

## **Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) and Support Programs for Behavioral Health and Chronic Pain**

### **OVERVIEW**

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Community Living (ACL) released a funding opportunity for the 2021 Empowering Communities to Address Behavioral Health and Chronic Pain through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) Program. The goals of this program are to:

- Develop a comprehensive strategy for addressing behavioral health and/or chronic pain among older adults and adults living with disabilities; and
- Significantly increase the number of older adults and adults living with disabilities who participate in CDSME and/or self-management support programs to empower them to better manage their chronic condition(s).

Through this opportunity, ACL will award a total of approximately \$2 million to develop capacity for, deliver, and sustain one or more new or expanded CDSME or self-management programs for these populations. At least one program must be delivered in a remote format (i.e., video conference, phone). Each applicant should set a target number of completers/participants and commit to reaching 25 percent of this target by the end of Year 1, 50 percent by the end of Year 2, and 100 percent by the end of the end of Year 3.

The funding opportunity is attached. Applications are due on February 2, 2021.

### **FUNDING**

ACL will award between \$200,000 and \$300,000 in total funding to approximately eight organizations. Funding may not be used for the following activities:

- Construction and/or major rehabilitation of buildings;
- Basic research (e.g., scientific or medical experiments); or
- Continuation of existing projects without expansion or new and innovative approaches.

Funding should include travel expenses for two project staff to a yearly CDSME-relevant professional development conference.

Contracts will last for three years starting May 1, 2021.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Eligible applicants for funding include domestic public or private not-for-profit 501(c) organizations, including community- and faith-based organizations.

Current or previous ACL CDSME grantees are not excluded from this funding opportunity. However, because all previous ACL CDSME grants have had the goal of sustainability without further federal funding, current grantees must propose a “significant enhancement” of the existing network rather than a continuation of current activities.

## APPLICATION

Proposals will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Project Abstract (2 points)
- Project Relevance and Current Need (6 points)
- Approach (27 points)
- Outcomes and Evaluation (10 points)
- Sustainability (30 points)
- Organizational Capacity (15 points)
- Budget Narrative/Justification (10 points)

Awards will be distributed based on the above criteria and the likelihood that the proposed project will result in the benefits expected.

## Timeline

Applications must be submitted by February 2, 2021. Awards are expected to be announced on April 30, 2021.

Questions should be submitted to Shannon Skowronski at [shannon.skowronski@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:shannon.skowronski@acl.hhs.gov).