



AMERICORPS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Spring 2014

**Mobilizing Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through
volunteering, collaboration, and national service programs**

National Service Network

Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

- **ServeNebraska**



ServeNebraska

- **Corporation for National & Community Service State Office**



Foster Grandparents
RSVP
Senior Companions

- **Vinton, Iowa NCCC Campus**



About ServeNebraska

20th Anniversary of ServeNebraska & AmeriCorps

- #Impact20



ServeNebraska Week - April 20-26

- Encouraging all Nebraskans to get involved in their communities



Mayor's Day of Recognition - April 1





- **National Service**
- **Local solutions to meet local needs**
- **Dedicated individuals addressing urgent community needs**
- **Direct Service [not clerical or managerial]**
- **A competitive grant process open to:**
 - **nonprofit organizations**
 - **public entities**



To Organization

- **Increased capacity to provide new or expanded service**

To Member

- **Experience**
- **Living Allowance**
- **Educational Award**
- **Student loan forbearance**
- **Health insurance (full time only)**
- **Child care subsidy (full time income eligible only)**

- **Cost Reimbursement – THE MOST COMMON**
- **Fixed Grant Pilot**
 - must utilize full-time members only
 - reduced financial reporting
- **Education Award Only**
 - very limited support for operations
 - members get no living allowance
 - only member benefit is educational award

- **Disaster Services**
- **Economic Opportunity**
- **Education**
- **Environmental Stewardship**
- **Healthy Futures**
- **Veterans & Military Families**
- **Locally Identified Need**



Application Basics



Application Deadline
April 18

Request for Application and related materials
serve.nebraska.gov

eGRANTS
egrants.cns.gov

Apply online

- Create account
- Fill in the fields

DUNS Number Needed

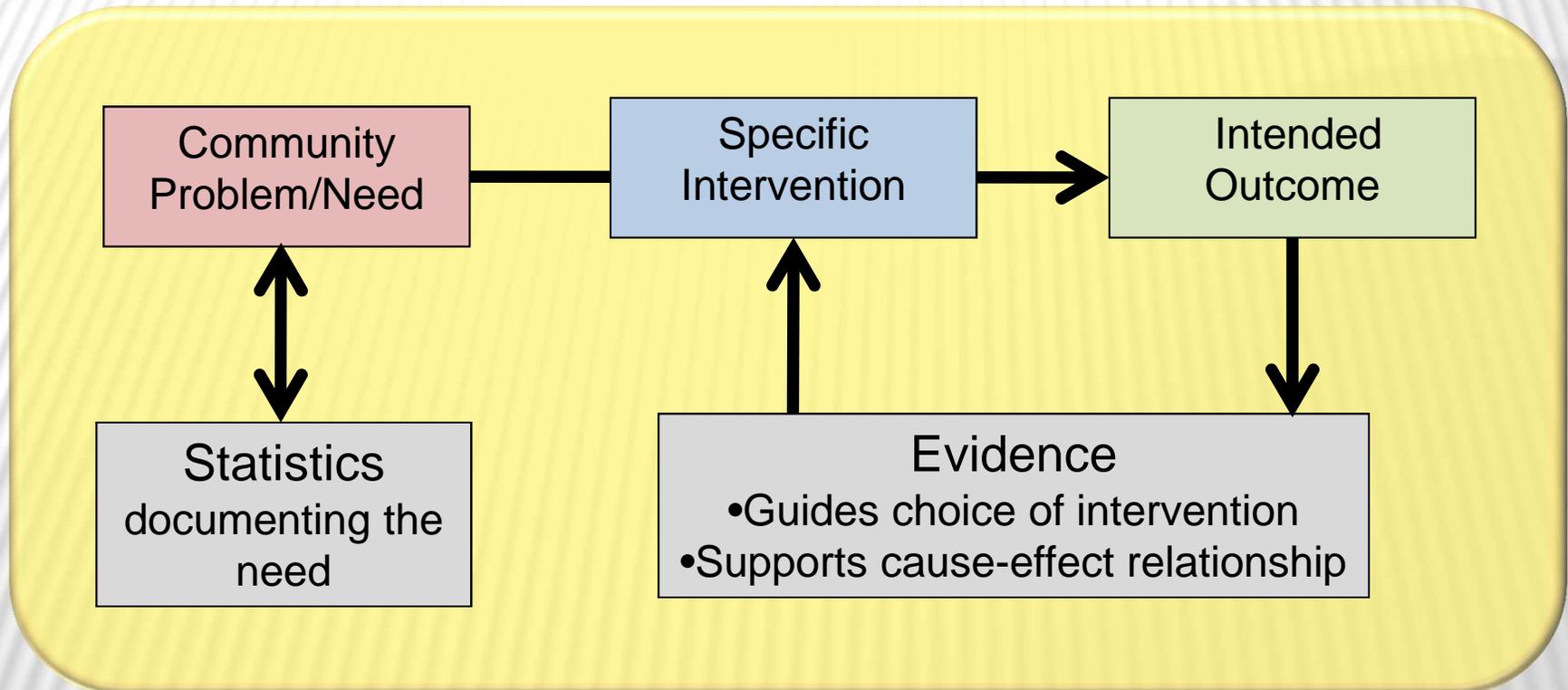
- Instructions in Request for Applications

