions/personnel;
- Facilitate linkages to other SAMHSA/federal government resources and help grantees access appropriate technical assistance;
- Assure that the grantee's projects are responsive to SAMHSA's mission, including implementation of the 2012 *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention*;
- Promote collaboration with other SAMHSA and federal health and behavioral health initiatives including the Community Mental Health Services and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant programs as well as the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and the Suicide Prevention Resource Center;
- Provide technical assistance on sustainability issues; and
- Review, provide feedback, and approve quarterly and annual reports submitted by the grantee.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligibility is limited to the Mental Health Authority in states, territories, and the District of Columbia.

The purpose of this program is to support states in implementing the 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP) goals and objectives focused on preventing suicide and suicide attempts among working-age adults 25-64 years old in order to reduce the overall suicide rate and number of suicides in the U.S. nationally.

The Mental Health Authority within states and territories are uniquely positioned and have the necessary statewide infrastructure in place to promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services and to coordinate the required activities,

including convening all other relevant state agencies to advise and/or participate in the initiative.

2. COST SHARING and MATCH REQUIREMENTS

Cost sharing/match is not required in this program.

3. OTHER

3.1 Additional Eligibility Requirements

You must comply with the following three requirements, or your application will be screened out and will not be reviewed:

1. use of the SF-424 application form; Budget Information form SF-424A; Project/Performance Site Location(s) form; Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, if applicable; and Checklist.
2. application submission requirements in Section IV-2 of this document; and
3. formatting requirements provided in Appendix A of this document.

3.2 Evidence of Experience and Credentials

SAMHSA believes that only existing, experienced, and appropriately credentialed organizations with demonstrated infrastructure and expertise will be able to provide required services quickly and effectively. You must meet three additional requirements related to the provision of services.

The three requirements are:

- A provider organization for direct client (e.g., mental health, substance abuse treatment, substance abuse prevention) services appropriate to the grant must be involved in the proposed project. The provider may be the applicant or another organization committed to the project. More than one provider organization may be involved;
- Each mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization must have at least 2 years of experience (as of the due date of the application) providing relevant services in the geographic area(s) in which services are to be provided (official documents must establish that the organization has provided relevant services for the last 2 years); and
- Each mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization must comply with all applicable local (city, county) and state licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements, as of the due date of the application.

[Note: The above requirements apply to all service provider organizations. A license from an individual clinician will not be accepted in lieu of a provider organization's license. See Appendix D, Statement of Assurance.]

Following application review, if your application's score is within the funding range, the government project officer (GPO) may contact you to request that the following documentation be sent by overnight mail, or to verify that the documentation you submitted is complete:

- a letter of commitment from every mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization that has agreed to participate in the project, which specifies the nature of the participation and the service(s) that will be provided. Each provider organization must agree to make suicide prevention a core priority within its system;
- official documentation that all mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations participating in the project have been providing relevant services for a minimum of 2 years prior to the date of the application in the area(s) in which the services are to be provided;
- official documentation that all participating mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations: 1) comply with all applicable local (city, county) and state requirements for licensing, accreditation, and certification; **OR** 2) official documentation from the appropriate agency of the applicable state, county, or other governmental unit that licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements do not exist.

If the GPO does not receive this documentation within the time specified, your application will not be considered for an award.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. CONTENT AND GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION

You must go to both Grants.gov (<http://www.Grants.gov>) and the SAMHSA website (<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/applying>) to download the required documents you will need to apply for a SAMHSA grant.

Grants.gov

How to Download Forms from Grants.gov (see [Appendix B](#) for information on applying through Grants.gov)

To view and/or download the required application forms, you must first search for the appropriate funding announcement number (called the opportunity number).

On the Grants.gov site (<http://www.Grants.gov>), select the Apply for Grants option from the Applicants Tab at the top of the screen. Under STEP 1, click on the red button labeled: 'Download a Grant Application Package'. Enter either the Funding Opportunity Number (SAMHSA's Funding Announcement #) or the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number exactly as they appear on the cover page of this RFA, then click the Download Package button. In the Instructions column, click the Download link.

You can view, print or save all of these forms. You can complete the forms for electronic submission to Grants.gov. Completed forms can also be saved and printed for your records. These required forms include:

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424);
- Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A);
- Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form;
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities; and
- Checklist.

Applications that do not include these required forms will be screened out and will not be reviewed.

SAMHSA's Grants Website

You will find additional materials you will need to complete your application on SAMHSA's website (<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/applying>). These include:

- Request for Applications (RFA) – Provides a description of the program, specific information about the availability of funds, and instructions for completing the grant application. This document is the RFA;
- Assurances – Non-Construction Programs;
- Certifications;
- Charitable Choice Form SMA 170;
- Pre-application Webinar Notification
- A link to the 2012 *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention*; and
- A link to additional vital materials including the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Best Practices Registry, the National Action Alliance for Suicide

Prevention's Zero Suicide in Health and Behavioral Health care page (including toolkit), as well as other relevant resources about continuity of care for suicide prevention.

See [Section IV-1.1](#)-Assurances of this RFA to determine if you are required to submit Charitable Choice Form SMA 170. If you are, you can upload this form to Grants.gov when you submit your application.

Be sure to check the SAMHSA website periodically for any updates on this program.

1.1 Required Application Components

Applications must include the following 12 required application components:

- **Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)** – This form must be completed by applicants for all SAMHSA grants. [Note: Applicants must provide a Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) number to apply for a grant or cooperative agreement from the federal government. SAMHSA applicants are required to provide their DUNS number on the first page of the application. Obtaining a DUNS number is easy and there is no charge. To obtain a DUNS number, access the Dun and Bradstreet website at <http://www.dnb.com> or call 1-866-705-5711. To expedite the process, let Dun and Bradstreet know that you are a public/private nonprofit organization getting ready to submit a federal grant application. In addition, you must be registered in the new System for Award Management (SAM). The former Central Contractor Registration (CCR) transitioned to the SAM on July 30, 2012. **SAM information must be updated at least every 12 months to remain active (for both grantees and sub-recipients).** Once you update your record in SAM, it will take 48 to 72 hours to complete the validation processes. **Grants.gov will reject submissions from applicants who are not registered in SAM or those with expired SAM registrations (Entity Registrations). The DUNS number you use on your application must be registered and active in the SAM. To Create a user account, Register/Update entity and/or Search Records from CCR, go to <https://www.sam.gov>.]**
- **Abstract** – Your total abstract must not be longer than 35 lines. It should include the project name, population(s) to be served (demographics and clinical characteristics), strategies/interventions, project goals and measurable objectives, including the number of people to be served annually and throughout the lifetime of the project, etc. In the first five lines or less of your abstract, write a summary of your project that can be used, if your project is funded, in publications, reports to Congress, or press releases.

- **Table of Contents** – Include page numbers for each of the major sections of your application and for each attachment.
- **Budget Information Form** – Use SF-424A. Fill out Sections B, C, and E of the SF-424A. A sample budget and justification is included in [Appendix G](#) of this document.
- **Project Narrative and Supporting Documentation** – The Project Narrative describes your project. It consists of Sections A through F. Sections A-F together may not be longer than 30 pages. (Remember that if your Project Narrative starts on page 5 and ends on page 35, it is 31 pages long, not 30 pages.) More detailed instructions for completing each section of the Project Narrative are provided in [Section V](#) – Application Review Information” of this document.

The Supporting Documentation provides additional information necessary for the review of your application. This supporting documentation should be provided immediately following your Project Narrative in Sections G through I. There are no page limits for these sections, except for Section H, Biographical Sketches/Job Descriptions. Additional instructions for completing these sections are included in [Section V](#) under “Supporting Documentation.” Supporting documentation should be submitted in black and white (no color).

- **Attachments 1 through 5** – Use only the attachments listed below. If your application includes any attachments not required in this document, they will be disregarded. Do not use more than a total of 30 pages for Attachments 1, 3 and 4 combined. There are no page limitations for Attachments 2 and 5. Do not use attachments to extend or replace any of the sections of the Project Narrative. Reviewers will not consider them if you do. Please label the attachments as: Attachment 1, Attachment 2, etc.
 - **Attachment 1:** (1) Identification of at least one experienced, licensed mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organization; (2) a list of all direct service provider organizations that have agreed to participate in the proposed project, including the applicant agency, if it is a treatment or prevention service provider organization; (3) letters of commitment from these direct service provider organizations; (4) the Statement of Assurance (provided in [Appendix D](#) of this announcement) signed by the authorized representative of the applicant organization identified on the first page (SF-424) of the application, that assures SAMHSA that all listed providers meet the 2-year experience requirement, are appropriately licensed, accredited, and certified, and that if the application is within the funding range for an award, the applicant will send the GPO the required documentation within the specified time.

- **Attachment 2:** Data Collection Instruments/Interview Protocols – if you are using standardized data collection instruments/interview protocols, you do not need to include these in your application. Instead, provide a web link to the appropriate instrument/protocol. If the data collection instrument(s) or interview protocol(s) is/are not standardized, you must include a copy in Attachment 2.
- **Attachment 3:** Sample Consent Forms
- **Attachment 4:** A copy of the state strategic plan, a state or needs assessment, or a letter from the state indicating that the proposed project addresses a state- or county-identified priority.
- **Attachment 5:** A copy of the signed, executed EHR vendor contract, if you have an existing EHR system.
- **Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form** – The purpose of this form is to collect location information on the site(s) where work funded under this grant announcement will be performed. This form will be posted on SAMHSA’s website with the RFA.
- **Assurances** – Non-Construction Programs. You must read the list of assurances provided on the SAMHSA website and **check the box marked ‘I Agree’** before signing the first page (SF-424) of the application. You are also required to complete the Assurance of Compliance with SAMHSA Charitable Choice Statutes and Regulations Form SMA 170. This form will be posted on SAMHSA’s website at <http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/applying/forms-resources>.
- **Certifications** – You must read the list of certifications provided on the SAMHSA website and **check the box marked ‘I Agree’** before signing the first page (SF-424) of the application.
- **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities** – Federal law prohibits the use of appropriated funds for publicity or propaganda purposes or for the preparation, distribution, or use of the information designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or state legislatures. This includes “grass roots” lobbying, which consists of appeals to members of the public suggesting that they contact their elected representatives to indicate their support for or opposition to pending legislation or to urge those representatives to vote in a particular way. You must sign and submit this form, if applicable.
- **Checklist** – The Checklist ensures that you have obtained the proper signatures, assurances and certifications. **You must complete the entire form**, including the top portion, “Type of Application”, indicating if this is a new,

noncompeting continuation, competing continuation or supplemental application, as well as Parts A through D.

