

ARRA Nonprofit Opportunities

Much of the \$4.6 billion in funding Minnesota is receiving through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will be spent directly by government entities (for example \$1.8 billion in Medicaid funding and approximately \$850 million to local school districts). However, there are some opportunities for nonprofit organizations to receive ARRA funds. The following list is not exhaustive, but provides details about a range of opportunities available.

For more information go to:
www.mmb.state.mn.us/recovery
www.grants.gov/applicants/recovery.jsp

Education

- Innovative Fund Grants –
 - \$650 million is available nationwide.
 - Eligible recipients include school districts and partnerships between a nonprofit and one or more school districts.
 - Grants will be awarded to entities who: made significant gains in closing the achievement gap; exceeded the State's annual measurable objectives or have demonstrated success in increasing academic achievement for all groups of students; made improvement in other areas; and demonstrated that they have established partnerships with the private sector with the private sector will providing matching funds.
 - Contact – Lisa Mueller, Minnesota Department of Education
- Teacher Incentive Grants
 - Eligible recipients are states or partnerships between states and a school district or nonprofit.
 - The goals of the program are to improve student achievement by increasing teacher and principal effectiveness; reform compensation systems to reward for gains in student achievement; increase the number of effective teachers teaching low-income, minority, and disadvantaged students in hard-to-staff subjects; and create sustainable performance-based compensation systems.
 - Contact – Lisa Mueller, Minnesota Department of Education

Health & Human Services

- Community Services Block Grant
 - \$12 million available to Minnesota
 - Formula grants to community action agencies
 - Funds used to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities.
 - Contact – Jayne Rankin, Dept. of Human Services
- Senior Nutrition
 - \$1.6 million through December 2010.
 - Funding is for senior nutrition programs, congregate dining and home delivered meals.
 - Contact - Jayne Rankin, Department of Human Services
- Homelessness Prevention
 - \$10.8 million available
 - Eligible activities include: provision of rental assistance; housing relocation and stabilization or other activities for homelessness prevention.
 - Contact – Jayne Rankin, Department of Human Services
- Health Information Technology – Provider Grants

- Total federal funding \$29 billion
- Federal reimbursement to Medicaid and Medicare providers for costs of electronic records purchase, implementation and some operation costs.
- Contact - Minnesota Department of Health, James Golden

Energy

- Weatherization Program –
 - \$132 million available in Minnesota
 - Makes low-income homes more energy efficient.
 - Funds will be distributed to service providers (typically community action agencies).
 - Contact – Janet Streff, State Energy Office, Department of Commerce

Broadband

- Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)
 - Up to \$1.2 billion is available nationwide for delivering broadband service through last mile or middle mile facilities to unserved or underserved areas.
 - Up to \$50m is available to fund projects that expand computer center capacity at entities that permit the public to use of computer centers.
 - Up to \$150m for “sustainable broadband adoption” which are described as innovative projects focusing on broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment or support, particularly among vulnerable populations.
 - Contact – www.broadbandusa.gov

Housing

- Neighborhood Stabilization Program
 - Competitive grants to eligible entities including states, local units of government and nonprofit organizations.
 - Purchase and rehabilitation of foreclosed and vacant properties to create more affordable housing.
 - Contact – Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Katy Lindblad

Public Safety

- Byrne – JAG Grants
 - \$15 million available at the state level
 - Public and private nonprofits are eligible to apply
 - JAG funds support all components of the criminal justice system and may address crime through the provision of services directly to individuals and/or communities and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes, and procedures.
 - Applications due July 24, 2009
 - Contact – Dept. of Public Safety, www.ojp.state.mn.us/funding/JAGrecovery/index.htm

Arts

- Minnesota Arts Jobs Grant Funds
 - \$316,000 available to Minnesota organizations
 - Must be used to preserve jobs in the arts in Minnesota.
 - Applications were due July 13, 2009.
 - Contact – Sue Gens, Minnesota State Arts Board, www.arts.state.mn.us