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Session 3: The Senior Companion Program\_2019-11-06\_Transcript

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EC

>>: Good afternoon and thank you for joining us for because this webinar is being recorded. The audio for this event is broadcasting by phone and online. This webinar is lecture only because the microphones are muted to reduce background noise.

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All right it looks like we have a lot of yeses. Everyone sound is working. Brian, you have the floor.

>>: Thank you very much Jeff. I will start by just building off of what you did right there. Where it says to on the chat box, you will see all panelists next to that. You can click that all panelists and switch it to all panelists and attendees if you like. That will let everybody see anything that you share with her to be a question or comment.

That is how we will see the questions and we can see what everyone is asking and learn from each other. If you want to, go ahead and switch that to all panelists and attendees and do that now.

We have a Shia group here today. Once again, there we go, thank you Kelly for starting us off followed by many others.

I am joined by one of my colleagues here today, Courtney, who is our competition

Guru, combat competition master or what have you.

>>: Good afternoon everyone.

>>: Thank you for joining us Courtney. Like I said, the chat box is how we will take questions here today. Though there may be some moments where we wait until the right moment to pick up questions after we get there some material. They may be some particularly complicated questions that are really specific to your particular situation or your particular opportunity and if that is the case, we will refer you to an e-mail box that I will share later on.

Before we get too much further, we want to get a sense of who is in the room here today. If you are an organization who has received a federal grant before, it is totally okay if you have not. The Corporation for National Community Service is a great place for people to start a partnership with a federal entity. It is good to know who has that experience and it will come up in a few moments.

It looks like most people have, but not everyone and that is totally okay. You are in the right place if you have not.

We have a couple more questions to get a sense of the room. Let's see how well you all know SeniorCorps. Are you brand-new to the webinar, are you a grantee or are you familiar with our work? I will give people a minute to answer that.

Okay, let's share the results that we have gotten. A pretty good distribution. For those who are in community, thank you for all that you have done to make this so vibrant. For this who are new to this, this is when I get to share our work for this community with those who may be to National Service or SeniorCorps. You are in right place. We will focus specifically on one of our programs, Senior Companion Program. That is the program that is available for competition right now. Know that you can learn more about the work that we do as we go along.

We have one final question. Let us know if you have attended any of our previous webinars about this competition. There have been two of this. One yesterday and one

that came before. Let us know if you have attended either of those.

We still have a few answers coming in so I will wait one more second. Let's share those results there. Again, a pretty even distribution. Once again, I will show you in a minute or you can get information that goes beyond the scope of today's webinar if this is your first entry into the process.

This is one of this series of four. We will go ahead and go to that right now this is one of this series of -- cutting out -- we are focusing on Senior companion here today. If you want more level information of the competition as a whole, we will have a recording of this perception up by next week. You can check out this webinar on the competition homepage and the same link that you used to register for this webinar.

There will be a recording of this webinar.

For those who have attended earlier webinars, they can be a little bit of repetition as you can see we have plenty coming in for the first time and we want to make sure everyone is working with equal opportunities. We will cover the same sort of one-on-one introduction to this process. We want to go into as much depth.

For those of you who attended yesterday's webinar about this grandparent program, as you may have already been thinking, there are a lot of programs. You will find there are some overlaps as well. Have how that may come to pass with the same income thresholds. Whatever the information is coming we will see that in the preparation course.

What are we going to focus on in this webinar? We will recap the competition basics. We will also help you to try to understand the Senior Companion Program and if it is right for you. We want you to leave this webinar confident in your decision. We think it is a really good program and we hope you apply. We also want you to develop a realistic application. We will go through some of the ins and outs of the program. You want to know how it works so that way your application is ready to be implemented if it is chosen on the applications that we received.

One more night before we get into the actual content, I mentioned that mailbox and it is good to zero in on it right now. I will also type it into the chat box to make sure we all have it. If there are any questions we don't get to today or that are specific to your situation or your organization, that is the mailbox for you. Please don't hesitate to submit any questions you may have.