- **Documentation of nonprofit status** as required in the Checklist.

1.2 Application Formatting Requirements

Please refer to Appendix A, Checklist for Formatting Requirements and Screen-out Criteria for SAMHSA Grant Applications, for SAMHSA's basic application formatting requirements. Applications that do not comply with these requirements will be screened out and will not be reviewed.

2. APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications are due by **11:59 PM** (Eastern Time) on **July 16, 2014**.

Your application must be submitted through <http://www.Grants.gov>. Please refer to Appendix B, "Guidance for Electronic Submission of Applications."

4. FUNDING LIMITATIONS/RESTRICTIONS

Cost principles describing allowable and unallowable expenditures for federal grantees, including SAMHSA grantees, are provided in the following documents, which are available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/management.aspx>:

- Educational Institutions: 2 CFR Part 220 and OMB Circular A-21
- State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments: 2 CFR Part 225 (OMB Circular A-87)
- Nonprofit Organizations: 2 CFR Part 230 (OMB Circular A-122)
- Hospitals: 45 CFR Part 74, Appendix E

In addition, SAMHSA's National Strategy grant recipients must comply with the following funding restrictions:

- No more than 30 percent of the total grant award may be used for developing the infrastructure necessary for expansion of service.
- No more than 20 percent of the total grant award may be used for data collection, performance measurement and performance assessment, including incentives for participating in the required data collection.

Be sure to identify these expenses in your proposed budget.

SAMHSA grantees also must comply with SAMHSA's standard funding restrictions, if applicable, which are included in Appendix E.

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Project Narrative describes what you intend to do with your project and includes the Evaluation Criteria in Sections A-F below. Your application will be reviewed and scored according to the quality of your response to the requirements in Sections A-F.

- In developing the Project Narrative section of your application, use these instructions, which have been tailored to this program.
- The Project Narrative (Sections A-F) together may be no longer than 30 pages.
- You must use the five sections/headings listed below in developing your Project Narrative. You must place the required information in the correct section, **or it will not be considered**. Your application will be scored according to how well you address the requirements for each section of the Project Narrative.
- The Budget Justification and Supporting Documentation you provide in Sections G-I and Attachments 1-5 will be considered by reviewers in assessing your response, along with the material in the Project Narrative.
- The number of points after each heading is the maximum number of points a review committee may assign to that section of your Project Narrative. Although scoring weights are not assigned to individual bullets, each bullet is assessed in deriving the overall Section score.

Section A: Population of Focus and Statement of Need (10 points)

- Provide a comprehensive demographic profile of working age adults age 25-64 in terms of race, ethnicity, federally recognized tribe(s), language, gender, age, socioeconomic characteristics, if available sexual identity (sexual orientation, gender identity) and other relevant factors, such as literacy.
- Provide information regarding the rate of suicide among working-age adults within your state as well as information regarding the overall number of suicides within your state and how this compares to the national average (see Appendices K, L, and M). If there are subgroups with higher rates, please include this.

- Describe what is known regarding the prevalence of death by suicide and nonfatal suicide attempts by those receiving health and behavioral health services within the state.
- Describe the nature of the problem, including service gaps, and document the extent of the need (i.e., current prevalence rates or incidence data for suicide ideation, attempts, and deaths by suicide) for the population(s) of focus based on data. Identify the sources of the data. The statement of need should include a clearly established baseline for the project including suicide deaths and non-fatal suicide attempts for individuals between 25 and 64 years old. Documentation of need should come from a variety of qualitative and quantitative sources. Examples of data sources for the quantitative data that should be used are local epidemiological data, state data (e.g., from state needs assessments, SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health), and/or national data (e.g., from SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health; reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Center for Health Statistics, and/or the National Violent Death Reporting System; reports from the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality's Health Care Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP); and census data). This list is not exhaustive; applicants may submit other valid data as appropriate for your program.

Section B: Proposed Evidence-Based Service/Practice (25 points)

- Describe the purpose of the proposed project, including its goals and objectives. These must relate to the intent of the RFA and performance measures you identify in Section E: Data Collection and Performance Measurement.
- Describe how you plan to support Goal 8 of the NSSP (promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services). You must also discuss how you will include mental health and substance abuse services, primary care and specialty behavioral health settings, integrated primary/behavioral health care delivery settings, and emergency departments. In addition to the health care sector, include other relevant sectors such as work place or justice settings.
- Describe how you will, follow-up after discharge from an emergency department or inpatient unit after a non-fatal suicide attempt or suicidal crisis and the EBP or best practice you will use. This should include care transition and care coordination services.
- Describe how you plan to support Goal 9 of the NSSP (promote and implement effective clinical and professional practices for assessing and treating those

identified as being at risk for suicidal behaviors). You must also discuss how you will include mental health and substance abuse services, primary care and specialty behavioral health settings, integrated primary/behavioral health care delivery settings, and emergency departments. In addition to the health care sector, include other relevant sectors such as work place or justice settings.

- Describe the Evidence-Based Practice(s) (EBPs), or best practice(s) from the SPRC's [Best Practices Registry](#) that will be used to help implement the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* and justify its use for your population(s) of focus, your program, and the intent of this RFA. Describe how you will follow-up after discharge from an emergency department or inpatient unit after a non-fatal suicide attempt or crisis; this should include care transition and care coordination services. Describe your plan to incorporate efforts to reduce access to lethal means among individuals with identified suicide risk; all efforts in this area must be done within all appropriate federal, state, and local laws. [See Appendix C: Using Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs)]
- Explain how your choice of an EBP or best practice will help you address disparities in subpopulations. Describe how the proposed practice(s) will address the following issues in the population(s) of focus, while retaining fidelity to the chosen practice: demographics (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, geography, and socioeconomic status); language and literacy; sexual identity (sexual orientation, gender identity); and disability.
- Describe any modifications that will be made, the reasons the modifications are necessary, and the implications of these modifications to the fidelity of the EBP or best practice.
- Describe your plan to incorporate efforts (including EBPs and best practices) to reduce access to lethal means among individuals with identified suicide risk. Outline the EBP(s) or best practice(s) you plan to use. These efforts will be done within all appropriate federal, state, and local laws.
- If an EBP or best practice does not exist/apply for your program, fully describe the practice you plan to implement, explain why it is appropriate for the population(s) of focus, and justify its use compared to an appropriate existing EBP.

Section C: Proposed Implementation Approach (30 points)

- Describe how achievement of the goals will produce meaningful and relevant results for your community (e.g., increase access, availability, prevention, outreach, pre-services, treatment, and/or intervention) including the impact on

suicide deaths and suicide attempts, and how this will support SAMHSA's goals for the program.

- Describe the proposed system-level change(s), the proposed impact, and your ability to implement the changes you've described. This must also include your understanding of, and ability to utilize, timely surveillance data of adult suicide deaths and non-fatal suicide attempts within key sectors (including health and behavioral health) at the start of your grant and your ability to modify your efforts based on data that become available during the course of your grant.
- Describe how you will work across state departments and systems in order to implement comprehensive suicide prevention activities. Relevant state agencies should include, but are not limited to, agencies responsible for Medicaid; health, mental health, and substance abuse; justice; corrections; labor; veterans affairs; and the National Guard.
- Provide a chart or graph depicting a realistic time line for the entire project period showing key activities, milestones, and responsible staff. These key activities should include the requirements outlined in [Section I-2: Expectations](#). Be sure to show that the project can be implemented and service delivery can begin as soon as possible and no later than 4 months after grant award. [Note: The time line should be part of the Project Narrative. It should not be placed in an attachment.]
- Describe how you will screen and assess clients for the presence of co-occurring mental and substance use disorders and suicide risk and use the information obtained from the screening and assessment to develop appropriate treatment approaches for the persons identified as having such co-occurring disorders, including approaches aimed at reducing suicide risk.
- Describe how you will identify, recruit, and retain working age adults age 25-64 who are at risk for suicide. Using your knowledge of the language, beliefs, norms, values and socioeconomic factors of this diverse population, discuss how the proposed approach addresses these issues in outreaching, engaging and delivering programs to this population (e.g., collaborating with community gatekeepers).
- Describe how you will ensure the input of survivors of suicide attempt and suicide loss survivors, including family members and friends, in assessing, planning, and implementing your project.
- Identify any other organization(s) that will participate in the proposed project. Describe their roles and responsibilities and demonstrate their commitment to the project. Include letters of commitment from these organizations in

Attachment 1 of your application. Letter of commitment from provider organizations must include a statement that suicide prevention will be a priority within its system.

- State the unduplicated number of individuals (including sub-populations), you propose to serve with grant funds annually and over the entire project period. Including the types and numbers of services to be provided and anticipated outcomes. You are required to include the numbers to be served by race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation.
- Describe your plan to establish follow-up and care transition protocols to help ensure patient safety, especially among high risk adults, including those with serious mental illnesses. Describe your plan to work with medical professionals to include, but not limited to, primary care and emergency department personnel and ensure the transfer of relevant demographic and treatment information between the medical provider and the behavioral health entity.
- Describe your plan to provide, or assure provision of, suicide prevention trainings to community health and behavioral health clinical service providers in systems serving adults at risk. You must include your plans to measure the competence/confidence of the staff at the beginning, during, and at the end of their grant in five critical areas:
 - assessment of suicide risk and protective factors
 - formulation of a risk summary to inform the choice of intervention
 - use of best-practice interventions to ensure safety including lethal means safety, treatment of suicide risk
 - follow-up to ensure continuity of care.

Section D: Staff and Organizational Experience (15 points)

- Discuss the capability and experience of the applicant organization and other participating organizations with similar projects and populations. Demonstrate that the applicant organization and other participating organizations have linkages to the population(s) of focus and ties to grassroots/community-based organizations that are rooted in the culture(s) and language(s) of the population(s) of focus.
- Provide a complete list of staff positions for the project, including the Project Director and other key personnel, showing the role of each and their level of effort and qualifications.

