GCDD VIRTUAL ADVOCACY DAYS EVENT PLANNER

GEORGIA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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>>> I want to say officially good afternoon to everyone.

I intentionally scheduled this for 12:00 p.m., in case we stayed up looking at the election, we could sleep a little late. We don't have the results anyway. Hopefully we're awake enough to get through this today.

I want to welcome you to the applicant's conference for our notice of funds available for the family coalition of family advocates. We'll start off with a brief welcome and overview about GCDD.

Then we will go over DD suite which is our application and grant processing tool. And the technical portions of the NOFA.

Then we will spend some time with Charlie Miller going over the actual requirements and what we're looking for in this grant offering and then we will have questions and answers.

If you are afraid you won't remember your questions and answers, you're welcome to put them in the chat boom, but we will likely not answer them until the end of the session.

>> We will be muting participants and have questions toward the end. First I wanted to let you know, we are the Georgia council on developmental disabilities, and the mission is to bring about social and policy change that promote opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities and their families to live, learn, work, play and worship in Georgia communities. We do that through three main ways through public policy analysis and research, through project implementation and funding. And through information and advocacy. These three areas again help us to change community for persons with developmental disabilities.

And their families.

Our structure. We are part of the DD act. We are established through the DD act. We are funded through the Federal Government. Each state has a DD council, each state and territory has a DD council. We're one of 56 entities that focuses on developmental disabilities through an act from the Federal Government.

We are ‑‑ again we receive our funding from the Federal Government through the administration on community living.

However, being that we are the DD council for the state of Georgia. We are administratively attached to the department of behavioral health also known as DBHDD.

That is our state parent per say, and we have federal funding and still state laws that we have to adhere to. As GCDD we have a council which is comprised of 60% of our members, or persons with developmental disability and/or their family members.

We have a staff of 12. And GCDD has a five‑year plan which we ‑‑ the council and the staff work around and find projects and all of our work is governed by this five‑year plan which can be found on our website.

Although we're in the midst of planning our next five‑year plan now from fiscal year '22. Starting next October, October '21 we will implement our next five‑year plan.

Anyway, and then we have our grantees or partners and contractors who help GCDD implement its goals. So if you were to receive this award, you would be one of our grantees and partners who help us to implement our goal around family advocacy. So next we're going to talk a little bit about DD suite. It is a proprietary program that helps us to collect monitor and manage outcome data from council grants and activities.

It is a web based program, meaning you can access it from anywhere, your phone, your tablets, your computer.

Just by going to a website. It allows for most of the grant process to be done electronically and paperless. In other words, we don't accept any applications by paper, oath through electronic submittal.

It helps to improve communication internally and externally as well as promotes improved team work because we can all see what's going on in realtime what's documents have been accepted.

Have been received. We don't have to worry about anybody losing anything or it being on someone else's desk, because it's all contained within the computer program. It also offers fiscal reporting information and linkage. All of your invoices and receipts are also housed within DD suite.

So I'm going to ask Gabby to assist me, our grants and contracts coordinator, to assist me with opening ‑‑ by going to WWW.DDsuite.ORG. If we will open that page, we will then see how we apply for the grant.

I'm going to stop sharing.

When you go to WWW.DDsuite.org you'll see that in the top in the browser. The first thing you will see is grant seekers and grant makers.

Page you will see grant makers and grant seekers.

You will see the Massachusetts disabilities council that have funding opportunities available.

But we are obviously going to focus on the Georgia council.

That will be the first one you get to. If there were more counsels that listed application or funding opportunities. It would be listed alphabetically. You want to look for Georgia council on developmental disabilities. It says view details and apply.

Without applying, you're going to review the details of the grant. If you scroll back to the top. The first thing it tells you is the number of the grant is 21SA‑7. The title is coalition of family advocates, posted on October 26, 2020. The applications are due November 25, 2020.

The start date is January 1st, 2021, the end date is December 31st, 2021. It's a full‑year grant.

The amount of the grant for council funds will be 25$,000. It's a 25$,000 grant.

The amount of the grant for match funds is $6,250, which means the grantee would have to provide or show in kind or volunteer or donated support to the grant of $6,250.

It is a Federal Government requirement that we only pay 75% of the project costs.

