

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF Aging Services

Senior Save Navigators: Education, Outreach and Application Assistance for the NJSave Programs

TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein.

Program Name: Senior Save Navigators: Education, Outreach & Application Assistance for the NJSave Programs.

Purpose: This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Aging Services (DoAS) to implement an education, outreach and application assistance initiative that will Expand enrollment in State-funded programs for older adults and individuals on social security disability insurance (SSDI).

With the passage of P.L.2023, C.79, not only were the income limits raised but also funding was made available to create Senior Save Navigators to assist in making NJ seniors aware of all of the benefits available to them through the NJSave application and to assist with the application process.

The NJSave application provides a single pathway to connect NJ seniors and individuals on SSDI with assistance programs that can assist in lowering the cost of: prescriptions, Medicare, utilities, hearing aids, and screen them for additional help with utilities, food, and prescriptions through other State and federal programs.

DoAS is soliciting proposals from entities hereafter referred to as “Provider Agencies or organizations,” to outreach low-income older adults and individuals receiving SSDI in New Jersey to increase enrollment in NJSave programs among all eligible individuals, by assisting with the following:

- Engage older adults and individuals receiving SSDI and provide NJSave application assistance;
- Assist in creating online NJSave application accounts for applicants;
- Improve community awareness of the NJSave programs and their role in helping older adults and individuals receiving SSDI continue to live independently in their communities;
- Identify and utilize innovative and/or best practices for targeted community outreach and enrollment, including digital methods, such as social media, text and email communication;
- Expand relationships with community agencies and develop new community partners who can help outreach and enroll older adults and individuals receiving

SSDI; and

- Promote increased enrollment in underserved communities by building trust between immigrant communities and the NJSave programs through culturally competent and language accessible outreach.

Available Funding Amount: Total funding for this program is six million nine hundred and ninety thousand (\$6,990,000) for two years effective July 1, 2023, subject to appropriations.

NJ DHS-DoAS anticipates making up to fifteen (15) community-based outreach grants in the amount of four hundred and sixty-six thousand (\$466,000). Successful bidders are responsible for regional coverage of the State to educate, outreach and provide application assistance for NJSave-eligible individuals.

Who Can Apply/Bidder Qualifications: To be eligible for consideration for this RFP, the bidder must satisfy the following requirements:

- The bidder may be a non-profit, for-profit, or governmental entity.
- The bidder must be in good standing with DHS if it has an existing grant or contract in place. If applicable, the bidder must have all outstanding Plans of Correction (PoC) for deficiencies submitted to DHS for approval prior to submission.
- The bidder must be fiscally viable based upon an assessment of the bidder's audited financial statements. If a bidder is determined, in DHS' sole discretion, to be insolvent or to present insolvency within the twelve (12) months after bid submission, DHS will deem the proposal ineligible for grant award.
- The bidder must not appear on the State of New Jersey Consolidated Debarment Report at <http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/debarment/debarsearch.shtml> or be suspended or debarred by any other State or Federal entity from receiving funds; and
- The bidder shall not employ a member of its Board of Directors in a consultant capacity.

To be eligible for consideration for this grant opportunity, the organization must satisfy the following additional requirements:

- Must demonstrate an established relationship with the communities they serve;
- Must demonstrate experience with ethnically diverse target populations, including undocumented immigrant populations;
- Demonstrate at least two (2) recent years of experience providing culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate services to ethnically diverse and immigrant communities, which may include, but should not be limited to, immigrant communities from the following geographic regions of origin: Asia/Pacific Islands, Central America, South America, the Caribbean and Africa.
- Must have the ability to provide outreach and NJSave application assistance during the business week, as well as during weekends and evenings;
- Internet connection, landline and mobile phone, and fax capabilities are required;
- Must have the capacity to conduct outreach to the community in-person,

virtually and/or over the phone on a regular basis (may attend events organized by other community or faith-based organizations, local businesses, or government agencies);

- Must have, or create, a social media presence and partnerships with other organizations that have a social media presence;
- Must have, or create, electronic newsletter distribution lists used to disseminate state-approved messaging; and
- Must have the ability to provide NJSave application assistance in languages other than English.

Proposal Procedure: Effective January 17, 2024, the Request for Proposal (RFP) is available at <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/>. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

Prospective Bidder Questions to the State:

Deadline to submit questions:
January 31, 2024 by 3:00 P.M. EST
Submit questions to:
Doas@dhs.nj.gov

Submission Deadlines: Proposals must be received via email at: Doas@dhs.nj.gov no later than 3:00 P.M. EST on February 28, 2024.

Notification Date: Bidders are responsible for monitoring the DHS website for updates to the RFP schedule. <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/rfprfi/>.

January 16, 2024

Sarah Adelman, Commissioner

Date