- Discuss how key staff have demonstrated experience and are qualified to serve the population(s) of focus, including familiarity with their culture(s) and language(s).
- Discuss the experience of the applicant in working with public/private suicide prevention coalitions, including working with survivors of suicide attempts and suicide loss who can help advise on the project.
- Discuss experience or capability of the applicant organization and staff to effectively a) promote system-level change, b) perform intensive community work, c) incorporate substance abuse prevention and treatment providers, and d) provide rapid follow-up to individuals who have attempted suicide or experienced a suicidal crisis following discharge from inpatient units and emergency departments. Please also discuss the applicant organization and staff's experience in suicide prevention.
- Describe the experience of the applicant experience with working across state departments and systems in order to implement comprehensive suicide prevention. Relevant state agencies should include, but are not limited to, agencies responsible for Medicaid; health, mental health, and substance abuse; justice; corrections; labor; veterans affairs; and the National Guard.

Section E: Data Collection and Performance Measurement (15 points)

- Document your ability to collect and report on the required performance measures as specified in Section I-2.4 of this RFA. Describe your plan for data collection, management, analysis, and reporting. Specify and justify any additional measures or instruments you plan to use for your grant project. Describe your plan for completing data reports/inventories and data entry and your plan for data management, including quarterly reporting, and your ability to provider written progress reports.
- Describe the data-driven quality improvement process by which sub-population disparities in access/use/outcomes will be tracked, assessed, and reduced.
- Describe your plan for conducting the local performance assessment as specified in Section I-2.5 of this RFA and document your ability to conduct the assessment, including the identification of data sources that can be used to assess the grant's impact on suicide deaths and non-fatal suicide attempts for individuals 25-64 years old.

Section F: Electronic Health Record (EHR) Technology (5 points)

- If you or the primary provider of clinical services will be utilizing or acquiring an EHR system over the course of the grant, identify the EHR system and indicate how this system will be used and/or modified to enhance suicide prevention efforts through grant activities. Include a copy of your EHR vendor contract in **Attachment 5** of your application. SAMHSA strongly recommends integrating into the EHR system suicide screening and risk assessment, ability to monitor patient progress and transition through analytics, ability for multiple providers who may be involved with a patient to share common information regarding suicidal persons, and the ability to create and share safety plans between the provider and patient. Points will only be awarded if suicide prevention components are embedded and utilized within EHR systems. Describe in detail how your proposal will meet these criteria. Behavioral healthcare providers should be in compliance with federal confidentiality regulations including HIPAA and 42CRF Part 2.

NOTE: Although the budget for the proposed project is not a scored review criterion, the Review Group will be asked to comment on the appropriateness of the budget after the merits of the application have been considered.

Budget Justification, Existing Resources, Other Support (other federal and non-federal sources)

You must provide a narrative justification of the items included in your proposed budget, as well as a description of existing resources and other support you expect to receive for the proposed project. Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, in-kind contributions or non-federal means. (This should correspond to Item #18 on your SF-424, Estimated Funding.) If legally permissible, other sources of funds may be used for unallowable costs, e.g., meals, sporting events, entertainment.

Be sure to show that no more than 30% of the total award will be used for infrastructure development, if necessary, and no more than 20% of the total grant award will be used for data collection, performance measurement, and performance assessment.

Specifically identify the items associated with these costs in your budget. An illustration of a budget and narrative justification is included in Appendix G, Sample Budget and Justification, of this document.

The budget justification and narrative must be submitted as file BNF when you submit your application into Grants.gov. ([See Appendix B, Guidance for Electronic Submission of Applications.](#))

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Section G: Literature Citations. This section must contain complete citations, including titles and all authors, for any literature you cite in your application.

Section H: Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions.

- Include position descriptions for the Project Director and all key personnel. Position descriptions should be no longer than 1 page each.
- For staff who have been identified, include a biographical sketch for the Project Director and other key positions. Each sketch should be 2 pages or less. Reviewers will not consider information past page 2.
- Information on what you should include in your biographical sketches and job descriptions can be found in [Appendix F](#) of this document.

Section I: Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects: You must describe procedures relating to Confidentiality, Participant Protection and the Protection of Human Subjects Regulations in Section I of your application. See [Appendix H](#) for guidelines on these requirements.

2. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

SAMHSA applications are peer-reviewed according to the evaluation criteria listed above.

Decisions to fund a grant are based on:

- the strengths and weaknesses of the application as identified by peer reviewers;
- when the individual award is over \$150,000, approval by the Center for Mental Health Services' National Advisory Council;
- availability of funds;
- equitable distribution of awards in terms of geography (including urban, rural and remote settings) and balance among populations of focus and program size; and
- equitable distribution of awards in terms of the highest rates of suicide and highest number of deaths by suicide or suicide attempts within the 25-64 age range (see Appendices K, L, and M).

VI. ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. AWARD NOTICES

You will receive a letter from SAMHSA through postal mail that describes the general results of the review of your application, including the score that your application received.

If you are approved for funding, you will receive an **additional** notice through postal mail, the Notice of Award (NoA), signed by SAMHSA's Grants Management Officer. The Notice of Award is the sole obligating document that allows you to receive federal funding for work on the grant project.

If you are not funded, you will receive notification from SAMHSA.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

- If your application is funded, you must comply with all terms and conditions of the grant award. SAMHSA's standard terms and conditions are available on the SAMHSA website at <http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management>.
- If your application is funded, you must also comply with the administrative requirements outlined in 45 CFR Part 74 or 45 CFR Part 92, as appropriate. For more information see the SAMHSA website (<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/management-management>).
- Depending on the nature of the specific funding opportunity and/or your proposed project as identified during review, SAMHSA may negotiate additional terms and conditions with you prior to grant award. These may include, for example:
 - actions required to be in compliance with confidentiality and participant protection/human subjects requirements;
 - requirements relating to additional data collection and reporting;
 - requirements relating to participation in a cross-site evaluation;
 - requirements to address problems identified in review of the application; or
 - revised budget and narrative justification.

- If your application is funded, you will be held accountable for the information provided in the application relating to performance targets. SAMHSA program officials will consider your progress in meeting goals and objectives, as well as your failures and strategies for overcoming them, when making an annual recommendation to continue the grant and the amount of any continuation award. Failure to meet stated goals and objectives may result in suspension or termination of the grant award, or in reduction or withholding of continuation awards.
- If your application is funded, you must comply with Executive Order 13166, which requires that recipients of federal financial assistance provide meaningful access to limited English proficient (LEP) persons in their programs and activities. You may assess the extent to which language assistance services are necessary in your grant program by utilizing the HHS *Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons*, available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/laws/revisedlep.html>.
- On June 26, 2013, in *United States v. Windsor*, the Supreme Court held that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which prohibited federal recognition of same-sex spouses/marriages, was unconstitutional. As a result of that decision, SAMHSA is no longer prohibited from recognizing same sex marriages. Consistent with HHS policy and the purposes of SAMHSA programs, same-sex spouses/marriages are to be recognized in the Cooperative Agreements to Implement the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (National Strategy Grants) program. This means that, as a recipient of SAMHSA funding for the National Strategy Grants, you will be required to treat as valid the marriages of same-sex couples whose marriage was legal when entered into. This applies regardless of whether the couple now lives in a jurisdiction that recognizes same-sex marriage or a jurisdiction that does not recognize same-sex marriage. Any same-sex marriage legally entered into in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, a U.S. territory or a foreign country will be recognized. However, this does not apply to registered domestic partnerships, civil unions or similar formal relationships recognized under state law as something other than a marriage.
- Grant funds cannot be used to supplant current funding of existing activities. “Supplant” is defined as replacing funding of a recipient’s existing program with funds from a federal grant.

3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the data reporting requirements listed in Section I-2.4, grantees must comply with the reporting requirements listed on the SAMHSA website at <http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-management/reporting-requirements> .

Recipients are responsible for contacting their SAMHSA grant/program managers for any needed clarifications.

Responsibilities for Informing Sub-recipients:

- Recipients agree to separately identify to each sub-recipient and document at the time of sub-award and at the time of disbursement of funds, the Federal award number, any special CFDA number assigned for 2014 PPHF fund purposes, and amount of PPHF funds.
- Reporting Requirements under Section 218 in the LHHS Division of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014.

This award requires the recipient to complete projects or activities which are funded under the 2014 PPHF and to report on use of PPHF funds provided through this award. Information from these reports will be made available to the public.

VII. AGENCY CONTACTS

For questions about program issues contact:

Richard McKeon, Ph.D.
Suicide Prevention Branch
Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and Special Programs
Center for Mental Health Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
1 Choke Cherry Road
Room 6-1083
Rockville, Maryland 20857
(240) 276-1873
Richard.McKeon@samhsa.hhs.gov

For questions on grants management and budget issues contact:

Gwendolyn Simpson
Office of Financial Resources, Division of Grants Management
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
1 Choke Cherry Road
Room 7-1091
Rockville, Maryland 20857
(240) 276-1408
gwendolyn.simpson@samhsa.hhs.gov

Appendix A – Checklist for Formatting Requirements and Screen-out Criteria for SAMHSA Grant Applications

*SAMHSA's goal is to review all applications submitted for grant funding. However, this goal must be balanced against SAMHSA's obligation to ensure equitable treatment of applications. For this reason, SAMHSA has established certain formatting requirements for its applications. **If you do not adhere to these requirements, your application will be screened out and returned to you without review.***

- Use the SF-424 Application form; Budget Information form SF-424A; Project/Performance Site Location(s) form; Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, if applicable; and Checklist.
- Applications must be received by the application due date and time, as detailed in Section IV-2 of this grant announcement.
- You must be registered in the System Award Management (SAM) prior to submitting your application. The DUNS number used on your application must be registered and active in the SAM prior to submitting your application.
- Information provided must be sufficient for review.
- Text must be legible. Pages must be typed in black, single-spaced, using a font of Times New Roman 12, with all margins (left, right, top, bottom) at least one inch each. **You may use Times New Roman 10 only for charts or tables.** (See additional requirements in Appendix B, "Guidance for Electronic Submission of Applications.")
- To ensure equity among applications, page limits for the Project Narrative cannot be exceeded.

To facilitate review of your application, follow these additional guidelines. Failure to adhere to the following guidelines will not, in itself, result in your application being screened out and returned without review. However, the information provided in your application must be sufficient for review. Following these guidelines will help ensure your application is complete, and will help reviewers to consider your application.

