



City of Rome, New York

REQUEST FOR INTEREST (RFI) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM CDBG-CV Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Background

As the Rome community has undergone life-altering disruption and changes to everyday life through the COVID 19 pandemic and state of emergency measures enacted by the federal, state, and local governments, community organizations and supportive agencies have continued to provide necessary community services. Through the federal bill known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the federal government has allocated additional CDBG funding to entitlement communities with the goal of supporting the communities with resources to slow the spread of the virus, address urgent needs, and stimulate the economy.

Intent

The City of Rome is requesting expressions of interest from all interested non-profit organizations, who are actively and currently working on addressing the health, welfare, and wellbeing of the community by providing services directly related to the COVID 19 virus emergency. All submissions will be used in developing a draft spending plan for the additional CDBG-CV funding specifically for public services. The City of Rome wants to reach as many viable organizations as possible and consider all submissions. Subsequent awards will be based on merit and also the demonstrated ability of the organization to deliver a beneficial activity to the community. Pre-award expenses which were incurred could be considered if demonstrated relevant and necessary dating back to **March 07, 2020**.

Submission Requirements

All interested non-profit organizations who are located within the City of Rome or provide services to residents of the City of Rome should complete the attached form. Please note that your organization must be currently providing a service directly related to community health, welfare, and wellbeing in response to the current state of emergency directly related to the COVID 19 virus. Examples include food services, direct personal care, healthcare, and others.

Schedule

Expressions of interest will be reviewed and evaluated immediately. The City will utilize the interest in drafting a spending plan, specifically for public services category. The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) will make recommendations to the Mayor's Office based on the expression of interests. Awards will be progressed after adoption of the spending plan. Funds could be available by mid-June, and pre-award expenses could be eligible.

Eligibility Requirements

Interested applicants could include non-profit organizations who are meeting a community need through a provided service related to the COVID 19 virus state of emergency. Organizations should have been in operation and providing such services starting with the state of emergency declaration and continuing through today's date. Eligible organizations must be providing services to the Rome community directly related to the COVID 19 virus.

Proposals must meet a CDBG National Objective and fall within one of the City's priorities to be considered for funding. The goals of this program are in accordance with the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan which seeks the development of a viable urban community through implementation of the following National Objectives:

1. Assistance to persons of low- to moderate-income
2. Aid in the elimination of slums and blight
3. Address an urgent need

Additional Information

The CDBG Program is funded and regulated at the federal level by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered locally by the City of Rome, through the City's Department of Community & Economic Development. The CDBG Program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The regulations implementing the CDBG Program are located in 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 570.

1. Program activities must be available to serve all religious, race and ethnic groups, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 109 of Title I, of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.
2. Program activities must comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which states: "No qualified individual with handicaps can be excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of any activity receiving Federal financial assistance."
3. Program Activities should be designed to comply with Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - 24 C.F.R. §576.407(b). Executive Order 13166 seeks to improve access to federally assisted programs and activities for individuals who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency. Organizations shall take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to their programs and activities to LEP individuals, regardless of language spoken. Meaningful access may entail providing language assistance services, including oral and written translation, where necessary. Sub-recipients must follow the requirements outlined on 24 C.F.R. §576.407(b). HUD published Final Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Requirements Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons in the Federal Register on January 22, 2007 (72 F.R. 2732).

4. Proposed program must include a performance measurement system to track productivity, program impact and link goals with outcomes (the extent to which the activities produce the desired outcomes in the community or in the lives of persons assisted).
5. If CDBG funding becomes available for your organization, additional documentation may be required in order to enter into a services agreement with the City of Rome and comply with HUD applicable regulations.
6. Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701. Section 3 requires that to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training or employment be given to low and very low-income residents of the project area and contracts for work in connection with the project be awarded to business concerns that provide economic opportunities for low and very low-income persons residing in the metropolitan area in which the project is located.
7. It is the policy of the City of Rome to encourage the greatest possible participation of minority and women-owned business enterprises. All qualified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) suppliers, contractors, and/or businesses will be afforded equal opportunity without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability or sexual preference.
8. Incomplete proposals will be disqualified. The City of Rome reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals determined in the City's sole discretion not to be in the best interest of the City.
9. CDBG-CV grantees are required to prevent the duplication of benefits. This means that CDBG-CV grant funds may not be used to pay costs if another source of financial assistance is available to pay that cost. For example if you are or could become eligible for reimbursement for this program through FEMA, you are not eligible for this funding source.

Submission Deadline and Place of Filing

Submissions are due **no later** than 12am noon, Friday May 29, 2020.

In order to be considered for funding, one (1) electronic copy of your proposal must be submitted to the following address:

City of Rome, New York
Department of Community & Economic Development
Attn: Ms. Ashley D'Amore, Community Development Specialist
adamore@romecitygov.com

City of Rome, New York
REQUEST FOR INTEREST (RFI)
Public Service Organizations

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM CDBG-CV
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

Organization Name: _____

Administrative Office Address: _____

Rome Location Address: _____

Organization Applicant Primary Contact: _____

Primary Contact Phone #: _____

Primary Contact Email: _____

Primary Contact Mailing Address: _____

Organizations Activity Name: _____

Amount of CDBG funding requested: _____

- CDBG National Benefit Addressed:

Low to Moderate Income Individual Benefit **Reduction of Slums & Blight** **Urgent Need**

- Date of the establishment of the Activity servicing the Rome community? _____

- Was this Activity established to support the health, welfare, or wellbeing of the Rome community in response to the COVID-19 virus? Yes No

- Organization Activity Description:

- Activity Need Description:

- How Activity Provides a Direct Response to Community Needs Related to COVID-19:

- Activity Operation Budget/Costs: Include in attached narrative or attach chart

- Do you currently receive any other federal funding to support this Activity? Yes No

If yes, please describe the source and the amount provided. If no, have you researched any other federal funding opportunities to support the Activity, and why are those sources not viable at this time?

- In the event that CDBG funds are not granted for this proposed activity, in whole or in part, or other funds anticipated to fund this activity are not received, describe the actions to be taken by your organization.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the information contained in this proposal is true to the best of my knowledge. I do hereby agree to comply with all requirements of HUD Regulation 24 CFR 570 and other applicable Federal Regulations.

I attest that my program does receive federal funding from _____
_____, and that additional CDBG funding is needed for continued operations.

I attest that the program does not receive federal funding, and that additional CDBG funding is needed for continued operations.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

TITLE

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME

DATE

PROGRAM BUDGET

	TOTAL ACTIVITY COST	CDBG AMOUNT	LEVERAGED FUNDS AMOUNT	LEVERAGED FUNDS SOURCE		LEVERAGED FUNDS CURRENT STATUS
Personnel – Salary				1		
				2		
				3		
Personnel – Fringe				1		
				2		
				3		
Advertising				1		
				2		
				3		
Supplies				1		
				2		
				3		
Rent/Utilities				1		
				2		
				3		
Incidentals (copies, phone, etc.)				1		
				2		
				3		
Other (specify)				1		
				2		
				3		
Other (specify)				1		
				2		
				3		
TOTAL PROGRAM COST				Choose from: Anticipated, Committed, In-Hand, Donated or Requested		