



NEW
YORK
STATE

Office for the
Prevention of
Domestic Violence

Question and Answer Webinar

Invitation to Use Flexible Funding

Housekeeping

- All lines have been muted.
- To ask a question, please utilize the chat feature.
- While we will not be providing a recording of this call, all information discussed today will be provided in writing.



Today's Speaker:

Abbey Marr

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Today's Question and Answer Policy

- Today's verbal answers are not binding. Only the written responses published after today's conference will be the official, binding responses of the state.
- Please send any additional questions after this webinar via email to FlexFunds@opdv.ny.gov
- In the event of an inconsistency between this PowerPoint and written guidance provided by OPDV, OPDV's written guidance shall supersede information in this presentation.

Today's Agenda

- Invitation Package
- Next Steps
- Questions

Flex Funding Program

- \$4,938,730 for services, expenses and grants to government entities and not-for-profits to provide financial assistance to victims and survivors of domestic violence.
- One-year, non-competitive allocation
- Available to nonresidential services domestic violence program recognized by NYS OCFS
- Subject to approval of the Office of the State Comptroller

Award Amount

- Amount distributed based on counties serviced by the program and the population of the county
 - For counties with multiple eligible providers, amount for the county will be equally divided
- Letter of Invitation to each individual eligible program indicated the currently anticipated award amount
 - Total awards may increase accordingly with the funding available consistent with the distribution of the formula.

Funding Goal

- Provide financial assistance to survivors or victims of domestic violence using the lowest barriers possible.
- Details of how to provide assistance to survivors consistent with this goal is outlined in the Flexible Funding Contract Guidelines (Attachment 1 of the Invitation Packet).

Contracting & Administration

- Programs must agree to accept the entire allocation awarded by OPDV.
 - If programs cannot use the funds by the deadline, programs will be held harmless.
- Reimbursement based contracts – reimbursement available upon receipt of program reports on a quarterly bases.
- Advances up to 25% of the total contract amount available upon request after execution of the contract.
- There will be no match requirements for this funding.
- Funds may not be used to supplant other funding.

Contracting & Administration

- Standard workplans (Attachment 2 of the Invitation Packet).
- Accepting Programs will develop expenditure-based budgets for approval, which may include up to 15% for administrative and programmatic expenses.
- OPDV staff will work with accepting providers to complete contracts in a quick and streamlined process.
- Contract timeframe 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024 (tentative)

Disbursement of Funds

- Eligibility Criteria

- All victims or survivors of domestic violence as defined in NYS Social Services Law Section 459-A are eligible for assistance under this program.
- Third party verification or documentation to determine eligibility is not required.
- There are no additional income, citizenship, familial status, or other limitations on eligibility.
- Funding may be distributed to any eligible person seeking assistance.

Disbursement of Funds

- **Documentation of Requests from Eligible Persons**
 - All requests for flexible funding financial assistance must be documented on a form provided by OPDV, protecting confidentiality of personally identifying information. This form will collect the following information:
 - client ID number
 - self-attestation; and
 - description, including dollar amount, of financial assistance the requestor is seeking.

Disbursement of Funds

- **Allowable Methods of Distribution**
 - Direct payments to an eligible person via cash, check or gift card.
 - Payments to a third party on behalf of the eligible person.

Disbursement of Funds

- Allowable Costs

- Children's needs
- Communication
- Education, training, employment
- Food & Household Supplies
- Personal supplies
- Housing readiness
- Legal assistance
- Mortgage assistance
- Rental Assistance
- Hotel/Motel
- Utility Assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Physical/Mental health needs
- Pet supplies & support
- Other

Administrative Expenses

- Programs may charge up to 15% of their budget to administrative and programmatic expenses.

Community Partnership

- In the interest of ensuring that funding reaches underserved populations throughout NY, all funded organizations must partner with at least one population specific program in their county(ies) served to ensure funding is made available to the community served by the partner program.
- Population Specific Program: Program that has experience relevant to a specific underserved population and a record of demonstrated success in culturally and linguistically responsive service delivery and has a board of directors and staffing which is reflective of the population they serve.
- Partnership Agreement Template provided (Attachment 3 in the Invitation Packet).

Reporting and Claiming

- Reporting will occur on quarterly basis;
- Fiscal Claims will require completion of a Fiscal Cost Report on a template provided by OPDV as back-up documentation;
- Program Report Template will be provided to collect aggregate data and key information on performance of the workplan.

Accept/Decline

- Forms to accept or decline this funding must be submitted to OPDV by **November 3, 2023**.
- If programs decline the funding, award amounts will be recalculated, and some awards may increase.
- Final awards and eligibility are contingent upon availability of funds and the review and approval of the Office of the New York State Comptroller and the Division of the Budget.

Questions?



NEW
YORK
STATE

Office for the
Prevention of
Domestic Violence