- Applications should comply with the following requirements:
 - Provisions relating to confidentiality and participant protection/human subjects specified in Appendix H of this announcement
 - Budgetary limitations as specified in Sections I, II, and IV-4 of this announcement

- Documentation of nonprofit status as required in the Checklist.
- Black print should be used throughout your application, including charts and graphs (no color). **Materials with printing on both sides will be excluded from the application and not sent to peer reviewers.**
- Pages should be numbered consecutively from beginning to end so that information can be located easily during review of the application. The abstract page should be page 1, the table of contents should be page 2, etc. The four pages of the SF-424 are not to be numbered. Attachments should be labeled and separated from the Project Narrative and budget section, and the pages should be numbered to continue the sequence.
- The page limits for Attachments stated in Section IV-1.1 of this announcement should not be exceeded.

Appendix B – Guidance for Electronic Submission of Applications

SAMHSA discretionary grant applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov. **SAMHSA will not accept paper applications**, except when a waiver of this requirement is approved by SAMHSA. The process for applying for a waiver is described later in this appendix.

If this is the first time you have submitted an application through Grants.gov, you must complete **three separate registration processes** before you can submit your application. Allow at least two weeks (10 business days) for these registration processes, prior to submitting your application. The processes are:

1. DUNS Number registration:

The DUNS number you use on your application must be registered and active in the SAM.

2. System for Award Management (SAM) registration:

The **System for Award Management (SAM)** is a federal government owned and operated free website that replaces capabilities of the former Central Contractor Registry (CCR) system, as well as EPLS. Future phases of SAM will add the capabilities of other systems used in federal awards processes.

SAM information must be updated at least every 12 months to remain active (for both grantees and sub-recipients). Once you update your record in SAM, it will take 48 to 72 hours to complete the validation processes. **Grants.gov will reject electronic submissions from applicants with expired registrations. To Create a user account, Register/Update entity and/or Search Records from CCR, go to <https://www.sam.gov>.**

You will find a ***Quick Start Guide for Entities Interested in Being Eligible for Grants through SAM*** at https://www.sam.gov/sam/transcript/Quick_Guide_for_Grants_Registrations.pdf.

3. Grants.gov Registration (get username and password):

Be sure the person submitting your application is properly registered with Grants.gov as the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) for the specific DUNS number cited on the SF-424 (first page). See the Organization Registration User Guide for details at the following Grants.gov link: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>.

You can find additional information on the registration process at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/outreach/grantsgov-training.html>.

To submit your application electronically, you may search <http://www.Grants.gov> for the downloadable application package by the funding announcement number (called the opportunity number) or by the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number. You can find the funding announcement number and CFDA number on the cover page of this funding announcement.

You must follow the instructions in the User Guide available at the <http://www.Grants.gov> apply site, on the Help page. In addition to the User Guide, you may wish to use the following sources for technical (IT) help:

- By e-mail: support@Grants.gov
- By phone: 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS). The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays.

Please allow sufficient time to enter your application into Grants.gov. When you submit your application, you will receive a notice that your application is being processed and that you will receive two e-mails from Grants.gov within the next 24-48 hours. One will confirm receipt of the application in Grants.gov, and the other will indicate that the application was either successfully validated by the system (with a tracking number) or rejected due to errors. It will also provide instructions that if you do not receive a receipt confirmation **and** a validation confirmation or a rejection e-mail within 48 hours, you must contact Grants.gov directly. It is important that you retain this tracking number. **Receipt of the tracking number is the only indication that Grants.gov has successfully received and validated your application. If you do not receive a Grants.gov tracking number, you may want to contact the Grants.gov help desk for assistance.** Please note that it is incumbent on the applicant to monitor your application to ensure that it is successfully received and validated by Grants.gov. **If your application is not successfully validated by Grants.gov, it will not be forwarded to SAMHSA as the receiving institution.**

If you experience issues/problems with electronic submission of your application through Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov helpdesk by email at support@grants.gov or by phone at 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS). **Make sure you get a case/ticket/reference number that documents the issues/problems with Grants.gov.** It is critical that you initiate electronic submission in sufficient time to resolve any issues/problems that may prevent the electronic submission of your application. Grants.gov will reject applications submitted after 11:59 PM on the application due date.

SAMHSA highly recommends that you submit your application 24-48 hours before the submission deadline. Many submission issues can be fixed within that time and you

can attempt to re-submit. However, if you have not completed your Grants.gov, SAM, and DUNS registration at least 2 weeks prior to the submission deadline, it is highly unlikely that these issues will be resolved in time to successfully submit an electronic application.

It is strongly recommended that you prepare your Project Narrative and other attached documents in Adobe PDF format. If you do not have access to Adobe software, you may submit in Microsoft Office 2007 products (e.g., Microsoft Word 2007, Microsoft Excel 2007, etc.). Directions for creating PDF files can be found on the Grants.gov website. Use of file formats other than Adobe PDF or Microsoft Office 2007 may result in your file being unreadable by our staff.

The Abstract, Table of Contents, Project Narrative, Supporting Documentation, Budget Justification, and Attachments must be combined into 4 separate files in the electronic submission. **If the number of files exceeds 4, only the four files will be downloaded and considered in the peer review of applications.**

Formatting requirements for SAMHSA e-Grant application files are as follows:

- Project Narrative File (PNF): The PNF consists of the Abstract, Table of Contents, and Project Narrative (Sections A-F) in this order and numbered consecutively.
- Budget Narrative File (BNF): The BNF consists of only the budget justification narrative.
- Other Attachment File 1: The first Other Attachment file will consist of the Supporting Documentation (Sections G-I) in this order and lettered consecutively.
- Other Attachment File 2: The second Other Attachment file will consist of the Attachments (Attachments 1-5) in this order and numbered consecutively.

If you have documentation that does not pertain to any of the 4 listed attachment files, include that documentation in Other Attachment File 2.

Other Grants.gov Requirements

Applicants are limited to using the following characters in all attachment file names:

Valid file names may include only the following characters:

- A-Z
- a-z
- 0-9
- Underscore _
- Hyphen –
- Space
- Period .

If your application uses any other characters when naming your attachment files, your application will be rejected by Grants.gov.

Do not use special characters in file names, such as parenthesis (), #, ©, etc.

Scanned images must be scanned at 150-200 dpi/ppi resolution and saved as a jpeg or pdf file. Using a higher resolution setting or different file type could result in rejection of your application.

Waiver Request Process

Applicants may request a waiver of the requirement for electronic submission if they are unable to submit electronically through the Grants.gov portal because their physical location does not have adequate access to the Internet. Inadequate Internet access is defined as persistent and unavoidable access problems/issues that would make compliance with the electronic submission requirement a hardship. The process for applying for a waiver is described below. Questions on applying for a waiver may be directed to SAMHSA's Division of Grant Review, 240-276-1199.

All applicants must register in the System for Award Management (SAM) and Grants.gov, even those who intend to request a waiver. If you do not have an active SAM registration prior to submitting your paper application, it will be screened out and returned to you without review. Registration is necessary to ensure that information required for paper submission is available and that the applicant is ready to submit electronically if the waiver is denied. (See directions for registering in SAM and on Grants.gov above.)

A written waiver request must be received by SAMHSA at least 15 calendar days in advance of the application due date stated on the cover page of this RFA. The request must be either e-mailed to DGR.Waivers@samhsa.hhs.gov, or mailed to:

Diane Abbate, Director of Grant Review
Office of Financial Resources
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Room 3-1044
1 Choke Cherry Road
Rockville, MD 20857

Applicants are encouraged to request a waiver by e-mail, when possible. When requesting a waiver, the following information must be included:

- SAMHSA RFA title and announcement number;
- Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant organization as they will appear in the application;
- Applicant organization's DUNS number;
- Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) for the named applicant;
- Name, telephone number, and e-mail of the applicant organization's Contact Person for the waiver; and
- Details of why the organization is unable to submit electronically through the Grants.gov portal, explaining why their physical location does not have adequate access to the Internet.

The Office of Grant Review will either e-mail (if the waiver request was received by e-mail) or express mail/deliver (if the waiver request was received by mail) the waiver decision to the Contact Person no later than seven calendar days prior to the application due date. If the waiver is approved, a paper application must be submitted. (See instructions for submitting a paper application below.) SAMHSA will not accept any applications that are sent by e-mail or facsimile or hand carried. If the waiver is disapproved, the applicant organization must be prepared to submit through Grants.gov or forfeit the opportunity to apply. The written approval must be included as the cover page of the paper application and the application must be received by the due date.

A waiver approval is valid for the remainder of the fiscal year and may be used for other SAMHSA discretionary grant applications during that fiscal year. When submitting a subsequent paper application within the same fiscal year, this waiver approval must be included as the cover page of each paper application. The organization and DUNS number named in the waiver and any subsequent application must be identical.

A paper application will not be accepted without the waiver approval and will be returned to the applicant if it is not included. Paper applications received after the due date will not be accepted.

Instructions for Submitting a Paper Application with a Waiver

Paper submissions are due by **5:00 PM** on the application due date stated on the cover page of this RFA. **Applications may be shipped using only Federal Express (FedEx), United Parcel Service (UPS), or the United States Postal Service (USPS).** You will be notified by postal mail that your application has been received.

Note: If you use the USPS, you must use Express Mail.

SAMHSA will not accept or consider any applications that are sent by e-mail or facsimile or hand carried.

If you are submitting a paper application, you must submit an original application and 2 copies (including attachments). The original and copies must not be bound and nothing should be attached, stapled, folded, or pasted. Do not use staples, paper clips, or fasteners. You may use rubber bands.

Send applications to the address below:

For United States Postal Service:

Diane Abbate, Director of Grant Review
Office of Financial Resources
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Room 3-1044
1 Choke Cherry Road
Rockville, MD **20857**

Change the zip code to **20850** if you are using FedEx or UPS.

Do not send applications to other agency contacts, as this could delay receipt. Be sure to include "**National Strategy Grants, RFA # SM-14-016**" in item number 12 on the first page (SF-424) of your paper application. If you require a phone number for delivery, you may use (240) 276-1199.

Your application must be received by the application deadline or it will not be considered for review. Please remember that mail sent to federal facilities undergoes a security screening prior to delivery. You are responsible for ensuring that you submit your application so that it will arrive by the application due date and time.

If an application is mailed to a location or office (including room number) that is not designated for receipt of the application and, as a result, the designated office does not receive your application by the deadline, your application will be considered late and ineligible for review.