We will make sure that we refer to that resource.

With all of that out of the way, Courtney I will handed over to you.

>>: Thank you Brian. Competition for foster grandparent and SeniorCorps program is open right now. You are able to submit an application anytime between now until our application deadline, which is 5:00 p.m. on December 6. This competition is a replacement competition so we have limited geographic areas that are open for funding. That information about exactly where those locations are, we will talk about a little bit more later. It is also available on the website that Brian pointed out and is linked on the bottom of the screen. Also, for any information, any review of any of the information we talked about in terms of competition today, you can check out the website or e-mail us at the following e-mail or we can answer questions.

>>: Aren't going to come in sorry to interrupt your flow, but I saw a question come in and I think it is a pretty important when. I think it may be pausing. Is the application available now?

>>: Yes, you can sign in if you have an account that is the electronic grants and attachment system to start the application if you are ready to take that step.

>>: Great.

>>: This slide is a snapshot of the opportunities available throughout the country. For those of you who can see it, some of the states are listed in blue and those will be for the foster grandparent program. The orange or red color states are the ones that have senior companion programs available. The green states have opportunities for both programs. Our presentation today will focus mainly on the orange and green

opportunities that are available.

This is a snapshot of our Appendix A, which is the listing that is on our competition website. This is from left to right and shows the state, the amount of federal funding for CNCS that is available for the program, our projected start date of each grant based on our competition timeline, the minimum level of volunteer services that is acquired based on the funding level, which we will talk about a little later and in the areas affected in terms of the locality within the states that are open for funding.

Sorry, I was having a little issue. As Courtney mentioned, we will come back to the volunteer service information and if you want to know more about that, just hang on to those questions.

Okay, with that we will dive in to the real meat of our topic here today, the Senior companion program is that is what we are focusing on. For Senior Companion Program. Before I go on, I do want to take one question here because it is useful to point out. A says the upper UPS as a potential site for county in Michigan that is the lower part of the state. There is a reason why I wanted this. The way this map works is that it is state-by-state.

Michigan is what we are trying to show there and I apologize if that is not clear. What is worth highlighting, in these different states, there are specific areas that are available. In other words, the way this competition works, typically there are occasional exceptions, but as a rule, you will not be applying for all of Michigan, you will be applying for one particular area. I just want to throw that in as an example. You are just going to see a particular portion. Those are what you will see in Appendix A.

That is what you will see here. You will see these portions. That map is showing state-by-state. What you need to do is go to Appendix A and the SEC program will assign the specific areas that are available.

We are going to talk about these four topics over the course have them webinar, volunteers, volunteer stations, volunteer assignments and performance. Before we do

that, we want to highlight there is a lot of places where you can get more information. I will not be able to tell you everything you need to know about the companion program. Courtney will anyone else to be frank. It will take more than just sitting down for an hour. It is going to take some digging into additional information. Here are some sources of information and I will show you how to use a couple of these as we got throughout the content. First, we have a series of impact videos that I think are really fantastic because they show you what the program actually looks like.

Secondly, we have our SeniorCorps stories that is a series of vignettes have SeniorCorps volunteer experiences. One thing I want to emphasize is these programs are meant to have a dual impact both on their community and on volunteers. I think the stories capture that really well.

We will talk about how to find information about national service activities are going on in your state. These are activities that not are just under the Senior Companion Program, not just under the SeniorCorps program, but under the banner of the Corporation for National community service and that is a federal agency Courtney I are talking about. There are these activities as well as several more. If you are not familiar with this, I encourage you to follow this link and to go to see it right now.

In addition, if you see the Senior Companion Program and you do see an opportunity in your area, this is another fantastic resource as you can go see if there is already a program near you and if they are looking for partners. They are a cornerstone element of this program. If you want to learn more, but you are not located in one of these areas up for competition, please use that link and see what is going on in your area and what opportunities are available for you to partner with.