And that 25% is given by the grantee. It does not have to be in cash, though, again, it can be in kind services. Volunteer services. And if you are awarded this grant we would go into more details after that point. So I'm going to scroll down a little bit to this section on schedule of events right there.

I just wanted to point unite a few things that you'll see right as soon as you open the grant. It was posted on October 26, the applicant's conference which is today, is November 4th.

The deadline for written questions. And I will talk a little bit more about that, it's Friday November 6th, the deadline for requests for accommodation is also Friday November 6th. November 12th, any questions that we received in writing will be responded to in writing. And posted on our website. November 25th, the application is due in DD suite by 11:59 p.m. So I would just caution you to again ‑‑ it will be through DD suite that you will apply. And the system automatically time stamps applications and when they were received. If it comes in after 11:59 p.m., it will actually show a November 26 date.

Which will be too late.

Between November 30th and December 4th, there will be an application review by the operations and contracts director which is actually me. I don't think I said that earlier.

So there's a prereview by myself to make sure all applicants are eligible. During the week of December 7th through 11, we will have the selection committee, which are members of our council.

Council is similar to a board. So members of our council will review and select finalists who will move on to the final stage of the grant. Between December 14th and December 18th, the selection committee will interview finalists. If it wasn't Covid, we would be interviewing in person. More than likely, we would be interviewing you on zoom, where you would present to us your solution to what you have best to offer in your application.

On December 21st, we will post a notice of intent to award on our website, that means that we have identified the person that we will select. However, all grantees enter into the contract of process, monitored by the state of Georgia. Those contract negotiations and contract processes will take place between December 21st, and December 31st, and again the work will begin on January 1.

That we will have all signed and completed document s for this contract. Next we have ‑‑ I just wanted to notify you that this is a competitive process. And as such, we're governed by certain state requirements for competitive NOFA's. One of those requirements is that you do not contact members of the staff regarding, has my application been received.

Can I ask you a question on this? What can you tell me about that? The opportunity for us all to learn those things is today.

If you do have a question after today, we will answer as many questions as we can today, and post a transcript of this meeting as well for those who are not here.

If you have a question, you will reference what written section of the NOFA you have a question about. And what your actual question is, and I will respond to those questions again by posting them on our website.

Everything must be in writing. We only take questions in writing, and we only respond in writing. And again no one can have a leg up by say, if you know Charlie personally, and call him, and try to get an inside scoop on the grant. Again, everything must be handled publicly and those are the main things I wanted you to see in DD suite.

If you'll go back to the top and maybe even the previous page, where it says apply.

So what you will need to do. I'm going to talk about this further. You'll see there are two buttons, two links, I'm sorry, highlighted. It says log in or sign up.

If you have an account in DD suite already. You would log in. That's generally if you've been a previous grantee of ours. If you have not been a previous grantee of ours, then you will go to the signup button. It will take you through a series of steps to sign up to apply. Again we're just asking that you not wait until the last minute, because you have to sign up before you can apply for the grant.

We're going to leave this screen, Gabby, and I thank you. And we're going to go back to the presentation.

Okay, so I wanted to point out a few other things. You're going to go to DDsuite.org. Before using you must create an account. And then you will either ask to join or create an organization. Let me tell you a little bit about that. If your organization has applied to the council before, you will ask to join your organization.

I'm just going to use an organization as an example. I'm a staff member at the Georgia advocacy office who has received grant funding from the council before, and they have an active account in DD suite. You as a user create your account. And then you join Georgia advocacy office as putting forth this grant.

However, if your organization does not already have an account with us. You create an account as a user, and then you create an account also as an organization. As a tip, do not join GCDD. A lot of times when we say join an organization. People want to join GCDD. That tab is only for ‑‑ to join GCDD is only for staff or councilmembers of GCDD. Those requests come to me. When you ask me to join, I'm going to say no.

I will deny that request. Don't take it personal.

It's that you are to create your own account and/or your own organization. And I would highly encourage you to use the help tab, which is in the top right‑hand corner. I forgot to point that out. But you can't miss it, it's in the top right‑hand corner, when you go to DDsuite.org, it will take you through step by step of everything you need to do.

