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MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020

1:30 P.M. CT

INCREASING DISABILITY INCLUSION IN THE MAPP PROCESS

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>> SARA LYONS: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. Looks like it is right at 2:30, so in interest of everyone's time, we'll get started.

Okay. So today's webinar is regarding the opportunity, Increasing Disability Inclusion in the MAPP Process, and -- oops, I skipped too far. Next slide.

So our agenda for today, I am just going to be providing you a little background information about the project, a little bit of disability national statistics and why this project is important. I will do a funding announcement overview, provide you information on the application submission and selection, as well as go over the timeline for the project. And then you are welcome to ask questions throughout using the Q&A box at the lower screen.

So my name is Sara Lyons. I am the program analyst for NACCHO's Health and Disability Project. I have been working with NACCHO's disability inclusion work for about three and a half years, and this is the second time we've been able to offer this grant opportunity.

NACCHO is the only organization dedicated to serving every local health department in the nation. NACCHO serves 3,000 local health departments and is the leader in providing cutting-edge, skill-building, professional research and programs, seeking health equity, and supporting effective local public health practice and systems. Our goals at NACCHO are to support local health departments, advocate on behalf of local health, optimize strategic alliances and partnerships, and encourage NACCHO member engagement.

The values of leadership, excellence, health equity, participation, respect, integrity, science, and innovation underpin all of NACCHO's work. These values are reflected back in the important work of local health departments. Together our collective commitment to local public health is improving the quality and length of all our lives.

NACCHO advocates for local health departments on Capitol Hill; hosts informative conferences; develops timely tools, resources, and publications; disseminates evidence-based practices; provides essential technical assistance, funding, and training; and cultivates important partnerships to move local public health forward. NACCHO supports efforts that protect and improve the health of all people and all communities by promoting national policy, developing resources and programs, seeking health equity, and supporting effective local public health practice and systems. NACCHO provides resources, tools, and assistance to health departments in the following areas:

Community health, public health infrastructure, public health preparedness, and environmental health.

So our funder for this grant opportunity is NCHPAD, or the National Center on Health, Physical Activity, and Disability. They are one of two National Certaintyers on Disability funded by CDC's national Center on birth defects and developmental disabilities. NCHPAD works to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life of people with disabilities. NCHPAD operates within the University of Alabama -- sorry -- University of Birmingham/Lakeshore Foundation Research Collaborative, and NCHPAD supports the accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities through health promotion programs geared toward improving their physical activity, nutrition, and healthy weight management. NCHPAD.org features a variety of resources and services which can benefit all ages and populations.

So to provide a little context of why this program and grant opportunity is very important is the prevalence of disability in the United States. So the image on this slide shows a United States map of the age-adjusted prevalence of disability among adults from the 2018 birth defects -- sorry -- from the 2018 Disability and Health Data System through CDC. So 26% of adults in the United States have a disability. This means over 61 million adults or one in four adults living in communities in the U.S. have a disability.

Now, according to our latest National Profile of Local Health Departments report, 70% of local health departments conduct community health assessments, and 67% conduct community health improvement plans. There's many reasons for why we've seen an increase in these two community health assessment and improvement planning processes. Many are because of the public health accreditation as well as the Affordable Care Act provision of non-private hospitals the state requirements or mandates that have come up. So with the majority of local health departments completing a community health assessment and improving planning process, it's really an ideal opportunity to address health inequities of people with disabilities.

The Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnershps, or MAPP, process is a community-driven strategy -- sorry -- is a community strategic planning process for improving community health. This framework helps communities apply strategic thinking to prioritize public health issues and identify resources to address them. Many health departments use MAPP as a framework when completing their community health assessment and improvement plan.

So the image here is a map of a community that visually describes the six phases of the MAPP process. The six phases include partnership development, visioning, the four MAPP assessments, identifying strategic issues, formulating goals and strategies, and then the action cycle.

So with the support of NACCHO's Performance Improvement staff, who are the ones that develop and update the current map guidebook, the map resource guide for disability and inclusion was created. The purpose of this resource guide is to provide guidance on how the MAPP process can be inclusive for people with disabilities. The goal is for health departments to have resources to engage people with disabilities and the agencies that serve them in the MAPP process, particularly for inclusion efforts to support community health assessments and health improvement plans.

This talks about the background and the reason for this project. I am going to now go over the funding announcement overview. So the primary purpose for this project is to support local health departments with collecting data about people with disabilities in their communities and using this data to inform strategic priorities and actions to support the health of people with disabilities.

So the highlights of the RFA is there are $20,000 available in funds with up to two awards, and each award will be up to $10,000. The tentative start date for the project is September 1 of this year, and the project end date is March 31 of 2021. Please note that the awards are categorized as consultants, and this is disbursed in two invoice periods upon receipt of deliverables.

So a little bit on our timeline for this project. The application submission deadline is August 7, 2020. That is a Friday. The award notification will occur about two weeks later on the week of August 24. The kickoff webinar will begin in early September. We'll have a confirmed date once we have both grantees confirmed. There are individual technical assistance calls as a deliverable for this project with each grantee, and those will occur between September and March, through the end of the project period. We'll also have a closeout webinar where both of the grantees will be able to share their successes as well as discuss any challenges or future deliverables for the project at the end within March 2021. And there will also be an opportunity to submit a success story, which will be able to highlight the great work that the grantees do with all of our local health department membership across NACCHO.