The final two researches I will not talk about much as those are the ones I will show you later. That is where you can't go to learn about the day-to-day programs. That is where you can go to managing these grants. We will see these as we go.

We have another question about the service areas available ergo I will point you to

Appendix A on the competition website as that is where you will find a service areas available. Go to Appendix A and you will see the service areas available for competition right now.

Final resource, we have mentioned in a bunch. This is in the service area that is available. Please go there and in a little bit I will be able to put that in the chat box to have a quicker way to get there.

First, we will check out a little video as I like this perspective of the Senior Companion Program. You will see some changes on your screen as I pull this up.

VIDEO: She is more than just someone I do errands with. He is more than a companion, he is a friend. She is more than someone who needs reminders. She is more than a client because she is my friend and I enjoyed being with her. She is definitely more than someone that describes me to my appointments. I learned a lot from her. She is a great companion to be with.

She is like a daughter to her because she is like family to me. She is someone that I love to laugh with. I will take and drive in the country and there is a natural setting. She is the reason to get out of bed and get moving. When we are out and about and doing things together, that is something I really look forward to.

I take them to doctor's appointments, but we do so much more. Without her, without my senior companion I could not get out of my house. You can help an independent, join SeniorCorps @seniorcorps.gov.

>>: I apologize, hold on for one second while I pull up our presentation.

I had to get back into the presentation. If you are not seen the slides, let me know, but I think we are back in business. I did or I will right now but a URL to the competition homepage. There is a shorter URL that we have shared with you that works as well. You can go find the Appendix A where we have the important information about the service area available to you.

Let's talk about the Senior Companion Program. I really like that video as it does a

great job of showing the dual purpose of the Senior Companion Program. What we have on the screen here is that it is a lot of text, but it is important because this talks about the regulations that establish this program. This is written into law as the purpose of the Senior Companion Program. Hopefully, some of you will fall into that category.

For the dual purpose, engaging persons 55 and older, particularly those with limited incomes and volunteer service and meet critical community needs. To provide a high-quality experience that will enrich the lives of volunteers.

Programs to support senior companions and provide supportive individual services to help older adults keep their dignity and independence. That is the purpose of the program. There are a few things we will pull out of that and talk about. I have hinted about it already is the dual purpose of engaging individuals 55 and older to serve their community. Also providing a high-quality experience to this volunteers themselves.

The second is the specific purpose on focusing on volunteers with limited income and we will talk about how that plays out. Finally, at the bottom, providing support of individualized service to help older adults maintain their dignity. Those four principles combine to create the Senior Companion Program as we know it.

Let's start by thinking about our volunteers a little bit as we just saw. Volunteers in this program do not have the specific focus to provide opportunities to serve for those who are of limited income. Anyone over the age of 55 make sure as a volunteer they may serve as a senior companion volunteer however, for those under 200% of the poverty level, they are eligible to save a small stipend for their service. That stipend right now is set at \$2.65 an hour.

The idea is that we have a lot of research that we will talk about that shows that volunteers are part of this program and the explicit purpose is to make the opportunity accessible to volunteers who have limited income. This helps to that.

There are other potential cost reimbursements as well like supplemental insurance, meals, transportation, recognition. Many as you probably have some

questions like what counts as income and how do I go about getting this check? We have resources that can help you. We will not be able to answer all of those questions and how you use some of the resources to answer the questions. The two things we will use are the two resources that I cruised past when looking at our resources earlier today.

The Code of Federal Regulations and our operations handbook. Let's take them one at a time and I will navigate them and show you how they work. CFR.gov, it stands for Code of Federal Regulations. That is the official rulebook for the federal government and those of you who have had other federal grants will probably recognize that Code of Federal Regulations often abbreviated CFR and we encourage you to use CFR. This is the rulebook for the federal government. There is a chapter called Title 45, part 2551 about this program.