Again you log in, once you created these accounts. And apply for the NOFA on the Georgia council of developmental disabilities, 21‑SA7. The first step ‑‑ once you get into DD suite, it's going to ask you some basic information. It's going to ask you for the project director information, which is the person who is the day to day person overseeing the project. The financial officer, which is the person who's responsible for the finances, obviously, in submitting invoices. And preparing financial reports. The organization director is generally the executive director or the head of the organization, whoever has signatory authority. It is possible if you are an individual to be the program director, the financial officer and the organization director. But all of those slots must be filled in once you're in the DD suite system.

Okay. I'm not sure. Are you guys seeing my screen?

>> Yes, we are.

>> Okay, for some reason it doesn't. There it is. It's just slow. Now, I have it back up.

We covered that. Project outline is the next section.

We have the ‑‑ these are actually ‑‑ many times people ask, can I see the application first?

You're going to get a copy of this power point from our website. This is actually what the application is asking you.

The first section is the project outline. It asks four questions. It asks for an executive summary. And it says exactly this. Provide a one paragraph abstract that clearly states the goals and major activities of the proposed project. And the impact it will have on people with developmental disabilities. You have a limit of 2500 characters to respond to that question. I would suggest that you possibly fill out your work, answer the question in word.

Do a word count oar character count, and then copy and paste it into this section, into DD suite. The next question it will ask is the qualification section. Describe your organizations qualifications to implement a proposed project. A 2500 character limit. This is stating work you've done in the past or why you're qualified, you or your organization are qualified to do this work. We have the next section will be a detailed narrative, where you will describe in detail, including your specific methodology to be used and the overview of the project activities, this is a 10,000 character response.

And so again, you're to be much more detailed there.

Accomplishments. It could be also phrased as outcomes. What are the major expected accomplishments of the projects. How will successful completion of the project impact people with developmental disabilities. .

After you have implemented the project, what do you see as the end result. You will try to describe that to us.

We'll see if we like your end result better than someone else's end result.

>> The work plan has several areas, it will be the overall goal. The federal area of emphasis, which will be family advocacy, for example.

Collaborators, any that you're working with. A grant type and a kind of activity.

These are check boxes that will be on the application.

Then we get a little more detail.

You have ‑‑ you can create your objectives in your application. Objective one, two. And objectives should be stated in action terms such as to increase or decrease. And they are measurable attainment and realistic.

Under each activity ‑‑ sorry, under each objective, you have activities that will help you meet that objective.

And you will list the activities, you'll have an objective, and you'll say, we'll do these two activities to meet these objectives, and so DD suite will ask you to add an activity at press here to add an activity. For each activity as well, you will assign a staff person to the activity and a time line. So if you are a three person office for example. And one person is going to notify, send out notifications to everyone on the mailing list, that staff person is Sally Jones.

If another person is going to collect the data and put it into a system, that's John Jones.

That would be the staff person. We're going to outline. We're going to do something else month two. You will enter those dates into DD suite. By the time you're finished, we have a complete application of your overall goal, your objectives, your activities, what staff will be doing these activities and at what time line will all of this take place? It's really a work plan that will help govern how you will administer the project.

Then we have the project budget. There are nine categories, eight categories in the project budget. It will start with personnel with fringe. That is generally only for university positions. But personnel without fringe benefits. Consultants or subcontractor services, others you may contract with to help you work on the project.

Any travel costs, it's a little less ‑‑ if you do have any travel costs, supplies and publications for the grant.

Space occupancy. Most people don't use this, if you had ‑‑ when we were in person, you may have to rent or use a space to gather data, meet with individuals. It would be under space occupancy.

Other direct costs are those expenses that are not listed above. But will be occur ing you must have to implement the project. Then we have indirect costs. These are costs that are seen as administrative or overhead expenses. We generally do not pay these costs from council funds. You're welcome to use these costs as you're matching funds. The overhead that it will cost to run your office, you can use that against your $6,250 match.

>> A few application tips, the application can be done in phases or stages. You don't have to sit down and do it all at one time. The biggest tip that I can give you is that once you are in DD suite. And you start on the application. You complete the outline and that was enough for today. Make sure you hit save.

If you don't save, the next time you go back into the application it won't be there.

Some might be there, all the changes you made won't be saved.

Budget amounts should be entered by line item and funding. One of the sections is called funding. The other section is called match.

Funding means the council funds. The 25$,000. How will you spend that. And then the match column is, how will you come up with your volunteer or in kind or overhead work to match the funding column. There are two different columns. Make sure you don't put council money and match. Make sure you don't put match money in the council or funding line section.