If you are submitting a paper application, the application components required for SAMHSA applications should be submitted in the following order:

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- Abstract
- Table of Contents
- Budget Information Form (SF-424A)
- Project Narrative and Supporting Documentation
- Attachments
- Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Standard Form LLL, if applicable)
- Checklist – the Checklist should be the last page of your application.
- Documentation of nonprofit status as required in the Checklist

Do not use heavy or lightweight paper or any material that cannot be copied using automatic copying machines. Odd-sized and oversized attachments, such as posters, will not be copied or sent to reviewers. Do not include videotapes, audiotapes, or CD-ROMs.

Black print should be used throughout your application, including charts and graphs (no color). Pages should be typed single-spaced with one column per page. Pages should not have printing on both sides. Pages with printing on both sides run the risk of an incomplete application going to peer reviewers, since scanning and copying may not duplicate the second side. **Materials with printing on both sides will be excluded from the application and not sent to peer reviewers.**

With the exception of standard forms in the application package, all pages in your application should be numbered consecutively. **Documents containing scanned images must also contain page numbers to continue the sequence.** Failure to comply with these requirements may affect the successful transmission and consideration of your application.

Appendix C – Using Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs)

SAMHSA recognizes that EBPs have not been developed for all populations and/or service settings. For example, certain interventions for American Indians/Alaska Natives, rural or isolated communities, or recent immigrant communities may not have been formally evaluated and, therefore, have a limited or nonexistent evidence base. In addition, other interventions that have an established evidence base for certain populations or in certain settings may not have been formally evaluated with other subpopulations or within other settings. Applicants proposing to serve a population with an intervention that has not been formally evaluated with that population are required to provide other forms of evidence that the practice(s) they propose is appropriate for the population(s) of focus. Evidence for these practices may include unpublished studies, preliminary evaluation results, clinical (or other professional association) guidelines, findings from focus groups with community members, etc. You may describe your experience either with the population(s) of focus or in managing similar programs. Information in support of your proposed practice needs to be sufficient to demonstrate the appropriateness of your practice to the individuals reviewing your application.

- Document the evidence that the practice(s) you have chosen is appropriate for the outcomes you want to achieve.
- Explain how the practice you have chosen meets SAMHSA's goals for this grant program.
- Describe any modifications/adaptations you will need to make to your proposed practice(s) to meet the goals of your project and why you believe the changes will improve the outcomes. We expect that you will implement your evidence-based service(s)/practice(s) in a way that is as close as possible to the original service(s)/practice(s). However, SAMHSA understands that you may need to make minor changes to the service(s)/practice(s) to meet the needs of your population(s) of focus or your program, or to allow you to use resources more efficiently. You must describe any changes to the proposed service(s)/practice(s) that you believe are necessary for these purposes. You may describe your own experience either with the population(s) of focus or in managing similar programs. However, you will need to convince the people reviewing your application that the changes you propose are justified.
- Explain why you chose this evidence-based practice over other evidence-based practices.
- If applicable, justify the use of multiple evidence-based practices. Discuss how the use of multiple evidence-based practices will be integrated into the program, while maintaining an appropriate level of fidelity for each practice.

Describe how the effectiveness of each evidence-based practice will be quantified in the performance assessment of the project.

- Discuss training needs or plans for training to successfully implement the proposed evidence-based practice(s).

Resources for Evidence-Based Practices:

You will find information on evidence-based practices in SAMHSA's *Guide to Evidence-Based Practices on the Web* at <http://www.samhsa.gov/ebpwebguide>. SAMHSA has developed this website to provide a simple and direct connection to websites with information about evidence-based interventions to prevent and/or treat mental and substance use disorders. The *Guide* provides a short description and a link to dozens of websites with relevant evidence-based practices information – either specific interventions or comprehensive reviews of research findings.

Please note that SAMHSA's *Guide to Evidence-Based Practices on the Web* also references another SAMHSA website, the National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP). NREPP is a searchable database of interventions for the prevention and treatment of mental and substance use disorders. NREPP is intended to serve as a decision support tool, not as an authoritative list of effective interventions. *Being included in NREPP, or in any other resource listed in the Guide, does not mean an intervention is "recommended" or that it has been demonstrated to achieve positive results in all circumstances.* You must document that the selected practice is appropriate for the specific population(s) of focus and purposes of your project.

In addition to the website noted above, you may provide information on research studies to show that the services/practices you plan to implement are evidence-based. This information is usually published in research journals, including those that focus on minority populations. If this type of information is not available, you may provide information from other sources, such as unpublished studies or documents describing formal consensus among recognized experts.

[Note: Please see [Appendix E](#), Funding Restrictions, regarding allowable costs for EBPs.]

Appendix D – Statement of Assurance

As the authorized representative of [*insert name of applicant organization*]
_____, I assure SAMHSA that all participating service provider organizations listed in this application meet the two-year experience requirement and applicable licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements. If this application is within the funding range for a grant award, we will provide the SAMHSA Government Project Officer (GPO) with the following documents. I understand that if this documentation is not received by the GPO within the specified timeframe, the application will be removed from consideration for an award and the funds will be provided to another applicant meeting these requirements.

- a letter of commitment from every mental health/substance abuse treatment service provider organization listed in **Attachment 1** of the application that specifies the nature of the participation and the service(s) that will be provided;
- official documentation that all mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations participating in the project have been providing relevant services for a minimum of 2 years prior to the date of the application in the area(s) in which services are to be provided. Official documents must definitively establish that the organization has provided relevant services for the last 2 years; and
- official documentation that all mental health/substance abuse treatment provider organizations: 1) comply with all local (city, county) and state requirements for licensing, accreditation, and certification; OR 2) official documentation from the appropriate agency of the applicable state, county, other governmental unit that licensing, accreditation, and certification requirements do not exist. (Official documentation is a copy of each service provider organization's license, accreditation, and certification. Documentation of accreditation will not be accepted in lieu of an organization's license. A statement by, or letter from, the applicant organization or from a provider organization attesting to compliance with licensing, accreditation and certification or that no licensing, accreditation, certification requirements exist does not constitute adequate documentation.)

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

Appendix E – Funding Restrictions

SAMHSA grant funds must be used for purposes supported by the program and may not be used to:

- Pay for any lease beyond the project period.
- Provide services to incarcerated populations (defined as those persons in jail, prison, detention facilities, or in custody where they are not free to move about in the community).
- Pay for the purchase or construction of any building or structure to house any part of the program. (Applicants may request up to \$75,000 for renovations and alterations of existing facilities, if necessary and appropriate to the project.)
- Provide residential or outpatient treatment services when the facility has not yet been acquired, sited, approved, and met all requirements for human habitation and services provision. (Expansion or enhancement of existing residential services is permissible.)
- Pay for housing other than residential mental health and/or substance abuse treatment.
- Provide inpatient treatment or hospital-based detoxification services. Residential services are not considered to be inpatient or hospital-based services.
- Only allowable costs associated with the use of federal funds are permitted to fund evidence-based practices (EBPs). Other sources of funds may be used for unallowable costs (e.g., meals, sporting events, entertainment). Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, or in-kind contributions.
- Make direct payments to individuals to induce them to enter prevention or treatment services. However, SAMHSA discretionary grant funds may be used for non-clinical support services (e.g., bus tokens, child care) designed to improve access to and retention in prevention and treatment programs.
- Make direct payments to individuals to encourage attendance and/or attainment of prevention or treatment goals. However, SAMHSA discretionary grant funds may be used for non-cash incentives of up to \$30 to encourage attendance and/or attainment of prevention or treatment goals when the incentives are built into the program design and when the incentives are the minimum amount that

is deemed necessary to meet program goals. SAMHSA policy allows an individual participant to receive more than one incentive over the course of the program. However, non-cash incentives should be limited to the minimum number of times deemed necessary to achieve program outcomes. A grantee or treatment or prevention provider may also provide up to \$30 cash or equivalent (coupons, bus tokens, gifts, child care, and vouchers) to individuals as incentives to participate in required data collection follow up. This amount may be paid for participation in each required interview.

- Meals are generally unallowable unless they are an integral part of a conference grant or specifically stated as an allowable expense in the RFA. Grant funds may be used for light snacks, not to exceed \$2.50 per person.
- Funds may not be used to distribute sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.
- Pay for pharmacologies for HIV antiretroviral therapy, sexually transmitted diseases (STD)/sexually transmitted illnesses (STI), TB, and hepatitis B and C, or for psychotropic drugs.

SAMHSA will not accept a “research” indirect cost rate. The grantee must use the “other sponsored program rate” or the lowest rate available.

Appendix F – Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions

Biographical Sketch

Existing curricula vitae of project staff members may be used if they are updated and contain all items of information requested below. You may add any information items listed below to complete existing documents. For development of new curricula vitae include items below in the most suitable format:

1. Name of staff member
2. Educational background: school(s), location, dates attended, degrees earned (specify year), major field of study
3. Professional experience
4. Honors received and dates
5. Recent relevant publications
6. Other sources of support [Other support is defined as all funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal, or institutional, available to the Project Director/Program Director (and other key personnel named in the application) in direct support of their activities through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, fellowships, gifts, prizes, and other means.]

Job Description

1. Title of position
2. Description of duties and responsibilities
3. Qualifications for position
4. Supervisory relationships
5. Skills and knowledge required
6. Personal qualities
7. Amount of travel and any other special conditions or requirements
8. Salary range
9. Hours per day or week

Appendix G – Sample Budget and Justification (no match required)

THIS IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF A SAMPLE DETAILED BUDGET AND NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION WITH GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING SF-424A: SECTION B FOR THE BUDGET PERIOD

A. Personnel: Provide employee(s) (including names for each identified position) of the applicant/recipient organization, including in-kind costs for those positions whose work is tied to the grant project.

FEDERAL REQUEST

Position	Name	Annual Salary/Rate	Level of Effort	Cost
(1) Project Director	John Doe	\$64,890	10%	\$6,489
(2) Grant Coordinator	To be selected	\$46,276	100%	\$46,276
(3) Clinical Director	Jane Doe	In-kind cost	20%	0
			TOTAL	\$52,765

JUSTIFICATION: Describe the role and responsibilities of each position.