In addition to the grantees who are grantees who have grants, it helps to sort through the day today question. Let's see how we can use those. The question we have is how do I know what counts as income? How do I know what counts as income for the Senior Companion Program? We will start here. I just told you the specific chapter of the Code of Federal Regulations. The first way we are going to do it is through the Code of Federal Regulations.

There is a lot of ways to get there. One way is to search any search engine we are looking for the easiest as this is the official source. The CFR.gov is the official source and you know that is official so you can click on that.

As you can see here, we have all of our regulations and they generally are in the form of a question and answer. What counts as income? If I scroll down here, I can see they have that actual question. One hint in case you don't know this, if you hit control F and throw out any web browser it will do a keyword search for you. You have the control F.

I can click on this to see what is considered income. I have my information right

here. This is what is considered a companion program.

This is a specific question and we will not go through everything, but the key point I want to illustrate is how you can use this to find out your and answers to questions that you have as you go through this process and consider whether or not this program is right for you.

The other thing you can do is use the resources that we provide our grantees right now because this is the website that we call Managed Senior Core it was on the list of resources that we call showed earlier and I pasted that into the chat box for the program handbooks and supplement.

This includes a Senior Program, but where you can get the most information by clicking on this as it goes to a whole list of all of the handbooks and all of the appendices that we have. Those are often templates in a similar kind of tool.

To show you how these handbooks are organized, go to the table of content and you can see we have volunteer assignments. Those are two ways that you can find more specific information than what we are able to provide here today.

Let us know about volunteers as we mentioned this before. Why does this program have the dual purpose and why do we think it is important to offer those with limited income? Part of the reason is because we know volunteering helps older Americans stay healthy. We have done our own study here for the community service. This compares this in the program for two years for those who are less appropriate. We found those who stayed in the program are less socially isolated, have better health and are less depressed. That contributes to a body of knowledge that indicates that volunteering is a great way for older Americans to stay connected because that has real concrete benefit.

Part of the dual purpose is also getting out into the community and working and you need support to live independently. My senior companion programs do that through a network of stations. If you go look at the Code of Federal Regulations, you will find a

technical definition of a station. I like to simplify it as where volunteer service. This often is organizations we will see partnered with assignments, beneficiaries working with a grantee on an assignment plan providing any necessary orientation and training for that assignment and providing supervision and reporting it back making sure volunteers are safe and secure.

Common examples of patients and Senior Companion Program is agent organizations, pretty much any organization that has access to a client population that needs this kind of support to remain independent. This is what the senior companion program is all about.

Often, those are external organizations and those are organizations that are bound by a memorandum of standing. They don't actually have to be a sponsor, grantee or organization that gets the grant and they can serve as a station. You can find more information at the resources that we already have. What will they do? We can see the criteria here have what is an appropriate senior companion and you can see the format at the top of the screen 2551.71 and that tells you this comes from the Code of Federal Regulations. Again, if there is this much text on the screen it is probably important to read. It allows direct services to one or more eligible people. That results in person to person supportive relationship with each client support at the achievement and maintenance of highest independent living for their clients are meaningful to the Senior Companion. They are supported by appropriate organization training.

Senior companion shall not provide services such as those given by medical personnel, large numbers of clients, custodial services, administrative support services or other services. The focus is on the person to person supportive role and we are looking at one-on-one, when on two or three and most of these are in the context of homes, then it is for the content. It is about the person to person supportive relationship.

With that in mind, let's see if we can apply that a little bit. I am going to see if we

can identify what is an appropriate senior companion activity versus an inappropriate senior companion activity. We have two scenarios on the screen right now. Our job will be to determine what is appropriate that we will start with Anna. She is a senior companion volunteer who visits homes of two seniors each week because she helps them with daily chores. She brings new information each time she comes. Right now she is offering information for fraud prevention.

