AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Grant; Public Service Grant Application

Action Requested: County Manager Signature

Parties to the Agreement: BOCC & City of Gunnison

Term Begins: Jan 1, 2019 **Term Ends:** 12/31/2019 **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

This is a renewal grant application to the City of Gunnison. This will fund emergency preparedness work by the Multicultural Resource Services for public notifications etc. It will also increase communication and involvement of limited English proficiency populations regarding Energy-saving

Fiscal Impact: $14,076.36

Submitted by: C Worrall **Submitter's Email Address:** cworrall@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: (●) Required ( ) Not Required

Comments:
If approved, we'll add to budget. No concerns, no match required. ln

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\lNienhueser Discharge Date: 10/10/2018

County Attorney Review: (●) Required ( ) Not Required

Comments:
ok db 10/10/18

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\dBaumgarten Discharge Date: 10/10/2018 Certificate of Insurance Required Yes ( ) No (●)

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 10/10/2018

(●) Consent Agenda ( ) Regular Agenda ( ) Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 10/16/2018

Revised April 2015

Public Service Grant Application

Applicant Information

Organization Name *: Gunnison County

Mailing Address *:

Street Address: 220 N. Spruce St.

Address Line 2:

City: Gunnison

State / Province / Region: CO

Postal / Zip Code: 81230-3450

Country: Gunnison

Website Address: http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/multicultural

Contact Person(s) *: Ellen Pedersen

Email *: epedersen@gunnisoncounty.org

Email Confirmation *: epedersen@gunnisoncounty.org

Telephone Number *: 970 641 0209

Applicant Type *:

- ○ Non-Profit Organization
- ◉ Local, State or Federal Governmental Agency

Private businesses may apply through a local non-profit or governmental agency which will serve as the sponsor and administrative unit for managing the contract with the City.

Application Type *:

- ○ New Application
- ◉ Renewal Application
- ○ Prior Year Reporting Only (not applying for funds in the upcoming funding cycle).

Proposal Information

Program or Service *: Public Service Grant

Amount Requested *: $ 14,076.36

Description* Provide a brief description of the program or service

The Gunnison County Multicultural Resource Services (MRS) requests funding to assist the City of Gunnison in communicating with the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population to accomplish the following Strategic Priorities and Results delineated in the City of Gunnison 2017 strategic plan:

A. Infrastructure & Safety: Result #3: Emergency Preparedness

B. Community Engagement: Result #1: Two Way Communication

C. Livable and Affordable Housing Infrastructure & Safety: Result # 3: Energy and Weatherization Program

Funding will cover .2FTE for the MRS coordinator.

Of the 200 families served by the MRS in 2017, 70% resided within the city limits and often were unaware of activities and opportunities offered by the City of Gunnison as well as their responsibilities as community members. This was due to language barriers as well as lack of participation in community discussions.

Established in 2001, the MRS is part of the Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services DHHS). Several organizations and foundations have provided funding over the years, including: The Colorado Health Foundation, Caring for Colorado Foundation, The Colorado Trust Immigrant Integration Initiative, Office of Health Disparities, and El Pomar Foundation. The MRS has also received local funding from the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley, The Rotary Club, and Project Hope, as well as through the Gunnison Department of Health and Human Services (Public Health and Human Services programs), such as Mentor's Youth Program Tobacco Education & Prevention grant, FAST (Family Advocacy Support Team), GCSAPP (Gunnison County Substance Abuse Prevention Program) among others.

Currently, the MRS coordinator's time is funded by the Colorado Health Foundation (41.3%) (funding ends December 2018); Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment through Healthy Communities (29%) to provide care coordination for children with Public Insurance; City of Gunnison Public Service Grant (8.8%); Regional Care Coordination Organization (RCCO) (5%) to provide care coordination for adults and children on Medicaid and/or Medicare; Colorado Legal Services (5.8%) for prevention of Human Trafficking; County Admin (5.3%); and The State Innovation Models (*SIM*) initiative (5%) to work on suicide stigma reduction with LEP families. The SIM grant ends August, 2019. We have applied for a 2019 grant from Delta Dental to provide oral care for children and low income, uninsured pregnant women.

Since the inception of the MRS, our efforts have focused on increasing equitable access to public services, specifically culturally and linguistically appropriate health care for minority Limited English Proficiency (LEP) residents. The MRS coordinator serves as a community resource for information, providing interpretation and translation services, and culturally appropriate health education and information, assisting people in receiving the care they need, giving guidance on health behaviors, and advocating for individual and community health needs.

The MRS works closely with multiple local partners including the local school system, juvenile services, law enforcement, domestic violence programs, substance abuse prevention programs, Western Colorado University, mentoring programs, adult English education, food pantry, the library, and many other organizations within Gunnison City limits.

Many of these partners contact the MRS for guidance around cultural and linguistic competencies or advice on how to engage the LEP community. Over the years close informal collaboration with the City of Gunnison has occurred. In 2017, the City awarded the MRS the Public Service Grant to work on communication with the LEP population as delineated in the Countywide OVPP (One Valley Prosperity Project).

Formalization of the collaboration through the Public Service Grant allowed the MRS coordinator to inform the City Council about the services provided to our LEP city residents and to continue providing services such as:

- Helping LEP residents understand the correspondence they get from the City, including the Utility Bills and calling Finance to ask questions on behalf of City residents
- Translating posters and flyers for events organized by the City of Gunnison and promoting the events by posting on social media in Spanish
- Interpreting when City Police have encounters with a LEP family, especially when there is a youth in conflict, where the officer requests cultural information or have language barriers.