In order to be eligible for this project, local health departments who are currently planning their community health assessment or Community Health Improvement Plan is required, as well as have used the MAPP framework in the past because we use the guidance document that was created for the disability inclusion accompanying with the MAPP handbook, we want to make sure that people that attend these -- or sorry, that people applying are familiar with that process to help guide the community health assessment and improvement plan work. So you must have completed at least one MAPP cycle to be eligible. Sometimes we've gotten questions in the past about what a full MAPP cycle is, and it's really from phase 1, partnership development, all the way through having all of your assessment work done and then through all of the work that you do with your partners and community in the improvement plan process with developing goals and strategies and activities as well as testing out that in the field. So we want to make sure that you have completed at least one full cycle to be eligible.

So the project deliverables for -- we will have it broken up between two invoices. So the first deliverable is will be designated a team lead to serve as the primary point of contact for NACCHO throughout the project process. This is quite an easy deliverable, as we do ask for the point of contact or who would be the main point that we will be working with throughout the project on the grant application. We'll have a participate in the kickoff call with NACCHO, and we'll also have some NCHPAD staff who will be providing some assistance on the project as well in September. There is a few required trainings that you'll notice in the grant, the full RFA announcement, so those will be required trainings that at least the point person as well as everyone else within their health department that will be working on the project will be required to submit. And then as well as completing two out of the three one-on-one technical assistance calls. I am lead on working on those one-on-one calls with each grantee, and really, these calls will provide us with information on how we can support you. The first call is really probably more of a deeper dive to understand where you are with your health department needs, and the following two calls are really focused on some of the work that you are doing in the field and helping you, giving you feedback and providing support.

The deliverables for the second invoice period are participating at at least one additional technical assistance call. We'll also be asking you to report some metrics throughout the project period; participating in the closeout webinar; as well as participating in the creation of a success story with the support of NACCHO and our Communications staff. So NACCHO and NCHPAD will provide tools and resources, technical assistance, and subject matter expertise throughout the project period.

So now I'll be going into the application review and going through each question at that must be completed. So the first question is really about the health department's organizational capacity. So this is really describing your agency's experience using the MAPP framework to conduct community health assessments and improvement plans, and it really should provide some context and background information on when your agency first started using the MAPP process and any lessons learned that you've used subsequently to inform your current work.

The next question is around a readiness to implement, so by describing -- I first want to make sure you are describing your current MAPP efforts, so where you currently are in the process or planning to be in the process if you are about to start a new cycle, so what phase you are currently working on and if it's been the first time, second time, third time you've gone through the MAPP process. It's also important to describe any current activities or assets that may enhance your agency's ability to achieve the stated project requirements and expectations. You can include facilitators such as funding, leadership support, or in-house expertise that may support the effort.

The next question is about partnerships. So we want to know any past or current partnerships with organizations that serve people with disabilities in your jurisdiction. Having partners that serve people with disabilities in your communities is really important to build capacity around this work. It's important to describe how these partnerships can be leveraged to increase inclusion of people with disabilities in your CHA and CHIP work.

And finally, the last question within the application is a statement of need, and this is really just a summary describing why your agency wants to pursue this project and the vision for how the opportunity will advance disability inclusion within your latest CHA and CHIP planning process. Responses should include information. We'd like to have some current demographic information about people with disabilities within your jurisdiction and how the MAPP process can have an impact among this population.

There are a few other attachments that we'd like to have included in the application submission. At least one letter of support from a disability organization. The budget narrative form. And the budget narrative form should really be consistent with the goals, objectives, and activities proposed within the application. Items that may be included in the request for funds are staff salary and fringe benefits, phone, postage, and accessibility accommodations, and contractual fees. If additional funds will be leveraged, please describe them. And just to let everyone know that funds cannot be used for the purchase or keep-up of office equipment and cannot be used to purchase food or beverages. The budget won't be scored, but it's important for us to have that budget narrative to demonstrate that the applicant has considered appropriate funding needs to accomplish the work it has proposed. There is a budget narrative example within the the application, so you should be able to use that to guide you in submitting a budget. And we also ask for completion of a W-9 form, a vendor information form, and a certification of non-debarment. And this really -- these three items are needed for contract execution. So for those that are selected, it will really help us speed up the contract process for having these documents already completed. All of them are already attached within the application as well for you to complete and submit.

So instructions for submission. You'll complete the application with the four questions, the letter of support, the budget narrative, the W-9 form, vendor information form, and certification of non-debarment, and this is sent to my email address, slyons@naccho.org.

And just to remind you of our timeline, award notifications are anticipated to be made on the week of August 24. The deadline for submission of the application is August 7. Selected applicants will be notified via email. Nonselected applicants will be notified by September 4. And I also just wanted to share some resources. These are also all in the full application and RSA announcement. There are some links to our Health and Disability Program webpage, as well as the full MAPP Resources Guide for Disability Inclusion. The webinar recording where we first announced last spring, we had a webinar to announce that the Resource Guide was available and gave an overview with myself and some NCHPAD colleagues. And there's also a few additional NCHPAD resources around inclusive health coalitions and their Commitment to Inclusion project, which are really both helpful resources around disability and inclusion efforts.

So with that, I can take questions for anyone that has them. You can use the question-and-answer, the Q&A box found below, and I am happy to answer anyone's questions.

(Pause in speaking)

I believe I can also unmute. Okay. Well, I am not seeing any questions at this time. If you do have any questions as you are working on the application or anything comes up after this webinar that you would like to discuss, you are welcome to contact me at slyons@naccho.org. I am happy to answer any questions as you go through the application process. And I look forward to reviewing all applicants. So thank you so much for your time today, and I hope everyone has a great rest of the day.

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