We are going to see if we can -- we have two scenarios on the screen and we are going to determine what is appropriate. This is going to bring some new information to this sheet. We got cut off right there and it says she is offering information. We have enough information there. The second scenario, she is a senior companion volunteer who regularly visits a local assisted living facility. You will spend free time chatting with anyone who suffered during the lunch hours or during the hours he is there.

He occasionally helps stop with the activities as well. Which of those is it appropriate senior companion activity? It looks like we have the top one is the appropriate activity. The one on one relationship, she is building deep relationships with people and Alexi may not get a chance to do that. She is just chatting with whoever is around and there is a specific way. Focusing on independence as Anna is working independent and Alexi is and that facility scenario. We just saw that in regulation as I will go back so we can see the text exactly. Large numbers of clients is something that is not supposed to be served. Most of us got that so I think we are in pretty good shape in terms of senior companion activity.

This is a good time to pause as we are little bit over halfway and we want to pause and see if there are any questions that we have. I have not seen any that have come in yet, if we miss any, please let me know if you have any questions. If you want to see your question, you can switch where it says all panelists and switch it to all panelists and attendees and then everyone will be able to see your question.

Let's see if we have any questions. Courtney, is there anything that you want to add or clarify based on what I said so far?

>>: I do not have anything to add.

>>: Okay. Let's give another call for questions. We will go ahead and move on to performance measurements. We will break that down into two different questions. What do you need to measure and how do you measure it? I like this graphic because what we are talking about is measuring some squishy stuff. We are trying to measure the left, we are trying to measure the wonderful relationships that we saw in the video at the beginning.

It is important for us to do that because we need to make sure we are having the impact we think were having and we need to look for ways to improve and we need to demonstrate our impact to our stakeholders. This is a federal program, which means that these are supported by all of us, all of you, by me through our taxpayer dollars. As a result of that we have a responsibility to be able to demonstrate the impact we are having because we need to communicate that to administration, folks in Congress and to the public in general. How do we do that in the senior companion?

Let's talk about what you need to measure. You are going to see this in a document called the notice of funding opportunity. Our equivalent of a request for application or request for proposals and I'm curious if anyone in the chat can tell me where you will find that document? Anyone in the chat tell me where you can find that document? It is our equivalent to request for proposals. Courtney and I have stated many times today. You don't need the whole URL, you can just title it. We will see if an answer comes in. I will not give it away quite yet.

That is where you are going to find the notice of funding, which is a very important document that contains this text. This is the answer to what you need to measure. It is for every \$6000 in annual base federal funding, at least one volunteer service year worth of service must be placed in work plans that result in national performance

measure outcomes in the healthy futures focus area. That is a lot of words in there. For every \$6000 in annual base federal funding, at least one volunteer service, year worth of service must be placed in work plans that result in national performance measures outcomes in the healthy futures focus area.

Let's talk about what a volunteer service year is. A volunteer service year is very simple. We abbreviated to VSY and it is a unit of ours. The analogy I like is there are 16 ounces in a pound and there are 1044 stipend hours and that is a collection of ours.. Where that number comes from, the estimate of 20 hours per week for an entire year.

With the math you get 1044 hours and that is all VSY is 1044 stipend hours. If that is just a unit of measure we should be able to identify what can VSY is. Can anyone tell me how many hours or how many stipend hours is 10 VSY? I see some answers coming in. It looks like Kelly says 10,040 hours. The math is pretty simple here. Before we move on, this comes from – this is the website that we have talked about where Appendix A is and we will revisit that a little bit later. That is a very important resource.

That is what a VSY is. That is a screenshot of Appendix A that we looked at before. When you see the volunteer service years in the middle, that is what this is. Can anyone tell me how many hours worth of service or how many stipend hours worth of service are associated with this first opportunity? How many hours worth of service are associated with this? It is a little trickier than 10 VSY. If anyone has a calculator handy, it should not be difficult.