Minimum Program Size:

5 Full Time AmeriCorps members (or equivalent)

15 page limit

- Does not include performance measures, budget, budget narrative or supplemental documents



In designing project & application

Simple is Best

but

Simple Can Be Hard

- **Clearly defined need**
- **Straightforward approach**
- **Clear Outcomes**
- **Strong Organizational Capacity**

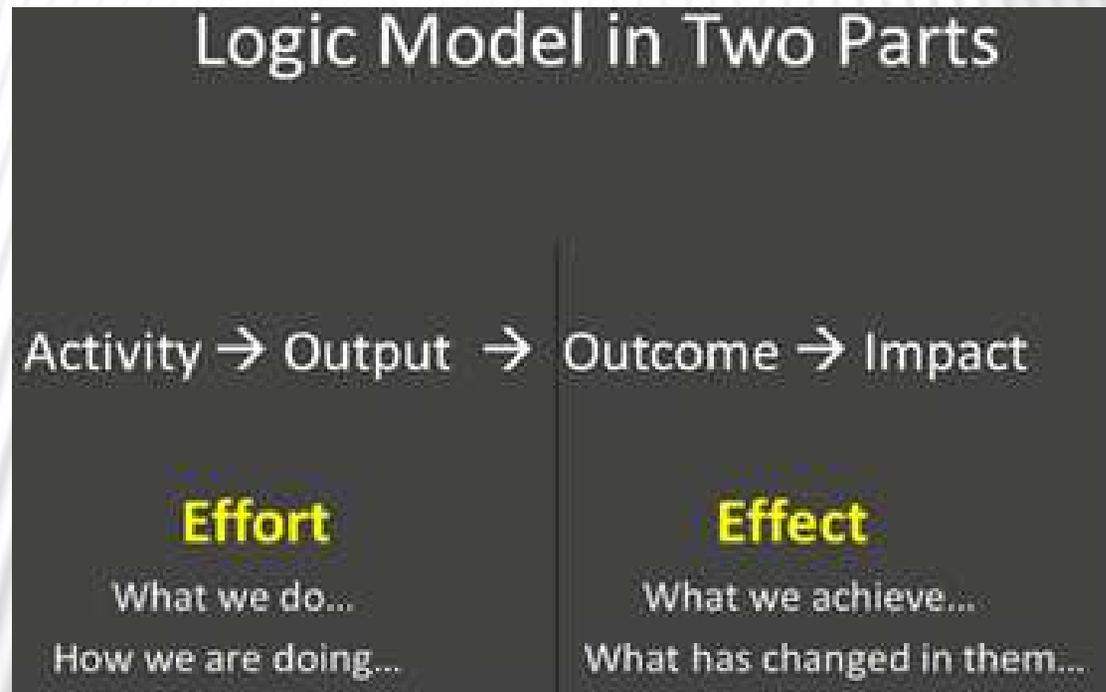
- Executive Summary
- Need
- Approach / Logic Model
- Organizational Capacity
- Performance Measures
- Budget / Budget Narrative
- Supplemental Documents

Defining Need

Document with compelling data

- Current or Most Recent
- Local
- Relevant

Approach / Logic Model



Approach / Logic Model

- Be as specific as possible
What - Where – Who – When – How
- Evidence Based or Informed
The stronger and more relevant the evidence (studies), the better
- Clearly Define Member
Training, Activities & Supervision

Organizational Capacity

- **Organizational Experience**
- **Staffing**
- **Assuring Compliance & Accountability**
- **Past Performance (if applicable)**

- **Cost Effectiveness**
- **Budget Adequacy**

Performance Measures

- Include Output & Intermediate Outcome
Activity & Impact
- Standard Performance Measures
Developed by CNCS
In priority focus areas

Budget

Request is Based on MSY

MSY = Member Service Year = 1700 Hours

(1700 Hours = Term of Full Time AmeriCorps Member)

Maximum Request = \$13,300 per MSY

\$13,000 for Fixed Grant Pilot projects

Slot Possibilities (You can mix & match)

Full Time	1700 Hours
Half Time	900 Hours
Reduced Half Time	675 Hours
Quarter Time	450 hours
Minimum Time	300 Hours

Budget

- **Complete fully**
- **24% matching requirement for first 3 years. Grows after that. Match can be cash or in-kind**
- **Make sure sources of match are approved & permissible**
- **You have discretion - there are no budget line items that must use grant funds or matching resources**
- **Administrative expenses capped at 5%. ServeNebraska is claiming 2% to cover its costs. Build this into budget.**

Budget

Use the worksheets & checklist included in the Request for Applications ATTACHMENTS

Among the things you must budget for are:

- **Criminal history background checks for members & program staff**
- **Living allowances for full-time members of at least \$12,100**
- **Required fringe benefits for members and staff**
- **Health insurance premiums for full-time members**
- **Service gear (shirts) for members**

Supplemental Documents

- Logic Model
- Organizational Chart
- Letters of Commitment from Key Partners
- Host Site Applications (if applicable)
- Labor Concurrence (if applicable)
- Indirect Cost Rate Determination Letter (if applicable)

Email to greg.donovan@nebraska.gov

Questions?

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