Once you see the actual application, it will make more sense.

Again I encourage you to use the help tab on the top right of the home page. And finally, make sure you validate and submit your application. Once you've completed your entire application. Are you sure you want to submit this, have you told the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. You will say yes.

Then you still have to hit the submit button. The application could be sitting there. If you do not hit the submit button, I do not see it, it never gets to GCDD. I won't have access to it, it will not count as being submitted unless you hit the submit button.

Give you an idea of how the process will go. I talked about this a little bit briefly. I'll make it quick. The operations and contracts director will screen each proposal. That's me, we will determine if the applicant is eligible to receive council funds. If the budget is within the funding limits. We ask that you spin. Show how you will spend 25$,000 and how you will match $6,250.

You don't necessarily have to use the whole amount. But I don't know why you wouldn't.

And you definitely cannot go over those amounts. And then you must make sure that the required forms are sent as attachments. I have a checklist for you, which I'll go over shortly.

If those forms are not submitted. You are no longer eligible to continue with the process.

>> Secondly it will automatically reply acknowledging your receipt immediately after submission.

You will receive an email saying, your application has been submitted. I will not separately notify you that your application has been submitted. However, if your application has been determined to be ineligible, so it's not going‑forward with the process, you will be notified within seven days of the due date that your application did not move forward because you were ineligible.

>> So again continuing with the selection and evaluation process, the GCDD chairperson will elect a selection committee.

The criteria are scored for each application. The maximum points you can receive is 1,000, they're ranked and graded. And if it's an exceptional answer, a great answer, a thorough answer, you receive full points for that section. If it's an acceptable answer, but not as great as acceptable, but not exceptional, you receive 4568 the points for that section.

If you didn't answer the question especially in the outline and your work plan, you receive no points for that section.

Oral presentations ‑‑ it will be virtually in a zoom meeting. This will be finalists only to present if selected, and they will take place sometime between December 14th and 18th. You may want to keep that week in mind and free on your calendar. Then I talked to you about the checklist, which is attached to the NOFA once you go through it all. And I would suggest that you print it out.

This will help make sure you've done everything that is required. So the first six items are required to be submitted with your application in DD suite uploaded in DD suite. The last four items are only to be submitted if you are a grantee.

So I will ‑‑ the first one that you want to check off, is that you've gone into DD suite, you've completed the outline, the work plan and the budget and you have hit submit. Again only on line submissions will be accepted. We do not accept mail or facts for any of the requested attachments. If you've done the DD suite part, you will check.

The project data sheet is demographic data that you would fill out, and once you complete and upload that as an attachment, you can hit check.

Project proposal certification. You will complete and submit that also. It's saying that everything you said is true. Small and minority business form. If it's ‑‑ you will complete and submit that as part of your application, this is a state required form. If it doesn't apply to you, you will put not applicable and you will still submit it.

The next thing is the sales and use tax registration, you will complete that form upload it and submit it. The last thing you need to submit is two samples of your work and three references from previous customers or associates.

Once you have those three things uploaded ‑‑ five technically, you can check that off. The next four things again are for you to review only and you do not have to accept that. There is a application that will show you what GCDD's contract looks like, you know you don't warrant to go any further if you don't like the way the contract looks. The federal forms again do not have to be submitted. We want to give you an idea of what they look like in case you're choosing an a grantee. Your financial statements should be submitted if you're chosen as a grantee.

If you do not have audited financial statements, you can submit a balance sheet. If you do not have a balance sheet, we can talk about that during contract negotiations.

These last four are not part of the application process, it's something that you need to be aware of that you will have to submit if you're chosen as a grantee. And lastly, will be the federal W‑9 form you will have to submit if you are chosen as a grantee. We have included those four things so you can review them and know what will be required of you. They do not need to be turned in with the application.

The first six things, proposal, certification, small and minority business form. Sales and use tax. Three recommendations and two samples of your work do need to be completed as part of your application.

I'm not going to go over this, I spent a lot of time on it at the beginning. This is important dates that you need to remember.

These slides will be able to downloaded from our website. Before I go to trolleys specifically. I don't see any questions in the chat.

I am going to proceed and let Charlie take over and talk specifically about what he's looking for. And what will make you a great grantee for GCDD in this wonderful project. And then again we can have questions ‑‑ I don't know Charlie if you prefer your questions to come immediately or in the chat at the end. You can speak to that.

