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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Lori A. Weaver
Interim Commissioner

Patricia M. Tilley
Director

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July 12, 2023

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, to accept and expend federal funds from the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services to improve the shopping experience and increase redemption rates of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Breastfeeding Peer Counseling (BFPC) Services in the amount of \$366,727 effective upon approval by the Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2025, and further authorize these funds to be allocated as follows. 100% Federal Funds.

05-95-90-902010-26970000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVS, HHS: DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES, WIC SHOPPING ARPA

SFY 24

Class-Account	Description	Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	Revised Adjusted Authorized
000-404852-16	Federal Funds	\$0	\$366,727	\$366,727
Total Revenue		\$0	\$366,727	\$366,727
020-500200	Current Expenses	0	\$100	\$100
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$0	\$404	\$404
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$0	\$366,223	\$366,223
Total Expenses		\$0	\$366,727	\$366,727

EXPLANATION

This request is being made to accept federal funds available from US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services to supplement the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Breastfeeding Peer Counseling (BFPC) Services. The overall function of the WIC Shopping Experience

Improvement Grant is to develop a strategic plan and prioritized list of actions in order to increase WIC food package redemption rates across the state.

Feeding America reports that in 2020, 94,450 people were food insecure in New Hampshire, equating to a 7% food insecurity rate. While NH's food insecurity rate is lower than the national average, there are pockets within rural NH that have a food insecurity rate as high as 12.2% (Coos County), which is higher than the national average at 11.8%. Among households with children, New Hampshire's food insecurity rate rises to 9.5%, with Coos county as high as 18%. (Overall (all ages) Hunger & Poverty in the United States | Map the Meal Gap (feedingamerica.org)) NH proposes to learn more about participant shopping patterns, attitudes, experiences and barriers to fully redeeming their WIC food package through individual and group listening sessions. The contractor will use the information learned from WIC participants to develop a strategic plan and prioritized list of actions that the NH WIC Program shall implement in order to improve the WIC shopping experience and increase food package redemptions.

The funds are to be budgeted as follows:

- Class 020 These funds will be used to pay for current expense items such as office supplies, printing, and postage
- Class 041 These funds will be used to pay for audit fund set aside per state requirement.
- Class 102 These funds will be used to hire an outside contractor to develop a strategic plan and prioritized list of quality improvement actions based on key informant interviews and surveys, that the State of NH WIC Program will implement to improve the WIC shopping experience and increase food package redemptions.

In response to the anticipated two-part question, "Can these funds be used to offset General Funds?" and "What is the compelling reason for not offsetting General Funds?" the Division offers the following information: The funds are provided for a specified purpose by the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services as defined in the Notice of Grant Award and cannot be used to offset general funds. These funds will not change the program eligibility levels. No new program will be established with the acceptance of these funds.

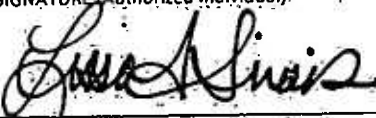
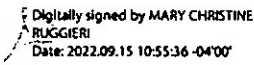
Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: These funds are 100% Federal from the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services (USDA, FNS).

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori A. Weaver
Interim Commissioner

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE		1. GRANT/AGREEMENT NO. USDA-FNS-PAN-WIC Shopping-NERO-NH		2. FEDERAL AWARD DATE	
GRANT/COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT		3. IS THIS AN R&D AWARD? NO	5. UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER NUMBER (DUNS) 011040545 (SAM: LA2HR1U97VC6)		6. FEDERAL AWARD IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (FAIN) N/A
		4. CFDA NUMBER 10.557			
7. FEDERAL AWARDDING AGENCY USDA Food and Nutrition Service		8. CFDA NAME WIC Special Programs Discretionary			
9. RECIPIENT NAME WIC Program Director 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301-6504 ATTN: Lissa Sirois		10. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA FN.WI.7520.01.0100 (ASAP 202221M200344)			
		11. AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS OBLIGATED BY THIS ACTION \$403,400.00		12. TOTAL AMOUNT OF FEDERAL FUNDS OBLIGATED \$403,400.00	
		13. TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE FEDERAL AWARD \$403,400.00			
14. PLACE OF PERFORMANCE NH		15. BUDGET APPROVED BY AWARDDING AGENCY \$403,400.00			
		16. TOTAL APPROVED COST SHARING/MATCHING (WHERE APPLICABLE) N/A		17. INDIRECT COST RATE FOR THE FEDERAL AWARD (PLEASE INCLUDE IF THE DE MINIMIS RATE IS CHARGED) 0.00	
18. MAIL REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO		19. SPONSOR (SPONSORING FNS PROGRAM)			
		20. START DATE 09/26/2022		21. END DATE 09/30/2024	
22. FEDERAL AWARD PROJECT DESCRIPTION FY 2022 WIC Shopping Experience Improvement Grant					
The Grantee/Cooperator hereby assures and certifies that they will comply with the regulations, policies, guidelines and requirements as they relate to the applications, acceptance, and use of Federal funds for this Federally-assisted project including: 2 CFR Chapter I (Office of Management and Budget Government-wide Guidance for Grants and Agreements) and Chapter II (Office of Management and Budget Guidance) as well as 2 CFR Part 200 (Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards); and any USDA Implementing regulations, such as 2 CFR Part 400 (Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards); 2 CFR Part 415 (General Program Administrative Regulations), 2 CFR Part 416 (General Program Administrative Regulations for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments), and 2 CFR Part 418 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).					
23. REMARK					
SIGNATURE OF GRANTEE/COOPERATOR			UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		
SIGNATURE (Authorized Individual)		DATE	SIGNATURE (Grant Official)		DATE
		9-13-2022	MARY CHRISTINE RUGGIERI		 Digitally signed by MARY CHRISTINE RUGGIERI Date: 2022.09.15 10:55:36 -04'00'
NAME (Type) Lissa A. Sirois			NAME (TYPE)		
TITLE Interim Bureau Chief, Population Health and Community			TITLE		
TELEPHONE NUMBER 603-271-0571			TELEPHONE NUMBER		