During the 2018 grant period we conducted a first time ever World Cafe-format needs assessment of the LEP population resulting in a working document that outlines the opinions of +50 participants on Communication, Health & Housing, Mental Health, Parenting & Childcare issues. This document can be used as the primary format to be further developed over time so we do not reinvent the wheel every time we try to include LEP community members. As a response to the OVPP and the World Cafe event, we also had "talk to Law Enforcement" events in collaboration with the Library and Inmigrantes Unidos de Gunnison where we provided a safe place for our community to ask important questions and to get to know each other.

Fourteen LEP families attended a presentation by the Gunnison Housing Authority to inform and promote the weatherization program. In attendance were City dignitaries, the Housing Authority Director and LEP families. The event was very well received and several families signed up for the program.

Flyers for all events organized by the City of Gunnison were translated into Spanish and distributed. A larger project consisted of the translation into Spanish of an insert for the Rec Center program that includes the most important information about the use of the facility, prices and scholarships, and a brief explanation of the content of the activities, as well as the ages and days/time of the classes. In subsequent years the flyers and the Rec Center insert will only need minimal updating.

Funding Impact* Please describe the resulting impact to your program or service in the event funding is not approved or your application is only funded in part

The MRS serves the LEP community of hard-working people eager to be integrated and welcome in our community. Seventy percent of the MRS clients live within the city limits as our neighbors contributing to our economy, paying taxes, and sending their children to school so they can be good citizens.

In 2017, the MRS served 243 families comprised of 643 individuals, of which 232 were children [Please see attached 2017 Newsletter].

As City residents, they need to be cognizant of their rights and responsibilities and not be limited due to the language barriers. In the case of an emergency, clear communication to all community members is essential to prevent worse outcomes.

Many LEP families live in substandard housing with poor insulation and low energy efficiency. LEP families' participation in the Energy and Weatherization Program will improve the quality of life of our community as well as save resources.

LEP families need a better understanding of marijuana prevention programs for our youth as well as how drug use affects brain development.

Population served: 600

Justification* Why do you think the program or service should be funded by the taxpayers of the City of Gunnison?

We live in ONE VALLEY and the Prosperity of the entire population is affected by the wellbeing of every segment. According to the OVPP web page, the One Valley Prosperity Project focuses on achieving a more prosperous and successful future for **all of our valley's communities**. Lack of funding to provide services for the LEP community members affects our entire community.

Communication with the LEP populations becomes especially important during emergencies when language and cultural barriers can have dire consequences to individuals, first responders, and the entire community.

Also, a healthy community can only be achieved if every segment is healthy. The MRS has a longstanding level of trust with the LEP community resulting in high rate of participation in the annual mass flu immunization clinics and other emergency preparedness events.

Increased participation of the LEP community members does not come without a great amount of work, such as coordinating bilingual interpreters, collaborating with local organizations and programs, translation and dissemination of materials, as well as understanding the needs of the LEP community.

Special Marijuana Tax Revenue Eligibility *	Does this program or service impact regulation of the marijuana industry or provide social, recreational, and educational programs within the community such as substance abuse prevention, education and counseling? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Special Marijuana Tax Revenue Justification* Please indicate why you believe your request program and service should be funding in whole or in part with Special Marijuana Sales Tax revenues.

Our community's youth drug and alcohol prevention efforts cannot be successful without parent support. Many of the parents of the families served by the MRS have very basic formal education and need extra help to find out what resources are available to support them in their efforts to prevent their children from using drugs and alcohol. The language barrier, unfortunately, also exists within families where, for example, parents speak Cora and Spanish and the children are fluent in English but are barely able to communicate with their parents' language. Therefore, we cannot expect the children to rely information that may not be convenient for them.

The MRS works closely with GCSAPP communicating with the with the LEP parents of middle and high school students. We make phone calls to all parents of eligible students to inform them about the benefits of the Choice Pass and encourage them to sign up and assist during the sign up campaign. Despite all the efforts over the years to include LEP families many still do not know or do not understand the benefits of the Choice Pass. Additional funding to improve LEP understanding of Choice Pass with greater outreach to parents will improve prevention efforts by the MRSW.

The efforts of the MRS have resulted in more students of LEP families signing up. According to data obtained from the Choice Pass program, the number of students from LEP families that signed up for the Choice Pass decreased by 33% during a time when the MRS coordinator had limited hours to devote to this program.

In 2019 when funding from the Colorado Health Foundation will no longer be available, the MRS will not have funds to dedicate time to drug and alcohol prevention programs.

Please list three measureable objectives and include how attainment of the goals/objectives will be measured.

Objective #1* By the end the grant period, the MRS coordinator will identify current emergency preparedness efforts carried out by the City of Gunnison and provide assistance to convey the information to LEP community members. This objective will be achieved by meeting with key employees of the City of Gunnison and providing Cultural and Linguistic recommendations and suggestions that can help build trust with LEP community members so they can be prepared in case of an emergency.

Objective #2 By the end of the grant period fliers of events or materials related to Emergency Preparedness, Energy and Weatherization Program, and Rec Center insert will be translated and/or updated as needed. This will be demonstrated by the final products and the increase in participation in community events, and Rec Center, HEAT program, and the increase in awareness in emergency preparedness quantified by a phone survey.

Objective #3 By the end of the grant period, the MRS will continue collaboration with GCSAPP to promote the Choice pass awareness and attend sign up events. The MRS Coordinator will be involved in parent education (selection of materials, selection of topics to present, promotion, and teaching parenting classes or act as an interpreter. This will be quantified by the number of students signing up for the Choice Pass, parenting classes taught/interpreted, and number of parents attending parenting classes.