Turning it over to Charlie Miller, and you can introduce yourself too.

>> Thank you, Lisa. My name is Charlie Miller, I work with the Georgia council of developmental disabilities. I am the legislative advocacy director. I get to get in all that good trouble we keep talking about.

First before I go into my spiel about the contract, I want to say, Lisa, thank you so much for going through that with us. I know that was a lot to take in, almost under 30 minutes, 38 minutes. But I will say, y'all when the slides come up on the website.

And you're interested in going further into DD suites with us, please follow those slides.

DD suites is hard enough for me, and I'm on the inside‑ish. So any time I reference is available, I recommend to use it. Thank you.

>> And thank you for all that you're doing.

>> I want to speak a little bit about the grantees, about the RFP and I see there's some questions in the chat. I'll be happy to answer them as soon as I get through my spiel.

The more and more I start answering the questions, the more I get in the weeds and we'll be here all day. We're using a buzz word around coalition. There's a coalition around basically everything in Georgia. Which is always great. I always believe in the self‑advocacy movement. And all these great coalitions that are being brought up. But I have been really looking at, why isn't there a coalition around families. And families that are going to be the ones taking up the advocacy stride.

And also teaching advocacy to their family members that are currently advocating for.

When we're going around the state, we realize there's a good amount of self‑advocates and advocates across the state. We want to make sure we build that family member up.

Just like a high level overview, some of the objectives we're looking for. We're looking for an environmental scanning for practice s that promote inclusive advocacy within family circles.

One thing we're trying to make sure that we let everyone know up front, is that we don't want just a family member to be the advocate. We want them to help teach advocacy throughout that family. So then also one of the other things we're looking for is identifying family advocacy groups that may have had experience with policy and critical advocacy.

A really good point of reference on this one with the recent cuts due to the pandemic.

We've been getting a lot of families that have come out honestly out of ‑‑ all across the state of Georgia. How can we get involved. How can we get something around this advocacy.

And realize there's a want, there's a need of this family type of advocacy, around how they get the family structure involved. Now let's put some structure behind it, put some backbone behind it to make sure we can truly help and make sure everyone's able to advocate for themselves.

Also, we want to develop a plan for how to engage key stakeholders in the community. So that really means like really digging down and figuring out where those quote/unquote hotspots of advocacy. I'll coin a better term for that. Right now, those hotspots of advocacy, where can we find the Savannahs, the Albany, the Atlanta ‑‑ whatever it may be. Those certain spots throughout Georgia, where are they. And then one of the other things we want to make sure is that we don't want this to just be a grant and then okay, grants no more.

We want to have an understanding of a curriculum. Creating the curriculum for educating parents and family members around advocacy, and so that way you can make sure that folks are able to share what they learned arrange their advocacy skills.

A couple things that we are looking for deliverable s and y'all, I'm giving a general overview. You are welcome to add more deliverables if you believe you can add more, please do so. But like I said, a comprehensive curriculum around training for parents to advocate. And to make sure that the advocacy is moving in the right ways.

The families are not just viewing disability from one lens. But from all the lenses like the social lens, the medical lens, whatever it may be. We want to make sure that the family is being involved in it all.

And then we are looking for strategic plan that delineates the statewide issues of the DD community and how the coalition of the family advocates would tackle these issue s and future applications. So we want to make sure that it's not just ‑‑ like I mentioned before, the Savannah people talking or it's not just Atlanta people talking. We want to make sure it's really a ‑‑ an understanding of what the whole community wants. What all of Georgia wants. I know there's a saying that there's two Georgias, one Georgia in Atlanta, one everywhere else outside of Atlanta. And we want to make sure that families are being engaged across Georgia.

And then ‑‑ that's about all I really had right now, and I'm going to go ahead and look at the questions.

The first question is ‑‑ who for the grant could qualify.

>> Okay. I'll answer that, Charlie.

>> Thank you.

So basically, anyone can qualify to be a grantee.

If you are an individual, you would need to have at least an LLC, say any business or entity. You can't just be a person straight off the street. Joe on the corner. You have to be organized or incorporated in some way.