- (1) The Project Director will provide daily oversight of the grant and will be considered key staff.
- (2) The Coordinator will coordinate project services and project activities, including training, communication and information dissemination.
- (3) The Clinical Director will provide necessary medical direction and guidance to staff for 540 clients served under this project.

Key staff positions require prior approval by SAMHSA after review of credentials of resume and job description.

FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1 line 6a of form S-424A) **\$52,765**

B. Fringe Benefits: List all components that make up the fringe benefits rate

FEDERAL REQUEST

Component	Rate	Wage	Cost
FICA	7.65%	\$52,765	\$4,037
Workers Compensation	2.5%	\$52,765	\$1,319
Insurance	10.5%	\$52,765	\$5,540
		TOTAL	\$10,896

JUSTIFICATION: Fringe reflects current rate for agency.

FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1 line 6b of form SF-424A) \$10,896

C. Travel: Explain need for all travel other than that required by this application. Local travel policies prevail.

FEDERAL REQUEST

Purpose of Travel	Location	Item	Rate	Cost
(1) Grantee Conference	Washington, DC	Airfare	\$200/flight x 2 persons	\$400
		Hotel	\$180/night x 2 persons x 2 nights	\$720
		Per Diem (meals and incidentals)	\$46/day x 2 persons x 2 days	\$184
(2) Local travel		Mileage	3,000 miles @ .38/mile	\$1,140
			TOTAL	\$2,444

JUSTIFICATION: Describe the purpose of travel and how costs were determined.

(1) Two staff (Project Director and Evaluator) to attend mandatory grantee meeting in Washington, DC.

(2) Local travel is needed to attend local meetings, project activities, and training events. Local travel rate is based on organization's policies/procedures for privately owned vehicle reimbursement rate. If policy does not have a rate use GSA.

FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1 line 6c of form SF-424A) **\$2,444**

D. Equipment: An article of tangible, nonexpendable, personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit (federal definition).

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6d of form SF-424A) **\$ 0**

E. Supplies: Materials costing less than \$5,000 per unit and often having one-time use

FEDERAL REQUEST

Item(s)	Rate	Cost
General office supplies	\$50/mo. x 12 mo.	\$600
Postage	\$37/mo. x 8 mo.	\$296
Laptop Computer	\$900	\$900
Printer	\$300	\$300
Projector	\$900	\$900
Copies	8000 copies x .10/copy	\$800
	TOTAL	\$3,796

JUSTIFICATION: Describe the need and include an adequate justification of how each cost was estimated.

- (1) Office supplies, copies and postage are needed for general operation of the project.
- (2) The laptop computer and printer are needed for both project work and presentations for Project Director.
- (3) The projector is needed for presentations and workshops. All costs were based on retail values at the time the application was written.

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6e of form SF-424A) **\$ 3,796**

F. Contract: A contractual arrangement to carry out a portion of the programmatic effort or for the acquisition of routine goods or services under the grant. Such arrangements may be in the form of consortium agreements or contracts. A consultant is an individual retained to provide professional advice or services for a fee. The applicant/grantee must establish written procurement policies and procedures that are consistently

applied. All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner to provide to the maximum extent practical, open and free competition.

COSTS FOR CONTRACTS MUST BE BROKEN DOWN IN DETAIL AND A NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION PROVIDED. IF APPLICABLE, NUMBERS OF CLIENTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE COSTS.

FEDERAL REQUEST

Name	Service	Rate	Other	Cost
(1) State Department of Human Services	Training	\$250/individual x 3 staff	5 days	\$750
(2) Treatment Services	1040 Clients	\$27/client per year		\$28,080
(3) John Smith (Case Manager)	Treatment Client Services	1FTE @ \$27,000 + Fringe Benefits of \$6,750 = \$33,750	*Travel at 3,124 @ .50 per mile = \$1,562 *Training course \$175 *Supplies @ \$47.54 x 12 months or \$570 *Telephone @ \$60 x 12 months = \$720 *Indirect costs = \$9,390 (negotiated with contractor)	\$46,167

Name	Service	Rate	Other	Cost
(4) Jane Smith	Evaluator	\$40 per hour x 225 hours	12 month period	\$9,000
(5) To Be Announced	Marketing Coordinator	Annual salary of \$30,000 x 10% level of effort		\$3,000
			TOTAL	\$86,997

JUSTIFICATION: Explain the need for each contractual agreement and how it relates to the overall project.

- (1) Certified trainers are necessary to carry out the purpose of the statewide Consumer Network by providing recovery and wellness training, preparing consumer leaders statewide, and educating the public on mental health recovery.
- (2) Treatment services for clients to be served based on organizational history of expenses.
- (3) Case manager is vital to client services related to the program and outcomes.
- (4) Evaluator is provided by an experienced individual (Ph.D. level) with expertise in substance abuse, research and evaluation, is knowledgeable about the population of focus, and will report GPRA data.
- (5) Marketing Coordinator will develop a plan to include public education and outreach efforts to engage clients of the community about grantee activities, and provision of presentations at public meetings and community events to stakeholders, community civic organizations, churches, agencies, family groups and schools.

***Represents separate/distinct requested funds by cost category**

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6f of form SF-424A) **\$86,997**

G. Construction: NOT ALLOWED – Leave Section B columns 1& 2 line 6g on SF-424A blank.

H. Other: Expenses not covered in any of the previous budget categories

FEDERAL REQUEST

Item	Rate	Cost
(1) Rent*	\$15/sq.ft x 700 sq. feet	\$10,500
(2) Telephone	\$100/mo. x 12 mo.	\$1,200
(3) Client Incentives	\$10/client follow up x 278 clients	\$2,780
(4) Brochures	.89/brochure X 1500 brochures	\$1,335
	TOTAL	\$15,815

JUSTIFICATION: Break down costs into cost/unit (e.g. cost/square foot). Explain the use of each item requested.

(1) Office space is included in the indirect cost rate agreement; however, if other rental costs for service site(s) are necessary for the project, they may be requested as a direct charge. The rent is calculated by square footage or FTE and reflects SAMHSA's fair share of the space.

***If rent is requested (direct or indirect), provide the name of the owner(s) of the space/facility. If anyone related to the project owns the building which is less than an arm's length arrangement, provide cost of ownership/use allowance calculations. Additionally, the lease and floor plan (including common areas) is required for all projects allocating rent costs.**

(2) The monthly telephone costs reflect the percent of effort for the personnel listed in this application for the SAMHSA project only.

(3) The \$10 incentive is provided to encourage attendance to meet program goals for 278 client follow-ups.

(4) Brochures will be used at various community functions (health fairs and exhibits).

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6h of form SF-424A) **\$15,815**

Indirect Cost Rate: Indirect costs can be claimed if your organization has a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. It is applied only to direct costs to the agency as allowed in the agreement. For information on applying for the indirect rate go to:

<https://rates.psc.gov/fms/dca/map1.html>.

FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1 line 6j of form SF-424A)

8% of personnel and fringe (.08 x \$63,661) \$5,093

=====

TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES:

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6i of form SF-424A) \$172,713

INDIRECT CHARGES:

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6j of form SF-424A) \$5,093

TOTAL: (sum of 6i and 6j)

FEDERAL REQUEST – (enter in Section B column 1 line 6k of form SF-424A)
\$177,806

=====

Provide the total proposed project period and federal funding as follows:

Proposed Project Period:

a. Start Date: 09/30/2014

b. End Date: 09/29/2017

BUDGET SUMMARY (should include future years and projected total)

Category	Year 1	Year 2*	Year 3*	Total Project Costs
Personnel	\$52,765	\$54,348	\$55,978	\$163,091
Fringe	\$10,896	\$11,223	\$11,559	\$ 33,678
Travel	\$2,444	\$2,444	\$2,444	\$ 7,332
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Supplies	\$3,796	\$3,796	\$3,796	\$ 11,388
Contractual	\$86,997	\$86,997	\$86,997	\$260,991
Other	\$15,815	\$13,752	\$11,629	\$ 41,196
Total Direct Charges	\$172,713	\$172,560	\$172,403	\$517,676

Category	Year 1	Year 2*	Year 3*	Total Project Costs
Indirect Charges	\$5,093	\$5,246	\$5,403	\$ 15,742
Total Project Costs	\$177,806	\$177,806	\$177,806	\$533,418

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS: Sum of Total Direct Costs and Indirect Costs

FEDERAL REQUEST (enter in Section B column 1 line 6k of form SF-424A) **\$889,030**

*FOR REQUESTED FUTURE YEARS:

1. Please justify and explain any changes to the budget that differs from the reflected amounts reported in the 01 Year Budget Summary.
2. If a cost of living adjustment (COLA) is included in future years, provide your organization's personnel policy and procedures that state all employees within the organization will receive a COLA.

IN THIS SECTION, REFLECT OTHER FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL SOURCES OF FUNDING BY DOLLAR AMOUNT AND NAME OF FUNDER e.g., Applicant, State, Local, Other, Program Income, etc.

Other support is defined as funds or resources, whether federal, non-federal or institutional, in direct support of activities through fellowships, gifts, prizes, in-kind contributions or non-federal means. [Note: Please see [Appendix E](#), Funding Restrictions, regarding allowable costs.]

IN THIS SECTION, include a narrative and separate budget for each year of the grant that shows no more than 30 percent of the total grant award will be used for infrastructure development, if necessary, and no more than 20% of the total grant award will be used for data collection, performance management, and performance assessment.