I see one answer. Does anyone else have a calculator handy? It is about 55,000 and what this means is that this is the minimum amount of service that these grants need to have. The minimum amount of service they have to have. The funding is a maximum amount of funding available and this is the minimum amount of service that needs to happen as a result of the funding. For the context of performance measurement, it has a different meaning and is a minimum meeting you can do more.

An applicant could apply for 55 volunteer service years, but if we go back to the funding opportunity for every \$6000 in annual base federal funding, one volunteer service must be placed and result in national performance outcome.

To get the number, divide the number of federal funding by 6000. Can anyone have these calculators handy. Three 20,000 and then divide by 6000. Can anyone divide three 20,000 x 6000. I see Carmella and Kelly may have to move the decimal point over. 53. If you go down this number, this is a way that this number divided by 6000 rounded to the nearest whole number is where these numbers come from.

What you need to measure this is the amount – let me rewind. What you need to measure and what you need to measure the performance of is the amount of service that is associated with the minimum amount of service. You can go about that and provide more service, but it is followed by the same rules of performance measures. There is a little more flexibility here. That is what you need to measure. How do you measure it? I will clear out my scribbles. you do it through the application called the work plan.

This framework will be familiar to many of you because it is derived from a logical framework. You will describe the community needs, kinds of activities that you are using to address the need and then an output and outcome. This is where things are a little bit different for the Senior Companion Program. You will be choosing from a limited menu of outputs and outcomes. Just a couple of choices will be here.

Number of individuals served as an output and then the outcomes number of individuals who report having increased capacity for independent living. Number of caregivers of older adults and individuals with disabilities who reported having increased social support. We are going to look at another document on the competition homepage and you will see there is information for how you can measure these things including an actual survey or instrument you will be using. You are going to draw from this narrow choice and you can choose either H9 or H14 or use both. You will be using

one of these two outcome measures. It is going to be for that share of your service activity.

You will see there are other options, but you don't need to measure the impact for service at all through other priorities.

That is a lot of information and we are going to close with a video here and I do know that I have some questions. I want to get to our homepage to show you some of the tools before you get to the end. I am here on the competition homepage and the resource that Courtney and I have been talking about at some length. We are interested in the senior companion tool. The notice of funding opportunity is the most important document it is fair to say. It is the equivalent of request for application and proposal. It has all the information you need to know to apply.

What we were just talking about is Appendix B and that is where you will see performance measure instruction. It explains everything that I just said about performance measurement. You can go ahead and click here, pull it up. It looks like I ran into a little glitch.

We will go ahead and take a look at this. This has all of the information that I shared about performance measurement in more depth. As I go down into the program or into the document, what I want to emphasize is how there is some more information about how to actually measure these things here. That is what you will be using. A portion of the application called the work plan. My number one recommendation of work plans is use this tool called the SEP work plan. There are Microsoft word documents but they should be able to be open in any Word document. You can plan out your work plan without going into the electronic management. Tomorrow is webinar will be all about that management system, but it can be clunky to experiment with and to revise, change things.

I have some questions and I will answer the bottom one first before I show a video and while I show the video, you can have some more questions loaded up for us.

Please check the website you are on. I am happy to do that and I have done that a few times today. Here it is again. There is a shorter URL that I will be able to share as well in a second in case you want to keep this handy. It is the competition headquarters petition homepage. It is where the resources that Courtney and I talked about quite a bit throughout the webinar. Let's go ahead and see this program in action before we draw back and focus on some of these details. I don't want to lose focus totally on the impact this program can have.

VIDEO: When you get to a certain age you need help from somebody and that is where senior companion comes in to help out. He depends on me a lot. My dad and my mom always taught us to help somebody else, somebody that needed help. One day he broke a finger and I told him, you have to go to the emergency. Don't worry, I'm done with him and you needed help. I knew he did want to be alone, but I was there with him and I made him happy because of that. It goes both ways. It helps him and it helps me.