If you have an LLC, you can apply for the grant. Any business or corporation can apply for the grant. Any college or university. Any nonprofit organization can apply for the grant. Just about anybody who is established can apply for a grant. I would caution that if you are a member of an organization, especially a nonprofit or university or really anywhere. Don't apply for the grant if you haven't talked to your people. We have had that happen, where people apply in their individual names or they think they can do it.

They haven't told their university department chair that they're applying for a grant. And we've had grants pulled once say hire ups have found out that people are applying for grants in their names.

It's really up to you to get the proper approval to apply for a grant if you're associated with the nomination.

Someone has to approve you applying for the grant. They will have to sign it.

There's no reason to get an answer to this without approval. If you want to speak up or ask a follow‑up question, you're welcome to do that, we are a relatively small group.

>> We had one other question.

>> Was Tom going to say anything?

>> Yeah, I was going to ask a question or two.

In light of Covid, I'm wondering ‑‑ I know this is a one year grant with possible follow‑up. And somewhere in the notice it talked about legislation ‑‑ involving people in the legislate tour as part of the advocacy. Given that Covid is going to be going on still, at the start of this grant period, I think it would be difficult to do that or ‑‑ and also to train people. I'm just wondering if you were ‑‑ I know there's no guarantee, I wonder if you are looking at this getting started, doing more implementation the next year or something.

>> May I take that one, Lisa?

>> Yes.

>> So thank you for that question. I think you have a good point about this Covid. I think Covid is wearing on us all entirely now. But I will say of all of our grants. When Covid ‑‑ at the beginning of this, we looked at it, and a lot of our grants went online. To where a lot of them are doing those in person meetings, which are always great. But they have now gone online. And we've actually had a really good turnout of people that have been ‑‑ that started their grant preCovid, when Covid hit they all said, you know, hey, we have issues.

We need to change up our budget a little bit. But we worked with them.

And they were able to really be involved and do great justice by the grant. We understand what you're saying, there are ways within zoom or within online capabilities.

>> Okay, thank you.

>> Our grantees, I think what Charlie has been saying, have been very creative, to use the virtual world and technology to accomplish their goals, but you may want to ‑‑ as you said, go in with that in mind. Maybe the time line of the grant may shift some to that a lot of the curriculum may be written first, and then the ‑‑ if necessary, in person implementation, could be toward the end of the year. So those are just possible suggestions. But keeping Covid in mind, we're open to creativity. You answered the question regarding whether it would continue for another year. Not necessarily because of work that could or could not be done in Covid. It could continue beyond one year.

Yes.

>> Part of the reason I was asking that is because of the legislature. And the legislature, I anticipate will be a pretty closed capital again. They're not going to encourage a lot of people down there. So that's.

>> Yeah.

>> That gives you free range to do whatever you want down there, Charlie.

>> Oh, yeah.

And I think we've already started planning and prep ing and making sure we're prepared. I know a lot of our legislative advocacy is turning virtual. This is a really good opportunity to where folks that may have not been able to get to the can ‑‑ capital, say they're in Bainbridge, now they have a good opportunity to be impactful in these areas.

But you bring up some really good points, thank you.

>> We have another question in the chat. Letters of support are needed to reflect dedicated support from project partners.

I don't think they have to be a partner ‑‑ if I'm understanding your question correctly, they don't have to be a partner on this project in order for you to get a letter of support from them.

And I think the letter of support can come from anyone that you have worked with in the past who can vouch and say, yes, you do great work. Charlie, did you have anything to add to that?

>> Did that answer your question?

>> There's ‑‑ in a project there are partners that come in to take a piece of that project. I understand the letters of reference from previous partners.

My question was, would it be advantageous, would it help you to understand if there was a specific signed letter of support from someone who is going to come in as a true partner on this specific coalition building program. Did that make sense?

>> Yes, and I'm glad you came in. I'm sure it would not hurt, but we're not making it a requirement that you have a signed letter of support from anyone you seek to partner with, anything you think will help to improve your application, we will accept it.

>> Just by the way, I like chocolate chip cookies.

>> No. See, this is what gets us in trouble. This is why you can't talk to staff.

>> I'm kidding, I'm kidding, I'm kidding.

>> Staff have needs. No.

This is why they let me do it, I can be a little more impartial. Charlie loves everybody.

We'll be giving out how many people on this call? 12 grants if it were up to Charlie.