Infrastructure Development	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total Infrastructure Costs
Personnel	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$6,750
Fringe	\$558	\$558	\$558	\$1,674

Infrastructure Development	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total Infrastructure Costs
Travel	0	0	0	0
Equipment	\$15,000	0	0	\$15,000
Supplies	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$1,575	\$4,725
Contractual	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
Other	\$1,617	\$2,375	\$2,375	\$6,367
Total Direct Charges	\$26,000	\$11,758	\$11,758	\$49,516
Indirect Charges	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$2,250
Total Infrastructure Costs	\$26,750	\$12,508	\$12,508	\$51,766

Data Collection & Performance Measurement	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total Data Collection & Performance Measurement Costs
Personnel	\$6,700	\$6,700	\$6,700	\$20,100
Fringe	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$7,200
Travel	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Supplies	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$2,250
Contractual	\$24,950	\$24,950	\$24,950	\$74,850
Other	0	0	0	0

Data Collection & Performance Measurement	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total Data Collection & Performance Measurement Costs
Total Direct Charges	\$34,300	\$34,300	\$34,300	\$103,500
Indirect Charges	\$698	\$698	\$698	\$2,490
Data Collection & Performance Measurement	\$34,900	\$34,900	\$34,900	\$105,594

Appendix H – Confidentiality and SAMHSA Participant Protection/Human Subjects Guidelines

Confidentiality and Participant Protection:

Because of the confidential nature of the work in which many SAMHSA grantees are involved, it is important to have safeguards protecting individuals from risks associated with their participation in SAMHSA projects. All applicants (including those who plan to obtain IRB approval) must address the seven elements below. Be sure to discuss these elements as they pertain to on-line counseling (i.e., telehealth) if they are applicable to your program. If some are not applicable or relevant to the proposed project, simply state that they are not applicable and indicate why. In addition to addressing these seven elements, read the section that follows entitled Protection of Human Subjects Regulations to determine if the regulations may apply to your project. If so, you are required to describe the process you will follow for obtaining Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. While we encourage you to keep your responses brief, there are no page limits for this section and no points will be assigned by the Review Committee. Problems with confidentiality, participant protection, and the protection of human subjects identified during peer review of the application must be resolved prior to funding.

1. Protect Clients and Staff from Potential Risks

- Identify and describe any foreseeable physical, medical, psychological, social, and legal risks or potential adverse effects as a result of the project itself or any data collection activity.
- Describe the procedures you will follow to minimize or protect participants against potential risks, including risks to confidentiality.
- Identify plans to provide guidance and assistance in the event there are adverse effects to participants.
- Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that may be beneficial to the participants. If you choose not to use these other beneficial treatments, provide the reasons for not using them.

2. Fair Selection of Participants

- Describe the population(s) of focus for the proposed project. Include age, gender, and racial/ethnic background and note if the population includes homeless youth, foster children, children of substance abusers, pregnant women, or other targeted groups.

- Explain the reasons for including groups of pregnant women, children, people with mental disabilities, people in institutions, prisoners, and individuals who are likely to be particularly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.
- Explain the reasons for including or excluding participants.
- Explain how you will recruit and select participants. Identify who will select participants.

3. Absence of Coercion

- Explain if participation in the project is voluntary or required. Identify possible reasons why participation is required, for example, court orders requiring people to participate in a program.
- If you plan to compensate participants, state how participants will be awarded incentives (e.g., money, gifts, etc.). Provide justification that the use of incentives is appropriate, judicious, and conservative and that incentives do not provide an “undue inducement” which removes the voluntary nature of participation. Incentives should be the minimum amount necessary to meet the programmatic and performance assessment goals of the grant. Applicants should determine the minimum amount that is proven effective by consulting with existing local programs and reviewing the relevant literature. In no case may the value if an incentive paid for with SAMHSA discretionary grant funds exceed \$30.
- State how volunteer participants will be told that they may receive services intervention even if they do not participate in or complete the data collection component of the project.

4. Data Collection

- Identify from whom you will collect data (e.g., from participants themselves, family members, teachers, others). Describe the data collection procedures and specify the sources for obtaining data (e.g., school records, interviews, psychological assessments, questionnaires, observation, or other sources). Where data are to be collected through observational techniques, questionnaires, interviews, or other direct means, describe the data collection setting.
- Identify what type of specimens (e.g., urine, blood) will be used, if any. State if the material will be used just for evaluation or if other use(s) will be made. Also, if needed, describe how the material will be monitored to ensure the safety of participants.

- Provide in **Attachment 2**, “Data Collection Instruments/Interview Protocols,” copies of all available data collection instruments and interview protocols that you plan to use.

5. Privacy and Confidentiality

- Explain how you will ensure privacy and confidentiality. Include who will collect data and how it will be collected.
- Describe:
 - How you will use data collection instruments.
 - Where data will be stored.
 - Who will or will not have access to information.
 - How the identity of participants will be kept private, for example, through the use of a coding system on data records, limiting access to records, or storing identifiers separately from data.

NOTE: If applicable, grantees must agree to maintain the confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse client records according to the provisions of **Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part II**.

6. Adequate Consent Procedures

- List what information will be given to people who participate in the project. Include the type and purpose of their participation. Identify the data that will be collected, how the data will be used and how you will keep the data private.
- State:
 - Whether or not their participation is voluntary.
 - Their right to leave the project at any time without problems.
 - Possible risks from participation in the project.
 - Plans to protect clients from these risks.
- Explain how you will get consent for youth, the elderly, people with limited reading skills, and people who do not use English as their first language.

NOTE: If the project poses potential physical, medical, psychological, legal, social or other risks, you **must** obtain written informed consent.

- Indicate if you will obtain informed consent from participants or assent from minors along with consent from their parents or legal guardians. Describe how the consent will be documented. For example: Will you read the consent forms? Will you ask prospective participants questions to be sure they understand the forms? Will you give them copies of what they sign?
- Include, as appropriate, sample consent forms that provide for: (1) informed consent for participation in service intervention; (2) informed consent for participation in the data collection component of the project; and (3) informed consent for the exchange (releasing or requesting) of confidential information. The sample forms must be included in **Attachment 3, “Sample Consent Forms”**, of your application. If needed, give English translations.

NOTE: Never imply that the participant waives or appears to waive any legal rights, may not end involvement with the project, or releases your project or its agents from liability for negligence.

- Describe if separate consents will be obtained for different stages or parts of the project. For example, will they be needed for both participant protection in treatment intervention and for the collection and use of data?
- Additionally, if other consents (e.g., consents to release information to others or gather information from others) will be used in your project, provide a description of the consents. Will individuals who do not consent to having individually identifiable data collected for evaluation purposes be allowed to participate in the project?

7. Risk/Benefit Discussion

- Discuss why the risks are reasonable compared to expected benefits and importance of the knowledge from the project.

Protection of Human Subjects Regulations

SAMHSA expects that most grantees funded under this announcement will not have to comply with the Protection of Human Subjects Regulations (45 CFR 46), which requires Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. However, in some instances, the applicant’s proposed performance assessment design may meet the regulation’s criteria for research involving human subjects. For assistance in determining if your proposed performance assessment meets the criteria in 45 CFR 46, Protection of Human Subjects Regulations, refer to the SAMHSA decision tree on the SAMHSA website, under “Applying for a New SAMHSA Grant,” <http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/applying>.

In addition to the elements above, applicants whose projects must comply with the Human Subjects Regulations must fully describe the process for obtaining IRB

approval. While IRB approval is not required at the time of grant award, these grantees will be required, as a condition of award, to provide documentation that an Assurance of Compliance is on file with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). IRB approval must be received in these cases prior to enrolling participants in the project. General information about Human Subjects Regulations can be obtained through OHRP at <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp>, or ohrp@osophs.dhhs.gov, or (240) 453-6900. SAMHSA-specific questions should be directed to the program contact listed in Section VII of this announcement.

Appendix I – Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities

In April 2011, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released its *Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. This plan outlines goals and actions HHS agencies, including SAMHSA, will take to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities. Agencies are required to continuously assess the impact of their policies and programs on health disparities. The Action Plan is available at: http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/files/Plans/HHS/HHS_Plan_complete.pdf.

The number one Secretarial priority in the Action Plan is to: “**Assess and heighten the impact of all HHS policies, programs, processes, and resource decisions to reduce health disparities.**” Grantees for this program will be required to submit a health disparities impact statement to identify subpopulations (i.e., racial, ethnic, sexual/gender minority groups) vulnerable to health disparities. This statement must outline the population/s of focus that will be involved in the project and the unduplicated number of individuals who are expected to receive services. It should be consistent with information in your application regarding access, service use and outcomes for the program. The disparities impact statement may be developed as a brief narrative or table (see “Sample Health Disparities Impact Statement” at the end of this appendix).

You also will be required to implement a data-driven quality improvement plan to decrease the differences in access, service use and outcomes among subpopulations that will be implemented throughout the project. This plan should include use of the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care.

Definition of Health Disparities:

Healthy People 2020 defines a health disparity as a “particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group; religion; socioeconomic status; gender; age; mental health; cognitive, sensory, or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.”

Subpopulations

SAMHSA grant applicants are routinely asked to define the population they intend to serve given the focus of a particular grant program (e.g., adults with serious mental illness [SMI] at risk for chronic health conditions; young adults engaged in underage drinking; populations at risk for contracting HIV/AIDS, etc.). Within these populations of focus are *subpopulations* that may have disparate access to, use of, or outcomes from provided services. These disparities may be the result of differences in language, beliefs, norms, values, and/or socioeconomic factors specific to that subpopulation. For instance, Latino adults with SMI may be at heightened risk for metabolic disorder due to

lack of appropriate in-language primary care services; Native American youth may have an increased incidence of underage drinking due to coping patterns related to historical trauma within the Native American community; and African American women may be at greater risk for contracting HIV/AIDS due to lack of access to education on risky sexual behaviors in urban low-income communities. While these factors might not be pervasive among the general population served by a grantee, they may be predominant among subpopulations or groups vulnerable to disparities. It is imperative that grantees understand who is being served within their community in order to provide care that will yield positive outcomes, per the focus of that grant. In order for organizations to attend to the potentially disparate impact of their grant efforts, applicants are asked to address access, use and outcomes for subpopulations, which can be defined by the following factors:

- By race
- By ethnicity
- By gender (including transgender), as appropriate
- By sexual orientation (i.e., lesbian, gay, bisexual), as appropriate

HHS published final standards for data collection on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language and disability status, as required by Section 4302 of the Affordable Care Act in October 2011, <http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlid=208>.

The ability to address the quality of care provided to subpopulations served within SAMHSA's grant programs is enhanced by programmatic alignment with the federal CLAS standards.

National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care

The National CLAS standards were initially published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2000. Culturally and linguistically appropriate health care and services, broadly defined as care and services that are respectful of and responsive to the cultural and linguistic needs of all individuals, is increasingly seen as essential to reducing disparities and improving health care quality. The National CLAS Standards have served as catalyst and conduit for the evolution of the field of cultural and linguistic competency over the course of the last 12 years. In recognition of these changes in the field, the HHS Office of Minority Health undertook the National CLAS Standards Enhancement Initiative from 2010 to 2012.

