

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR THE AGING

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Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Greg Olsen, Acting Director

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PROGRAM INSTRUCTION

Number: 20-PI-09

Supersedes NA

Expiration Date NA

DATE: July 9, 2020

TO: Area Agencies on Aging, Regional NY Connects Grantees

SUBJECT: Aging and Disability Resource Center/No Wrong Door System Funding Opportunity: Critical Relief Funds for COVID-19 Pandemic Response

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BACKGROUND: The New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) was awarded a discretionary grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to support Aging and Disability Resource Centers/No Wrong Door Systems (ADRC/NWD) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. This funding is a result of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020 for the period of April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 with the ability to expend funds retroactive to January 20, 2020, the date of the federal Major Disaster Declaration (MDD). This emergency funding will support immediate responses to urgent needs resulting from COVID-19 by enabling the NY Connects NWD System to provide critical access functions to those populations most at risk of COVID-19.

PURPOSE: This funding will enable local NY Connects systems to mitigate the adverse effects of the pandemic, including social isolation and limited access to nutritional and personal care services. It will also support efforts to enhance and increase virtual access to services; including paying for broadband internet access for those unable to afford it. The purpose of this funding is to enable the NY Connects NWD System to respond to the emergent and critical needs of its target populations, including younger individuals with disabilities, resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Notwithstanding any provisions in the NY Connects Program Standards to the contrary, funds under this award may be used in providing direct services, including the purchase and/or delivery of meals and groceries, and other basic necessities.

BUDGET DIRECTION: Grantees will receive a Notification of Grant Award (NGA) that will enable claiming against the full allocation. At the end of the program period, final NGAs reflecting actual expenditures will be provided. No formal budget modification will be necessary. The program period is for the period April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. ACL has waived prior approval requirements for pre-award costs incurred from January 20, 2020, the effective date of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020 (sometimes called Phase 1), Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act awards. Thus, these funds may be expended retroactive to January 20, 2020.

REPORTING: The use of these funds is to be in association with NY Connects. Service units are to be recorded as part of NY Connects and NY Connects ILC.

NEXT STEPS: NYSOFA will distribute a forthcoming needs assessment survey that will collect information on critical needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Grantees will be required to complete this survey to specify areas of greatest need and indicate how funding will be used.

- PROGRAMS AFFECTED:**
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-B | <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-C-1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-C-2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-D | <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-E | <input type="checkbox"/> CSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EISEP | <input type="checkbox"/> NSIP | <input type="checkbox"/> Title V |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIICAP | <input type="checkbox"/> LTCOP | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NY Connects | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

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