>> Seriously, any other questions. You can unmute or put it in the chat. What could be used as sample work? If you've developed a curriculum in the past, you could show what you've done. Any projects that you've done in your office or on your own as a consultant that's related to this type of work, just give us an idea of what you can do.

Even if it's not the full thing, if there's a product or anything you want to present to show what you're capable of. It's pretty open. Again, we're not ‑‑ it's kind of a follow‑up question. We're not prescribing exactly what you should submit. It's whatever you think best reflect s how you can accomplish the goals of this grant.

>> I have one more question. Is your emphasis more on the generic or the training of people to be advocates, rather than to work on some specific issues of priority to the council. Is that up to the grantee?

>> Yeah.

>> I'll give you an out on that.

>> I appreciate that.

And I believe the question that I would take. So I want to say that your first way you put it, I can't put it exactly how you put it, the first way you said it, yes, we're looking truthfully to build the coalition, build an understanding of who is out there. What are the needs from our community. And also in one of the outcomes, we definitely would like a curriculum. But also a ‑‑ an understanding of what the families want to advocate around.

That may be ‑‑ I'm just making up. That may be ‑‑ whatever it may be, we want to know what the community wants to know.

>> Thank you.

>> How many grants are expected to be awarded? We expect to award one grant for 25,000.

If I could give you hope, though, there was a time when we received ‑‑ it was two finalists we could not decide between. And we petitioned our council to find the money and fund them both. That's only happened one time, but keep hope alive.

>> This is Molly Tucker, I was wondering, the purpose is building a coalition, will that coalition be maintained or funded by you guys after the grant is up? Will you support the continuation of that group? Or is that something for us to think about as part of the application?

>> That's a really good question, Molly. I definitely ‑‑ I definitely want to say right now, this grant is scheduled for one year time. And I know Lisa has mentioned something that like maybe in the future, something else could happen with this, in which that is definitely possible. But it's definitely a ‑‑ this is what we got out of the grant. And they're ‑‑ as of right now, we do not have any money set aside to the upkeep or however you want to put it of the coalition.

I'm sure once the grant gets going and we get started, that's something we can talk about.

>> We're in the process now of drafting a five‑year plan. That five‑year plan will determine our funding for the future.

And as Charlie was alluding to, it may work its way into the funding. We don't make any absolute guarantees. We always know that advocacy is at our forefront and one of our three major areas for the council. And generally, after we have a five‑year plan, we don't only fund projects for one year, we keep them going for several years, up to four year renewals are possible. None of that has been determined at this point because we're in the middle of a five‑year strategic planning.

>> Thank you, guys.

>> What are types of volunteer services, and in kind are needed for this grant?

>> I don't necessarily know that volunteer services are needed for the grant. However, if you use a volunteer it could be again the person who has said, we're going to help with this coalition with no cost, or help in the development of this coalition for no cost. You would list those volunteer hours and the costs associated with them, if you had hired them at $15 an hour. And they work for you 20 hours a week.

That would be $300. You would put that under your match. That's just an example. It's not that volunteers are needed. That's an example of how you would meet your match. Did that answer your question?

>> All right. Somebody has to go. I think we're winding up anyway. I'm not rushing anyone, I hope the question about the volunteer services was answered completely.

All right. So if you think of other questions you have until Friday to get them in writing to me by email. My email is my first name, I think I had that on my last slide, Lisa.eaves@GCDD.GA.Gov.

You can get that off our website as well under staff listing. I'll just caution you to spell my last name correctly on the email. Sometimes I get Evans and it doesn't get to me. It's eaves. That is how you can send your questions directly to me. I will respond to them. You will look on our website for coalition of family advocates, questions and responses.

Charlie was there anything else you had to add?

>> No, I want to say thank you. Thank everyone for coming. I'm glad we got to do this today. Thank you, Lisa and Gabby for all your help today. I appreciate you all.

>> And we certainly look forward to receiving some applications again if they're really really good. Maybe ‑‑ we can see a way that we can use you in another way. Don't be afraid to apply to us. We're trying to get more grantees working with GCDD to help us accomplish our goals.

>> Yes, yes. Definitely, please apply. We want to get as many applications as possible.

>> Without further ado, we're going to say happy applications, happy after election day rest. That's what I'm going to do now.

>> All right.

>> Thank you so much.

Bye‑bye.

Bye‑bye opinion