The enhanced National CLAS Standards seek to set a new bar in improving the quality of health to our nation's ever diversifying communities. Enhancements to the National CLAS Standards include the broadening of the definitions of health and culture, as well as an increased focus on institutional governance and leadership. The enhanced National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and

Health Care are comprised of 15 Standards that provide a blueprint for health and health care organizations to implement culturally and linguistically appropriate services that will advance health equity, improve quality, and help eliminate health care disparities.

You can learn more about the CLAS mandates, guidelines, and recommendations at: <http://www.ThinkCulturalHealth.hhs.gov>.

Sample Health Disparities Impact Statement:

1. Proposed number of individuals to be served by subpopulations in the geographic area

Access: The numbers in the chart below reflect the proposed number of individuals to be served during the grant period and all identified subpopulations in the geographic area. The disparate populations are highlighted in the narrative below.

	FY 1	FY 2	FY 3	FY 4	Totals
Direct Services: Number to be served	200	175	100	125	600
<i>By Race/Ethnicity</i>					
African American	10	9	5	6	30
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	1	0	1	3
Asian	2	2	1	1	6
White (non-Hispanic)	103	91	52	65	311
Hispanic or Latino (not including Salvadoran)	32	28	16	20	96
Salvadoran	44	37	22	28	130
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	3	2	2	11
Two or more Races	4	4	2	3	13
<i>By Gender</i>					
Female	110	96	55	69	330
Male	89	79	44	56	268
Transgender	1	0	1	0	2
<i>By Sexual Orientation/Identity Status</i>					
Lesbian	2	2	1	1	6
Gay	8	6	4	5	23
Bisexual	1	1	0	1	3

The population of Middle Lake, Massachusetts is predominantly represented by first- and second-generation Latino immigrants, mainly from El Salvador. There has been a recent increase of the immigrant population in the city with individuals primarily

from Haiti and El Salvador. There is also a smaller Cambodian and African American population in the city. Nearly 40% of residents speak a language other than English in their homes, and a majority of those individuals are Spanish speakers. There is a high unemployment rate, low literacy rate and high level of poverty, in particular among the Salvadoran subpopulation, putting these individuals at greater risk for behavioral health issues when compared to national trends. However, our agency has served relatively low numbers of Salvadorans. Therefore, we have chosen to focus our efforts on the Salvadoran subpopulation.

2. A Quality Improvement Plan Using Our Data

Use: Services and activities will be designed and implemented in accordance with the cultural and linguistic needs of individuals in the community. The project team will collaborate with the community enrichment program and the county health specialist consortium in planning the design and implementation of program activities to ensure the cultural and linguistic needs of grant participants are effectively addressed, particularly the disparate population.

A continuous quality improvement approach will be used to analyze, assess and monitor key performance indicators as a mechanism to ensure high-quality and effective program operations. Program data will be used to monitor and manage program outcomes by race, ethnicity, and LGBT status within a quality improvement process. Programmatic adjustments will be made as indicated to address identified issues, including behavioral health disparities, across program domains.

A primary objective of the data collection and reporting will be to monitor/measure project activities in a manner that optimizes the usefulness of data for project staff and consumers; evaluation findings will be integrated into program planning and management on an ongoing basis (a “self-correcting” model of evaluation). For example, referral to enrollment, treatment completion and discharge data will be reported to staff on an ongoing basis, including analyses and discussions of who may be more or less likely to enroll and complete the program (and possible interventions). The Evaluator will meet on a bi-weekly basis with staff, providing an opportunity for staff to identify successes and barriers encountered in the process of project implementation. These meetings will be a forum for discussion of evaluation findings, allowing staff to adjust or modify project services to maximize project success.

Outcomes for all services and supports will be monitored across race and ethnicity to determine the grant’s impact on behavioral health disparities.

3. Adherence to the CLAS Standards

Our quality improvement plan will ensure adherence to the enhanced National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS Standards) in Health and Health Care. This will include attention to:

Diverse cultural health beliefs and practices

Training and hiring protocols will be implemented to support the culture and language of all subpopulations, with a focus on the Salvadoran subpopulation.

Preferred languages

Interpreters and translated materials will be used for non-English speaking clients as well as those who speak English, but prefer materials in their primary language. Key documents will be translated into Spanish.

Health literacy and other communication needs of all sub-populations identified in your proposal

All services programs will be tailored to include limited English proficient individuals. Staff will receive training to ensure capacity to provide services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate.

Appendix J – Electronic Health Record (EHR) Resources

The following is a list of websites for EHR information:

For additional information on EHR implementation please visit:

<http://www.healthit.gov/providers-professionals>

For a comprehensive listing of Complete EHRs and EHR Modules that have been tested and certified under the Temporary Certification Program maintained by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) please see: <http://onc-chpl.force.com/ehrcert>

For a listing of Regional Extension Centers (REC) for technical assistance, guidance, and information to support efforts to become a meaningful user of Electronic Health Records (EHRs), see: <http://www.healthit.gov/providers-professionals/regional-extension-centers-recs#listing>

Behavioral healthcare providers should also be aware of federal confidentiality regulations including HIPPA and 42CRF Part 2 (<http://www.samhsa.gov/HealthPrivacy/>). EHR implementation plans should address compliance with these regulations.

For questions on EHRs and HIT, contact:

SAMHSA.HIT@samhsa.hhs.gov.

Appendix K – 2010 CDC Fatal Injury Report (Number of Deaths by Suicide)

State	Number of deaths
California	2,720
Texas	2,053
Florida	1,974
New York	1,125
Pennsylvania	1,121
Ohio	1,033
Michigan	899
North Carolina	859
Illinois	856
Georgia	798
Arizona	755
Virginia	701
Tennessee	700
Washington	665
Colorado	645
Indiana	640
Missouri	607
Wisconsin	571
New Jersey	515
Oregon	505

State	Number of deaths
Alabama	480
Kentucky	478
South Carolina	467
Oklahoma	464
Minnesota	444
Massachusetts	439
Nevada	395
Louisiana	387
Maryland	356
Utah	344
Arkansas	316
Kansas	298
Mississippi	296
New Mexico	290
Connecticut	271
Iowa	261
Idaho	202
West Virginia	202
Hawaii	153
Montana	152
Nebraska	140
New Hampshire	139

State	Number of deaths
Maine	131
Rhode Island	110
Alaska	99
South Dakota	93
Wyoming	89
Delaware	83
Vermont	73
North Dakota	62
District of Columbia	33

Appendix L – 2010 CDC Fatal Injury Report (Age-Adjusted rates of Deaths by Suicide)

State	Age-Adjusted Rate (per 100,000)
Wyoming	28.47
Montana	28.31
New Mexico	27.55
Nevada	26.72
Utah	25.44
Idaho	25.35
Alaska	24.79
Oregon	24.48
Oklahoma	24.2
Colorado	23.16
South Dakota	23.03
Arizona	22.98
Arkansas	21.7
Hawaii	21.58
Vermont	20.99
Tennessee	20.87
Kentucky	20.61
Rhode Island	20.37
West Virginia	20.27

State	Age-Adjusted Rate (per 100,000)
Kansas	20.08
Missouri	19.45
Florida	19.43
North Dakota	19.33
Alabama	19.2
South Carolina	19.08
Mississippi	19.04
New Hampshire	18.94
Indiana	18.65
Wisconsin	18.49
Washington	18.29
Maine	17.61
Delaware	17.38
Michigan	17.27
Ohio	17.09
Iowa	16.82
North Carolina	16.81
Pennsylvania	16.56
Louisiana	16.56
Virginia	15.98
Minnesota	15.62

State	Age-Adjusted Rate (per 100,000)
Texas	15.6
Georgia	15.19
Nebraska	14.69
Connecticut	13.66
California	13.48
Illinois	12.38
Massachusetts	12.38
Maryland	11.07
New York	10.69
New Jersey	10.49
District of Columbia	10.49

Appendix M – 2012 NSDUH Suicide Attempt

Table 1. Annual average estimated number* and percentage of adults aged 25-64 years who had attempted suicide during the previous year, by region and state --- National Survey on Drug Use and Health, United States, 2010-2012†

Region/State	Number of Suicide Attempters in Thousands	Percentage (Standard Error)
Overall	676	0.42 (0.03)
Region		
Northeast	126	0.43 (0.07)
Midwest	170	0.49 (0.07)
South	225	0.38 (0.05)
West	154	0.41 (0.08)
State		
Alabama	¶	¶
Alaska	3	0.85 (0.42)
Arkansas	25	0.76 (0.27)
Arizona	12	0.84 (0.48)
California	55	0.28 (0.11)
Colorado	¶	¶
Connecticut	11	0.59 (0.38)
Delaware	2	0.38 (0.22)
District of Columbia	2	0.65 (0.21)
Florida	31	0.32 (0.10)
Georgia	25	0.49 (0.24)
Hawaii	10	1.50 (0.62)

Region/State	Number of Suicide Attempters in Thousands	Percentage (Standard Error)
Idaho	8	0.97 (0.28)
Illinois	15	0.22 (0.08)
Indiana	24	0.73 (0.35)
Iowa	9	0.61 (0.32)
Kansas	10	0.71 (0.42)
Kentucky	9	0.38 (0.19)
Louisiana	9	0.36 (0.19)
Maine	†	†
Maryland	14	0.44 (0.30)
Massachusetts	9	0.26 (0.17)
Michigan	32	0.63 (0.14)
Minnesota	23	0.82 (0.49)
Mississippi	15	1.02 (0.35)
Missouri	19	0.62 (0.30)
Montana	2	0.48 (0.26)
Nebraska	3	0.37 (0.14)
Nevada	11	0.79 (0.61)
New Hampshire	5	0.64 (0.33)
New Jersey	18	0.38 (0.24)
New Mexico	6	0.54 (0.24)

Notes: * In thousands. † Estimates based only on responses to suicide items in the Mental Health module. Respondents with unknown suicide information were excluded.

§ Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

¶ Low precision; no estimate reported. According to the suppression criteria, prevalence estimates are suppressed if any of the following occurred: the prevalence estimate is $< 0.005\%$ or $>99.995\%$; the relative standard error of the negative natural logarithm of the estimated proportion p (where p is the prevalence divided by 100) is >0.175 if the prevalence is $\leq 50\%$; the relative standard error of the negative of the natural logarithm of $(1-p)$ is >0.175 if the prevalence is $>50\%$; the actual sample size is <100 ; or the effective sample size (defined as the actual sample size divided by the design effect) is <68 .