I got sick on Saturday and I didn't want to allow my family so I called her and she came over. She called 911 and I stayed in the hospital three days. When I came home, every morning she wants to know did she do anything? When she found out what I was doing with the beads she offered to come stay with me a few hours at nighttime and I showed her how to make the beads. She has been a great help.

I do things for her she is not able to do. I comb her hair and I get her clothes upstairs to wash in the washing machine and that is where I help her out. She seems like a daughter to me really. I take her to the drugstore and I do some cooking if I don't hear from her. Her daughter is seem to be very thankful for that. My daughter feels very good about it knowing that she has somebody who will contact her or somebody I can contact in the event that I am sick. There are a lot of people that do need some help. Instead of just sitting there, come out and get involved.

When I first started working with money, she was a different person altogether.

Now she is very good at carrying on a conversation with me. Now she sings, she dances.. When Amelia came through, we suspect that she would be a good fit for Maria, Luis and her family. This is the letter of appreciation that Maria's daughter has written. She is very caring, her love professionalism and responsibility of change the critical situation we had at our house due to my mother.

I really can't say that it has been a miracle. As soon as I get there, she is waiting there for me and we go into her room and we do some exercises or things with her that she wants to do. We will then go to the bakery. They treat her wonderful there. I feel like I am growing a lot and I think that she has grown a lot with me. She does so many things and I am so so proud of her. Senior companions are the greatest group of volunteers without us, seniors who are frail and need help cannot continue to live in their homes. Families get respite and volunteers pooled their value to the community. This is an innovative, cost-effective program that has real impact.

Again, I like to do that near the end of the webinar so we do not lose incredible potential for older Americans and the volunteers of those who are engaged in this program. We do have some questions here and I will go through them in the order I see them. The first one comes from Mary. Volunteers have to serve 20 hours per week or can he or she served 10 hours? Senior and companion volunteers can serve anywhere between five and 40 hours per week or you can use an annual measure and the equivalent is 260 to 280 hours annually. That is just meant to be a way to measure activity and is an estimate and is not meant to be what is required.

I am going to go to our resource page. Scott asks, can you remind us what the overall indirect costs for grantees for administering the program is? That is the question just to us. Can you I was actually not just one answer to your question. Those of you who work with the uniform guidance, it is a portion that spells out how all grant funds are used in all federal grant funds. You will find information about the indirect cost rate, specifically it says that an organization can use or negotiate a rate with the federal

government. Some of you that come from large organizations or organizations that have worked extensively with the federal government may have

Alba asks the amount of money of funding available, will that be divided between all grantees? SeniorCorps will find one or provide one grant for each service area. That amount of money will go to one organ

Those are the questions I have seen. Please let me know if I have missed anything and I will check in with Courtney.. Anything I have missed Courtney?

We have our final two questions. A satisfaction survey to help us make sure we are getting you the information that we need to get to you. Please let us know how we did taking a short survey right now. We will do another call for questions.

Courtney, any closing thoughts?

>>: No, the competition is open now and you can submit an application up until the deadline of 5 PM on December 6.

>>: Thank you Courtney. I will take the opportunity to remind everyone to not wait until 5 PM on December 6 to do it. That is the deadline, but my advice to you is please do not wait until the deadline. Do not wait until 4:59 PM on December 6. It is in your benefit to get there early. That is my closing words to all of you and to also say that we think this is a pretty great program. We are really proud of it. Thank you to all of the grantees who I know are here today who have made it that way and I really hope we see some exciting applications here to help expand this opportunity to more seniors and more communities across the country.

I have not seen any other questions come in. With that, we will go ahead and give you back four minutes to get those applications in early. Thank you everyone for your interest and we will be back here tomorrow to talk about the electronic grant management system. We appreciate you coming and learning alongside us and look forward to seeing your applications.