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*Presented by* 

**Weekly COVID 19 Opportunities Update**

**New Opportunities**

**July 20, 2020**

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**Health Systems Capacity Building (including public health, telemedicine and mental health)**

**Department of Health and Human Services - Administration for Community Living - Lifespan Respite Care Program: Special Projects to Strengthen Program Development, Implementation and Sustainability**

**Estimated Post Date: July 21, 2020**

**Estimated Application Due Date: September 3, 2020**

**Expected Number of Awards: 1**

**Estimated Total Program Funding: $750,000**

**Award Ceiling: $750,000**

**Award Floor: $725,000**

**Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2020-ACL-AOA-LRSP-0432**

***Purpose:*** *The U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL), Administration on Aging (AoA), will be publishing a competitive grant opportunity to implement special projects under the authority granted in Section 2903 of the Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-442). These special projects will complement the work of the Lifespan Respite Technical Assistance and Resource Center (TARC). Additionally, under the “RAISE Family Caregivers Act,” an Advisory Council has been established to “provide the establishment and maintenance of a [National] Family Caregiving Strategy…” With the formation of the Family Caregiving Advisory Council and the forthcoming National Strategy, an anticipated focus on improving access to respite, workforce issues, and the role of natural supports will be a likely focus of attention nationwide. Thus, the special projects carried out under this funding opportunity will be expected to concentrate on expanded Technical Assistance projects that focus on strengthening lifespan respite program development, implementation and sustainability (capacity building) with respect to the following:*

*Develop, test and scale a respite workforce recruitment, training and retention program to better meet the respite needs of families, particularly in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the workforce;*

*Develop and field test a state-based framework and roadmap for respite system planning and development, which ties to the forthcoming National Caregiving Strategy, currently under development; and*

*Strengthen and test enhanced approaches to help caregivers and families develop or strengthen their own natural support systems to include respite and other supports.*

*OPTIONAL: Other areas of expanded TA and capacity building to improve state-based respite capacities, as identified by applicants and their partners.*

*ACL/AoA plans to award one (1) Cooperative Agreement to engage in the above activities. Applicants will be required to demonstrate considerable knowledge and expertise in the field of respite, family caregiver support and respite program development and implementation across the age, disease, and disability spectrum. The successful application will reflect a collaborative approach among a consortium of organizations that approach the work in a well-defined partnership, with one entity acting as the fiduciary and programmatic lead. Finally, the successful applicant will be expected to demonstrate the ability to collaborate and partner with multiple organizations and entities at the Federal, state and local levels in order to support overall project objectives.*

[*https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328178*](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=328178)

**Health Research Opportunities**

**Department of Defense – Department of the Army - JPEO-CBRND & BARDA Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) Area of Interest (AoI) W911QY-20-S-C001-A002 Neutralization Assay**

**Response Date: July 25, 2020**

**Expected Number of Awards:**

**Estimated Total Program Funding:**

**Award Ceiling:**

**Award Floor:**

**Funding Opportunity Number: W911QY-20-S-C001-A002**

***Purpose:*** *This is a Program Announcement for a potential new Area of Interest (AoI) against the U.S. Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground, Natick Division’s (ACC-APG-Natick) Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) W911QY-20-S-C001 on behalf of Joint Program Executive Office - Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Defense (JPEO-CBRND) and Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), Department of Health and Human Services. The potential AoI is being prepared in support of Operation Warp Speed in response to the Corona Virus 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic.*

*The anticipated AoI will utilize the non-Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) based solicitation authority for acquiring innovative and commercial solutions. Section 879 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114-328) authorizes ACC-APG-Natick to implement a pilot program to competitively procure innovative commercial items, technologies, and services using CSO procedures. CSO is new acquisition mechanism that provides a streamlined acquisition process and simplified contract terms that is designed to attract start-up companies and others who have not previously worked with U.S. Government. Under the CSO and resulting AoI’s ACC-APG-Natick seeks proposals for innovative, commercial items, technologies and services currently in the production/commercialization phase as well as adaptations of existing commercial products to combat the current COVID-19 pandemic as well as future pandemics or medical emergencies. The current ACC-APG-Natick CSO solicitation is open and available through 30 September 2022. This is an advance notice of a potential second technical AoI posting for the validated SARS-CoV-2 virus specific neutralization assay.*

*The CSO solicitation process will include a multi-phased solicitation and evaluation approach: Phase 1 – Submission of the Written Solution Brief, Phase 2 – presentations/pitches (if applicable), and Phase 3 – Request for Commercial Solution Proposal. The CSO is considered a competitive process, intended to ensure that competitive procedures are used to the maximum extent practicable.*

*B. Potential Opportunities:*

*BARDA has a potential Area of Interest (AoI) to complete the following: technology transfer of a qualified or validated SARS-CoV-2 virus specific neutralization assay using a live SARS-CoV-2 virus from a third party under appropriate biosafety laboratory conditions; demonstrate comparability of the established assay to a previously validated assay established by a third party. Additionally, this AoI will seek to provide testing services to analyze serum samples using the validated SARS-CoV-2 virus specific neutralization assay in compliance with GCLP for submission to FDA. Interested parties are highly encouraged to visit beta.sam.gov regularly for updates and new postings.*

*Interested parties are hereby advised of the following:*

*The potential AoI is expected to be posted on or about July 24th 2020. The government reserves the right to release or not to release the potential AoI as a result of this program announcement.*

*A solicitation for solution briefs, presentations/pitches and requests for proposals are not a guarantee that award and obligation of funds will be made.*

*The costs incurred by companies in the preparation and submission of their solution briefs, presentations/pitches and requests for proposals in response to solicitations will not be paid by the government and are not allowable as a direct charge to any government contract.*

*C. Reference(s):*

*W911QY-20-S-C001*

 *The Commercial Solutions Offering solicitation is currently open until 30 September 2022.*

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[*https://beta.sam.gov/opp/202c8477926c4657809d7a355cca2069/view*](https://beta.sam.gov/opp/202c8477926c4657809d7a355cca2069/view)