NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS

PROGRAM PURPOSE

- **NN centers provide computer and Internet access to public housing residents and offer a full range of computer and job training services for youths, adults and seniors including GED preparation, literacy training, and other self-sufficiency activities.**

NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS

PROGRAM PURPOSE

- NN grants are available to update/expand existing centers OR to start a new center.

- Applicants may not use funds to "maintain" an existing center, they can only use funds to create a new center or update or expand an existing center.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

- **ELIGIBILITY**: PHAs <u>only</u>.

- **GRANT TERM**:   3 years
  - One 6 month extension may be granted by the Field Office if requested by the grantee at least 30 days before the grant is due to expire.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

- **ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS**: residents of Public Housing or residents of other housing assisted with funding made available under the 2005 Appropriations Act

- NN Centers must be located within a public housing development or on PHA land within reasonable walking distance to the development that will be served.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

- **DUE DATE**: June 3, 2005
- All applications must be submitted electronically unless a waiver has been obtained
- Only one application per PHA is permitted; joint applications are permitted

FUNDING AMOUNTS

- **TOTAL FUNDING: $23.88 million**
  - 40% to existing centers & 60% to new centers
- **Maximum Awards –**
  - Existing Centers:
    - $150,000 for PHAs with 1-780 units
    - $200,000 for PHAs with 781-2,500 units
    - $250,000 for PHAs with 2,501- 7,300 units
    - $300,000 for PHAs with 7,301 or more units

FUNDING AMOUNTS

- **Maximum Awards – continued**
  - **New Centers:**
    - **$300,000 for PHAs with 1-780 units**
    - **$400,000 for PHAs with 781-2,500 units**
    - **$500,000 for PHAs with 2,501- 7,300 units**
    - **$600,000 for PHAs with 7,301 or more units**

CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S NOFA

- Inclusion of ineligible activities is no longer a threshold item. This year, 2 points will be deducted for each ineligible item proposed.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

- All applicants must clearly demonstrate a firmly committed 25% match
- Past performance
  - Evaluated by Field Offices using RF 1
- Contract Administrator partnership agreement
  - For Troubled PHAs
- Minimum score of 75 in order to be funded
- DUN & Bradstreet (DUNS) number
- Applicants will not be considered if their request exceeds the maximum amount for which they are eligible.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

Applicants and grantees must also meet the threshold requirements contained in Section III.C. of the General Section of the SuperNOFA

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Program evaluations – grantees should reserve a portion of their funds for this purpose.
- Physical Improvements – must meet accessibility requirements as outlined in the NOFA.
- Contract Administrators – must help grantees meet federal procurement and financial management regulations.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- All applicants, lead and non-lead, should refer to "Other Requirements and Procedures Applicable to All Programs" of the General Section of the SuperNOFA for other requirements to which they may be subject.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Project coordinator – 30% of grant funds but no more than $65,000;
- Literacy training and GED preparation;
- Computer training, from basic to advanced;
- College preparatory courses and information;

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Job training;
- Physical Improvements – must relate directly to providing space for a NN center;
  - Renovation done on site– PHA must demonstrate control of space (for at least 5 future years) through lease or ownership document submitted with application
  - Creating accessible space for persons with disabilities is eligible

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Equipment maintenance and insurance;
- Purchase of equipment and software;
- Purchase of distance learning equipment;
- Security and related costs;
- Hiring residents to assist with grant implementation
  - up to 5% of the grant; and
- Administrative costs
  - up to 10% of grant.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Payment of wages and/or salaries to participants for receiving supportive services and/or training programs;
- Purchase, lease, or rental of land;
- Purchase, lease, or rental of vehicles;
- Entertainment costs;

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Purchasing food;
- Salary and fringe benefits of non-direct services staff;
- Stipends;
- Cost of application preparation;
- Contract administrator

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Costs which exceed limits identified in the NOFA for the following:
  - Project Coordinator: $65,000 or 30% of grant
  - resident salaries: 5% of grant
  - physical improvements: 20% of grant for new, 10% of grant for existing
  - administrative expenses: 10% of grant
- Costs not eligible under section 9(d)(1)(E) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937.

Funding Restrictions

- Up to $65,000 and 30% of total grant in salary and fringe benefits for a project coordinator
  - Must have documentation that salary paid is comparable to similar professions in local area
- No more than 5% of grant for hiring residents
- NN Funds may only be used to pay for salaries of staff that provide direct services to residents.
  - "Housing Authority personnel who, as their primary responsibility, provide services directly to residents that participate in the activities described in the application"

APPLICATION FORMAT

- Follow the format as described in the NOFA (Section IV, B, (2) (b))
- All applications must be submitted electronically unless a waiver has been obtained
- Page limit for narrative is 35 pages
  - Times New Roman font size 12
  - Double spaced

RATING FACTORS

- In addition to eligibility and threshold requirements, applications will be evaluated based on the rating factors.

RATING FACTOR 1:
Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff

- Proposed Program Staffing
  - Staff experience
  - Hiring residents
    - Small – 1 resident for max score
    - Medium – 1-2 residents for max score
    - Large – 3 residents for max score
- Organizational capacity

RATING FACTOR 1:

Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff

- Past Performance
  - Grants managed successfully in the past
  - Outcomes for resident participants
  - Timely expenditure
  - Past leveraging
- Program Administration & Fiscal Management
  - Accountability
  - Fiscal structure

RATING FACTOR 2:
Need/Extent of the Problem

- Demonstrated link between need of proposed activities and local need

RATING FACTOR 3:
Soundness of Approach

- Quality and cost-effectiveness of business plan
  - Specific Services/Activities
    - Logic order of progress
    - Tied to outputs/outcomes on logic model in Rating Factor 5
    - Involve community partners
    - Comprehensive services
  - Feasibility and Demonstrable Benefits
    - Timeliness
    - Description of problem and solution

RATING FACTOR 3:
Soundness of Approach

- – Budget Appropriateness
  - Justification of expenses
  - Budget efficiency
- Addressing HUD's policy priorities:
  - – Improving the Quality of Life in Our Nation's Communities
  - – Providing equal access to Grassroots organizations
  - – Removal of Regulatory Barriers
  - – Energy Star

RATING FACTOR 4
Leveraging Resources

- Clearly indicate match
- 25% minimum, more points for higher match percentage
- More points for partnerships

RATING FACTOR 5:
Achieving Results and Program Evaluation

Narrative Response and Logic Model (HUD-96010)

- Outputs
- Outcomes
- Interim benchmarks
- Performance indicators

– The application provides a list of sample performance measures to help with Rating Factor 5.

REVIEW PROCESS

- Four Types of Review:
  - Eligibility;
  - Complete, meets deadline and threshold;
  - Past performance (by Field Office)and
  - Technical review (Rating Factors)

WHAT MAKES A GOOD APPLICATION

- Read the NOFA several times
- Read the General Section as well as the specific grant section
- Follow outline of NOFA and respond accordingly
- Narrative should be clear and concise
- Submit supporting documents and forms according to format provided in NOFA

POST-AWARD INFORMATION

- **Performance Reporting**
  - Grantees must report to field offices twice a year. Reports must consist of the financial reporting form HUD-269A, a narrative explaining progress, problems, etc. and Logic Model.

  - Some other reporting may be electronic or web-based

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)**
  - 24 CFR part 85;
  - 24 CFR part 905;
  - 24 CFR part 968;
- The CFR can be found at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- **OMB Regulations**
  - OMB Circular A-87; and
  - OMB Circular A-133.
- OMB Circulars can be found at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS