



Administration for Community Living

Administration on Aging

2023 Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services -Replication

HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008

01/25/2023

Signature

Date

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ACL Center:

Administration on Aging

Funding Opportunity Title:

2023 Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services -Replication

Funding Opportunity Number:

HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008

Primary CFDA Number:

93.048

Due Date for Letter of Intent:

Date will be generated on synopsis publication

Due Date for Applications:

01/25/2023

Date for Informational Conference Call:

12/14/2022

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties, either on your end or, with <https://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

Executive Summary

Additional Overview Content/Executive Summary

The mission of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) is to maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities across the lifespan, and their families and caregivers. Through this funding opportunity, the Administration on Aging (AoA), part of the Administration for Community Living (ACL), plans to award approximately six cooperative agreements to domestic public or private non-profit entities for a 36 month project period, pending the availability of funding.

A separate announcement (HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0007) invites applications for Innovations in Nutrition Services and Program - Research.

An informational conference call will be held Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 4:00 pm EST. The dial-in information is: 888-603-9218
Passcode: 3396205

A recording will be available approximately one hour after the call concludes at the following number:

Toll Free Playback Number: 866-470-7046

I. Funding Opportunity Description

The Older Americans Act (OAA), part of which is administered by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), provides funding to support a wide array of home and community based services (HCBS) within a long-term services and support system. The purpose of these services is to maximize the independence, well-being and health of older adults and allow them to live at home for as long as possible.

The OAA Title III-C Senior Nutrition Program (SNP) helps older Americans remain healthy and independent in their communities by providing meals and related services in a variety of community settings (including congregate facilities, such as senior centers) and via home delivery to older adults. ACL funds services in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 5 territories through a network of 622 area agencies on aging and more than 7,000 local nutrition service providers through Title III-C [1]. Services are provided to adults age 60 and older and spouses of any age in Title III-C programs. The OAA creates an option for programs to offer meals to limited, additional populations; further eligibility criteria are determined by states and local entities. [1] In addition to the Title III-C program in states and territories, the OAA funds nutrition services for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services, Title VI, provides grants to over 276 eligible tribal organizations to promote the delivery of Nutrition and Home and Community-Based Supportive Services to Native elders through Title VI [2] In Title VI programs, the tribal organization determines eligibility age.

The purposes of the Title III-C SNP are to: a) reduce hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, b) promote socialization, and c) promote health and well-being by delaying the onset of adverse health conditions. This includes assisting individuals in gaining access to nutrition and other disease prevention and health promotion services that delay the onset of health conditions resulting from poor nutritional health or sedentary behavior. Services target older adults who are

low-income, minority, rural, those with limited English proficiency and those at risk for institutionalization.

The Title III-C SNP includes congregate and home-delivered meals, nutrition screening, assessment, counseling and education, as well as opportunities to increase human connection via social interactions. Meals are required to meet the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans as well as the Dietary Reference Intakes. OAA programming is person-centered and provides a mix of services to meet the widely differing needs of a diverse population of older adults.[3] These services help older adults maintain their physical, mental and social health and manage nutrition related diseases such as heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes.[4] SNP participants benefit from information on healthy aging and access to additional HCBS services such as transportation, benefits counseling, physical activity programs, and evidence-based workshops (eg, chronic disease self-management, falls prevention, etc). Additional purposes of OAA services, including nutrition services, focus on addressing the social determinants of health, which are defined in Healthy People 2030 as "the conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks." Social determinants of health include access to healthy food, food security, social connectedness and availability of community-based nutrition programs. [5]

In the past ACL has worked with the aging services network to validate and/or test new nutrition program models, especially in light of COVID-19, to modernize services and ensure that nutrition services are achieving their intended outcomes, and that every dollar is spent effectively to ensure the sustainability of these services. Implementing the knowledge generated by the evidence-based models contained in this Notice of Funding Opportunity for delivering the SNP at the community level is a valuable component of ensuring the continued efficacy and efficiency of the nutrition programs.

Purpose and Goals of this Announcement: This funding opportunity has two goals:

Goal 1: *Successfully implement a Replication Model Toolkit of a selected Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services grant; and*

Goal 2: *Ensure the sustainability of the project in the community through the implementation of robust sustainability strategies.*

Applicants for this funding opportunity must propose to implement **one of the three** Replication Model Toolkit programs listed below and located in the Appendix:

- Replication Model Toolkit A: Maryland Department of Aging: AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit
- Replication Model Toolkit B: Iowa Department on Aging: Encore Cafe
- Replication Model Toolkit C: Georgia State University: Senior Nutrition Program Evidence-Based Suicide Intervention Training

Potential applicants are encouraged to view overviews of each project here: [Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services Grant Overviews - YouTube](#).

These programs enhance the quality, effectiveness and proven outcomes of nutrition services and

programs within the aging services network. Projects target underserved older adults with the greatest social and economic need, and individuals at risk for institutional placement, to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings thereby avoiding the need for more costly medical interventions.

An application's at-risk target population may include older adults who formerly participated in the congregate nutrition program and other community-based programs, whose activity levels, access to healthy food, as well as opportunities to connect socially with others, grocery shop, obtain medical care, and exercise may have declined or changed significantly during COVID-19. These individuals, who previously were vigorous and independent, may have experienced declines in nutritional health, food security, physical capabilities, mental health and social connection.

A separate Notice of Funding Opportunity (HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0007) seeks Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services applications with a focus on research and documentation of innovative and promising practices that enhance the nutrition services network.

References:

1. [Administration for Community Living. Nutrition Services](#)
2. [Administration for Community Living, Services for Native Americans](#)
3. [Administration for Community Living, Program Evaluations and Reports](#)
4. [Administration for Community Living, Aging and Disability Networks](#)
5. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. (2021) [Healthy People 2030, Social Determinants of Health](#)

Statutory Authority

P.L. 117-180, Continuing Appropriations Act

II. Award Information

Funding Instrument Type:

CA (Cooperative Agreement)

Estimated Total Funding:

\$600,000

Expected Number of Awards:

6

Award Ceiling:

\$150,000

Per Budget Period

Award Floor:

\$50,000

Per Budget Period

Length of Project Period:

36-month project period with three 12-month budget periods

Additional Information on Project Periods and Explanation of 'Other'

This award is competitive, and applications will be evaluated in part on applicants' stated plan of action and their demonstrated capacity to effectively and expeditiously begin implementing their grant activities within sixty days of their grant award.

Once a cooperative agreement is in place, requests to modify or amend it or the work plan may be made by ACL or the awardee at any time as long as it stays within the original confines of the proposed project description. Major changes may affect the integrity of the competitive review process. Modifications and/or amendments of the Cooperative Agreement or work plan shall be effective upon the execution of an award notice. When an award is issued the cooperative agreement terms and conditions from the program announcement are incorporated by reference unless ACL is authorized under the Terms and Conditions of award, 45 CFR Part 75, or other applicable regulation or statute to make unilateral amendments.

The **grantee** agrees to execute the responsibilities outlined below:

1. Fulfill all the requirements of the grant initiative as outlined in this funding opportunity, as well as carry out project activities as reviewed, approved, and awarded in the grantee workplan.
2. Participate in regular technical assistance related calls, as determined by ACL, to improve the effectiveness of the activities carried out under this Agreement.
3. Communicate with ACL in the execution of the work plan and in understanding the programmatic and budgetary issues of the project. Based on these discussions and emerging issues in the field, if necessary, the grantee will revise the project work plan and/or budget detailing expectations for major activities and products.
4. Engage approximately 25% of your target participants by the end of Year 1, 50% of participants by the end of Year 2, and 100% of participants by the end of Year 3.
5. Commit to sending 1-2 project staff to a yearly Innovations in Nutrition grantee convening. Attendance is expected annually for the duration of your grant activities (including any no-cost extension period, if applicable). As part of that commitment, include funds in each budget year for 1-2 people to attend the convening (assume Washington, D.C. per diem amount).
6. Participate in any national research or evaluations of the proposed program.
7. Participate in dissemination related activities such as webinars and conference sessions by sending 1-2 project staff to a minimum of one nutrition and/or aging related conference annually.
8. Collect program data as outlined in the respective Replication Model Toolkit selected.
9. Ensure continuity of the project by creating contingency plans should staff turnover or delays in hiring staff occur.
10. Commit to sharing best practices as advised by the ACL project officer for potential aging services network replication of this project.
11. Comply with all other reporting requirements, as outlined in Section VI of this funding opportunity and the Notice of Award.
12. Include the following language when issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations, and other ACL supported publications and forums

describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with ACL funding:
"This

[project/publication/program/website, etc.] [is/was supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$.XX with XX percentage funded by ACL/HHS and \$.XX amount and XX percentage funded by non-government source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the US Government.]

The **AoA project officer** agrees to execute the responsibilities outlined below:

1. Assist the grantee project leadership in understanding the strategic goals and objectives, policy perspectives, and priorities of AoA, ACL, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and other federally sponsored projects and activities relevant to activities funded under this funding opportunity.
2. Perform the day-to-day Federal responsibilities of managing a Cooperative Agreement and work with the grantee to ensure that the minimum requirements for the grant are met.
3. Provide technical advice and assistance in conjunction with the National Nutrition and Aging Resource Center to the grantee regarding project activities related to the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of this grant.
4. Communicate with the grantee principal investigator regularly, and at such other times as are agreed upon, to improve the effectiveness of the activities carried under this Agreement.
5. Work cooperatively with the grantee on programmatic, evaluation and budgetary issues to be addressed by the grantee project and, as necessary, collaborate with grantee to achieve a mutually agreed upon solution to any needs identified by the grantee or AoA.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

For FY 2023 the below guidance is provided to advance the Administration's policy, as stated in E.O. 13985, to "pursue a comprehensive approach to advancing equity for all, including people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality." This guidance is intended to begin to address inequities in HHS programs, processes, and policies that may serve as barriers to equal opportunity. By advancing equity in our NOFOs, we can "create opportunities for the improvement of communities that have been historically underserved, which benefits everyone."

Domestic public or private non-profit entities including state and local governments, Indian tribal governments and organizations (American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native American), faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, hospitals, and institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. Current or previous ACL Nutrition Innovation Programs and Services grantees are not excluded from this funding opportunity. Applicants must propose an approach that addresses the goals of this funding opportunity and proposes one of the three replicable programs allowed, per application. Organizations may NOT submit more than one application.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement:

Yes

For awards that require matching or cost sharing by statute, recipients will be held accountable for projected commitments of non-federal resources (at or above the statutory requirement) in their application budgets and budget justifications by budget period, or by project period for fully funded awards. The applicant will be held accountable for all proposed non-federal resources as shown in the Notice of Award (NOA). **A recipient's failure to provide the statutorily required matching or cost sharing amount (and any voluntary committed amount in excess) may result in the disallowance of federal funds. Recipients will be required to report these funds in the Federal Financial Reports.**

Under this ACL program, ACL will fund no more than 75% of the project's total cost, which means the applicant must cover at least 25% of the project's total cost with non-federal resources. In other words, for every three (3) dollars received in federal funding, the applicant must contribute at least one (1) dollar in non-federal resources toward the project's total cost. This "three-to-one" ratio is reflected in the formula included under Item 18 in the "Instructions for Completing Requested Forms." You can use this formula to calculate your minimum required match. A common error applicants make is to match 25% of the federal share, rather than 25% of the project's total cost.

There are two types of match: 1) non-federal cash and 2) non-federal in-kind. In general, costs borne by the applicant and cash contributions of any and all third parties involved in the project, including sub-grantees, contractors and consultants, are considered matching funds. Volunteered time and use of facilities to hold meetings or conduct project activities may be considered in kind (third party) donations. Examples of non-federal cash match includes budgetary funds provided from the applicant agency's budget for costs associated with the project. ACL encourages you to not exceed the minimum match requirement. Applications with a match greater than the minimum required will not receive additional consideration under the review.

3. Responsiveness and Screening Criteria

Application Responsiveness Criteria

Applications must indicate a match of 25% of the project's total cost.

Applications that fail to meet the responsiveness criteria described below will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration.

Application Screening Criteria

All applications will be screened to assure a level playing field for all applicants. Applications that fail to meet the six screening criteria described below will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration.

In order for an application to be reviewed, it must meet the following screening requirements:

1. Applications must be submitted electronically via <https://www.grants.gov> by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, by the **due date listed in section IV.3 Submission Dates and Times**.
2. The Project Narrative section of the Application must be **double-spaced**, on 8.5" x 11" plain white paper with **1" margins** on both sides, and a **standard font size of no less than 11 point, preferably Times New Roman or Arial**.

3. The Project Narrative must not exceed 20 pages. **Project Narratives that exceed 20 pages** will have the additional pages removed and only the first 20 pages of the Project Narrative will be provided to the merit reviewers for funding consideration. **NOTE:** The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Project Personnel are not counted as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 20-page limit.
4. Application abstract and narrative (Approach Section) must clearly state the nutrition model program proposed for implementation (specifically, Replication Model Toolkit A, B, or C which are located in the Appendix).
5. Applications must include a Budget Narrative/Justification for years 1, 2 and 3 along with a combined Budget Narrative/Justification for the proposed 36-month budget period. The proposed combined Budget Narrative/Justification must not exceed the total federal 3-year award ceiling of \$450,000.
6. Applications must include a Project Workplan for years 1, 2 and 3.

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from <https://www.grants.gov> indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an <https://www.grants.gov> submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the application deadline.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

Application materials can be obtained from <https://www.grants.gov> or <https://www.acl.gov/grants/applying-grants>.

Please note, ACL requires applications for all announcements to be submitted electronically through <http://www.grants.gov> in Workspace. Grants.gov Workspace is the standard way for organizations and individuals to apply for federal grants in Grants.gov. An overview and training on Grants.gov Workspace can be found here at:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>

The Grants.gov registration process can take several days. If your organization is not currently registered, please begin this process immediately. For assistance with <https://www.grants.gov>, please contact them at support@grants.gov or 800-518-4726 between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

- At the <https://www.grants.gov> website, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, including the hours of operation. ACL strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application due date to begin the application process because of the time involved to complete the registration process.
- All applicants must have a UEI and be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, www.sam.gov) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete, and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award. Effective June 11, 2018, when registering or renewing your registration, you must submit a notarized letter appointing the authorized Entity Administrator. Please be sure to read the FAQs located at www.sam.gov to learn more. Applicants should allot sufficient time prior to the application deadline to finalize a new, or renew an existing registration. This action should allow you

time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award. Maintain documentation (with dates) of your efforts to register or renew at least two weeks before the deadline. See the SAM Quick Guide for Grantees at: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/help/samQUserGuides.jsf>.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov before you can submit an application through Grants.gov. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award.

- Note: Failure to submit the correct EIN Suffix can lead to delays in identifying your organization and access to funding in the Payment Management System.
- Effective October 1, 2010, HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for and ultimately receive federal grant funds from any HHS Operating/Staff Division (OPDIV/STAFFDIV) or receive subawards directly from the recipients of those grant funds to:
 1. Register in SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
 2. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
 3. Provide its UEI number in each application or plan to submit to the OPDIV.

Additionally, all first-tier subaward recipients must have a UEI number at the time the subaward is made.

- The Federal Government will transition from the DUNS Number to the New Unique Entity Identifier. As of April of 2022, the federal government stopped using the DUNS number to uniquely identify entities. At that point, entities doing business with the federal government will use a Unique Entity Identifier (SAM) created in SAM.gov. It is entered on the SF-424. It is a unique, nine-digit identification number, which provides unique identifiers of single business entities.
- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information included on the SF424 and all necessary assurances and certifications. In accordance with the Federal Government's efforts to reduce reporting burden for recipients of federal financial assistance, the general certification and representation requirements contained in the Standard Form 424B (SF-424B) – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs, and the Standard Form 424D (SF-424D) – Assurances – Construction Programs, have been standardized federal-wide. Effective January 1, 2020, the updated common certification and representation requirements will be stored and maintained within SAM. Organizations or individuals applying for federal financial assistance as of January 1, 2020, must validate the federally required common certifications and representations annually through SAM located at SAM.gov.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment from <https://www.grants.gov> that contains

<https://www.grants.gov> tracking number. The Administration for Community Living will retrieve your application form from <https://www.grants.gov>.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living

Ms. Judy Simon
Administration on Aging (AoA)
Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs
202.795.7381
judy.simon@acl.hhs.gov

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Letter of Intent

Due Date for Letter Of Intent 01/03/2023

Date will be generated on synopsis publication

Applicants are requested, but not required, to submit a letter of intent to apply for this funding opportunity to assist ACL in planning for the application independent review process. The purpose of the letter of intent is to allow our staff to estimate the number of independent reviewers needed and to avoid potential conflicts of interest in the review. Letters of intent should be sent to:

Ms. Judy Simon
Administration on Aging (AoA)
Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs
202.795.7381
judy.simon@acl.hhs.gov

Project Narrative

The Project Narrative is one of the most important components of the application. It will be used as the primary basis to determine whether your project meets the minimum requirements for grants under the authorizing statutes. The Project Narrative should provide a clear and concise description of your project.

The Project Narrative must be double-spaced, on 8.5" x 11" paper with 1" margins on both sides, and a standard font size of no less than 11 point, preferably Times New Roman or Arial. The entirety of the Project Narrative, including tables, graphics, and headings must be double-spaced. You can use smaller font sizes to fill in the Standard Forms and Sample Formats. The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, Organizational Chart, Budget Narrative/Justification and Vitae of Key Project Personnel **are not counted** as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 20-page limit, but all of the other sections in the list below are included in the limit.

Applicants must document all of their source material. If any text, language, and/or materials are from another source, the applicant must make it clear the material is being quoted and where the text comes from. The applicant must also cite any sources when they include numbers, ideas, or other material that are not their own.

The required components of the Project Narrative counted as part of the 20 page limit include:

- Project Abstract
- Project Relevance and Current Need
- Approach
- Outcomes and Evaluation
- Organizational Capability

Project Abstract

This section should include a brief description of the proposed project, including goals, objectives, and outcomes. Detailed instructions for completing the Project Abstract are included in the *Instructions for Completing the Project Summary/Abstract*.

In your abstract, clearly specify:

1. The goals, objectives, and outcomes of your proposed project;
2. The nutrition model program you plan to implement (indicate selected Replication Model Toolkit A, B, or C. (*See the Appendix for Replication Model Toolkits*);
3. Projected number of project participants;
4. Key partners which include OAA Title III-C providers, as well as the specific organizations that provide project-related services and/or are referral entities;
5. Target population(s); and
6. Targeted/impacted geographic area(s).

Problem Statement

This section should describe in both quantitative and qualitative terms, the nature and scope of the problem or issue the Replication project is designed to address. This should include relevance to the purposes of the SNP: a) reduce hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, b) promote socialization, and c) promote health and well-being by delaying the onset of adverse health conditions. This also includes assisting individuals in gaining access to nutrition and other disease prevention and health promotion services that delay the onset of health conditions resulting from poor nutritional health or sedentary behavior.

In this section:

1. Briefly describe and cite (using reliable population-based, state, and local data sources) the status of the issues surrounding nutritional health, food security, physical capabilities, mental health and social connection in your region and how your proposed nutrition model program will improve this status. This includes a description of how the proposed services/interventions will impact the specific target population(s), including the services to underserved older adults with greatest social and economic need, so as to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings.
2. Describe how your proposed Replication Model project could fill the gap between the current availability of programs and the ideal situation where similar nutrition programs are readily available. This should include a description of the current delivery status and types of nutrition programs, sustainability efforts, geographic/population reach of the proposed programs in your identified area and the extent to which a network exists for systematically delivering and sustaining this program.

Approach

Capacity Building and Program Implementation.

In this section, you must describe how you will develop capacity to deliver a nutrition model program to older adults.

This section should:

1. State your project's goals and major objectives that align with Goal 1 described in this funding opportunity: *Successfully implement a Replication Model Toolkit of a selected Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services grant.*
2. Identify the nutrition model program proposed for implementation (specifically, Replication Model Toolkit A, B, or C which are located in the Appendix that you propose to implement and a rationale for selecting that program. The rationale should relate to the project relevance and current need of the population and target area identified.
3. State the projected total number of participants that you expect to reach through your proposed Replication Model and explain how you developed these target numbers. Participants may include and should be clearly delineated into distinct goal figures: older adults to be reached by programs, staff or volunteers who will receive training, others (as applicable, and definitions provided in the application). Provide a rationale for these targets, e.g., by referencing your previous experience delivering nutrition programs, the number of older adults in your region that you may be able to reach, the potential program saturation of the target participant population, partner commitments, referral systems, and other factors. **Targets should be realistic and achievable.**
4. Provide a coherent approach to implementing and disseminating the proposed nutrition program using the Replication Model Toolkits provided. Describe any existing OAA nutrition initiatives in your area and whether you plan to coordinate with these efforts. This should include a description of any existing capacity to deliver the proposed program, e.g., the number of host sites, implementation sites, and delivery personnel.
5. Describe how the proposed program enhances services and health equity for the population to be served.
6. Describe whether your existing infrastructure for implementing the proposed program is adequate. If not, describe any foundation building required.
7. Describe how you will recruit, work with and integrate OAA Title III-C providers, as well as specific organizations that provide services and/or are referral entities into your plan.
8. Describe how you intend to identify, market to, and recruit participants for your proposed program.
9. Describe any major challenges and barriers you anticipate encountering, and how you will address those challenges and barriers.

Special Target Populations

This section should also describe whether, and if so, how the proposed intervention will target disadvantaged populations, including limited-English speaking populations, those of greatest economic need and those of greatest social need. Applicants should pursue a comprehensive approach to advancing equity for all, including people of color and others who have been

historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality.

- Describe any underserved population(s) to be served by the proposed Replication Model program (underserved/under-resourced communities including but not limited to individuals who are Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; and persons who live in rural areas). Target populations also include older adults with the greatest economic need, to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings and/or older adults who formerly participated in the congregate nutrition program and other community-based programs, whose activity levels, access to healthy food, as well as opportunities to connect socially with others, grocery shop, obtain medical care, and exercise may have declined or changed significantly.

Key Partners

This section should describe how you plan to involve organizations in a meaningful way in the planning and implementation of the proposed project.

- Describe any key partners and their role in the implementation and dissemination of your proposed nutrition program. Note that you must include a Letter of Commitment from each of the key partners described and attached as an Appendix. See *Letters of Commitment* section.
- If your organization does not directly receive OAA Title III-C funds, key partners must include at least one OAA Title III-C provider, Area Agency on Aging or State Unit on Aging.
- Other entities such as organizations that provide OAA nutrition services and/or are referral entities (eg, home and community-based support service organizations, SNAP agencies, etc), schools, housing authorities, faith-based organizations and health systems should be considered when establishing partnerships for your project.

Sustainability

In this section you must describe how you will establish the sustainability of your proposed Replication Model program. The goal of sustainability is to integrate and embed the program into a community's network of coordinated health and social services so that it becomes a routine and integral component of the organization's operations. Sustainability strategies can include a combination of approaches including: funding from healthcare entities, other federal funding, philanthropy, public funding, Older Americans Act funding, development of referral partnerships, etc.

Description of your sustainability plan must be specific and include discussion of potential funding sources, services and supports (financial and otherwise) you hope to attain and how you will leverage and integrate that into the proposed plan. Potential funding sources may be community foundations, local business or other entities that may be willing to provide funding, volunteers or to sponsor activities or events.

For more information on business planning and financial sustainability, please visit: <https://acl.gov/senior-nutrition/> and <https://www.ncoa.org/article/sustainability>.

This section should:

1. State the project's goals and major objectives related to Goal 2 of this funding opportunity: *Ensure the sustainability of the project in the community through the implementation of robust sustainability strategies.*
2. Describe your sustainability strategies to support the proposed program during and beyond the grant period, including:
 - a. Any proposed or current centralized and coordinated processes to promote a unified and consistent approach to sustaining the project;
 - b. Who your sustainability partners are, the role they will play, and how you plan to engage them on a regular basis;
 - c. Any other business planning efforts to be undertaken (e.g., infrastructure, health IT, etc.); and
 - d. Any major sustainability challenges and/or barriers you anticipate encountering and how your project will address those challenges and barriers.

Outcomes and Evaluation

Please describe how you plan to reach underserved/under-resourced communities including but not limited to individuals who are Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; and persons who live in rural areas. Target populations include older adults with the greatest economic need, to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings and/or older adults who formerly participated in the congregate nutrition program and other community-based programs, whose activity levels, access to healthy food, as well as opportunities to connect socially with others, grocery shop, obtain medical care, and exercise may have declined or changed significantly.

Please identify the total number of participants to be reached in total and in Years 1, 2, and 3. Please note, as identified in Section II Award information, grantees must engage approximately 25% of the target participants by the end of Year 1, 50% of participants by the end of Year 2, and 100% of participants by the end of Year 3.

This section of the project narrative must clearly identify the measurable outcome(s) that will result from the project. **(NOTE: ACL will not fund any project that does not include measurable outcomes).** This section should also describe how the project's findings might benefit the field at large, (e.g., how the findings could help other organizations throughout the nation to address the same or similar problems.)

List measurable outcomes in the work plan (see "Project Work Plan - Sample Template") under "Measurable Outcomes" in addition to any discussion included in the narrative along with a description of how the project might benefit the field at large. You should use the Evaluation section noted below to describe how the outcome(s) will be measured and reported.

A “measurable outcome” is an observable end-result that describes how a particular intervention benefits consumers. It demonstrates the functional status, mental well-being, knowledge, skill, attitude, awareness or behavior.) It can also describe a change in the degree to which consumers exercise choice over the types of services they receive, or whether they are satisfied with the way a service is delivered. Additional examples include: a change in the responsiveness or cost-effectiveness of a service delivery system; a new model of support or care that can be replicated in the ACL network; new knowledge that can contribute to the field of community living; a measurable increase in community awareness; or a measurable increase in persons receiving services. A measurable outcome is not a measurable “output”, such as: the number of clients served; the number of training sessions held; or the number of service units provided.

Your application will be scored on the clarity and nature of your proposed outcomes, not on the number of outcomes cited. It is totally appropriate for a project to have only ONE outcome that it is trying to achieve through the intervention reflected in the project’s design.

Project Outcomes

In this section you must:

1. Describe the quantifiable and measurable outcomes that will be achieved during the project period. Your project must collect program data as outlined in the respective Replication Model Toolkit selected. Indicate how the measurable outcomes align with those required in the respective Replication Model Toolkit.
 - Measurable outcomes are planned evaluation of an aspect of the program that can be measured to determine a result. Example: participant survey to determine best time for congregate meal service.
 - Quantifiable outcomes are expressed as an amount, quantity, or numerical value.
2. List measurable outcomes in the Work Plan in addition to any discussion included in the narrative. The measurable outcomes must align with those required in the respective Replication Model Toolkit selected.

Quality Assurance

Describe your plans for maintaining quality assurance including methods, techniques, and tools that will be used to:

1. Monitor and track progress on the program's tasks and objectives.
2. Monitor whether the proposed program is being implemented according to the respective Replication Model Toolkit selected for implementation.

Dissemination

1. This section should describe the method that will be used to disseminate the project's results and findings in a timely manner and in easily understandable formats, to parties who might be interested in using the results to inform practice, service delivery, program development, and/or policy-making.
2. **Clearly state your commitment to cooperating with any broader efforts led by ACL and/or the National Nutrition and Aging Resource Center to help others understand how your project can be replicated in other communities. Examples of this assistance may include: creating tip sheets, participating in conference sessions and webinars, creating or sharing template materials, etc.**

3. In addition, you should state your commitment to participating in any ACL/National Nutrition and Aging Resource Center sponsored research and/or evaluation.

Organizational Capability

Each application should include an organizational capability statement and vitae for key project personnel. The organizational capability statement should describe how the applicant agency (or the particular division of a larger agency which will have responsibility for this project) is organized, the nature and scope of its work and/or the capabilities it possesses. It should also include the organization's capability to sustain some or all project activities after federal financial assistance has ended.

This description should cover capabilities of the applicant agency not included in the program narrative, such as any current or previous relevant experience and/or the record of the project team in preparing cogent and useful reports, publications, and other products. If appropriate, include an organization chart showing the relationship of the project to the current organization. Please attach short vitae for key project staff only. Neither vitas nor an organizational chart will count towards the narrative page limit. Also include information about any contractual organization(s) that will have a significant role(s) in implementing project and achieving project goals.

In this section:

1. Describe how your agency is organized, the nature and scope of its work, and/or the capabilities it possesses. **Include an organizational chart as an attachment to your application.** Also include information about any consultants and contractual organization(s) that will have a significant role in implementing the proposed Replication Model program and achieving project goals.
2. Describe any experience delivering nutrition programs to older adults, particularly those with greatest social and economic need, and individuals at risk for institutional placement, and how you will leverage this experience to integrate your proposed Replication Model program within your organization.
3. Describe the project management, including the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants, and key partner organizations, as well as how they will contribute to achieving the project's objectives and outcomes. You should:
 - a. Provide a description of the qualifications and experience of the key personnel for this proposed project, including for the Project Director. **Application must include resumes or CVs as an Appendix to the application.** Key personnel and other key staff should have appropriate training and experience in disciplines required to conduct all proposed activities.
 - b. Specify who will have day-to-day responsibility for key tasks such as leadership of project, monitoring the project's on-going progress, preparation of reports, and communications with other partners and ACL;
 - c. Describe how you plan to ensure project continuity should staffing turnover, delays or changes occur; and

- d. Detail the approach that will be used to monitor and track progress on the project's tasks and objectives.
4. Describe the capabilities of your organization not included in the program narrative, such as the record of the project team in preparing cogent and useful reports, publications, and other products.
5. Indicate how you encourage applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

Budget Narrative/Justification (application attachment)

The Budget Narrative/Justification can be provided using the format included in the document, “Budget Narrative/Justification – Sample Format.” Applicants are encouraged to pay particular attention to this document, which provides an example of the level of detail sought. A combined multi-year Budget Narrative/Justification, as well as a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding is required.

Applications must include combined multi-year Budget Narrative/Justification, as well as a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding, as well as including required 25% match of the total project budget.

1. You must submit the following:
 - a. Budget Narrative/Justification for Year 1;
 - b. Budget Narrative/Justification for Year 2;
 - c. Budget Narrative/Justification for Year 3; and
 - d. A total, combined three-year Budget.
2. Your Budget Narrative/Justifications should be aligned with the proposed activities in your Project Narrative and Work Plan.
3. It should also include travel for 1-2 project representatives to attend one nutrition and/or aging-relevant conference a year and 1-2 project staff to attend an annual INNU grantee convening (see items 5 and 7 in grantee section of Cooperative Agreement Terms).

It is strongly recommended that each Budget Narrative/Justification be formatted according to the guidelines in the *Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Format* section. Applicants are encouraged to pay particular attention to these guidelines, which provide an example of the level of detail sought.

NOTE: Spreadsheets, such as Excel, do not display properly when uploaded through Grants.gov. If you create your Budget Narrative/Justification in a spreadsheet, save each page as a .pdf, and combine into one document for uploading.

Work Plan (application attachment)

The Project Work Plan should reflect and be consistent with the Project Narrative and Budget. It should include a statement of the project’s overall goal, anticipated outcome(s), key objectives, and the major tasks / action steps that will be pursued to achieve the goal and outcome(s). For each major task / action step, the work plan should identify timeframes involved (including start-and end-dates), and the lead person responsible for completing the task. Please use the “Project Work Plan - Sample Template” format as a reference and resource, if desired.

You must provide a project Work Plan for Years 1, 2, and 3.

1. Each Work Plan should reflect and be consistent with the Project Narrative, Letters of Commitment and Budget Narrative/Justification.
2. Each Work Plan should include a statement of the project's overall goals, anticipated outcomes, key objectives, and the major tasks/action steps that will be pursued to achieve the goals and outcomes.
3. Applicants should identify timeframes involved (including start- and end-dates) and the lead person responsible for completing the task. Sustainability strategies must also be included.
4. The Work Plan should include the anticipated approach and organization or partner responsible, with timeframes required, for an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, if necessary.
5. The work plan should describe plans to hire, contract, and/or establish formal referral arrangements with all partners and begin work within sixty days of award.
6. The work plan should use May 1, 2023 as the anticipated start date.

It is strongly recommended that each Work Plan be formatted according to the guidelines below in *Project Work Plan -Sample Template* section.

NOTE: Spreadsheets, such as Excel, do not display properly when uploaded through Grants.gov. If you create your Work Plan in a spreadsheet, save each page as a .pdf, and combine into one document for uploading.

Letters of Commitment (application attachment)

Applicants must include Letters of Commitment **as an attachment to their application** and use a Table of Contents to clearly describe which letters represent which partners. Note that any organization that is specifically named to have a significant role in carrying out the project should be considered a key partner. These letters should describe the specific role of each partner in the project. **If the applicant does not directly receive OAA Title III-C funds this section must clearly identify at least one key partner that receives OAA Title III-C funds.**

The quality of the letter content (i.e., specificity with respect to the role of that partner) is more important than the quantity of letters submitted with your application. Signed letters of commitment should be scanned and **included as attachments**. Letters of Commitment must be uploaded as part of the applicant package via Grants.gov. Hard copies will not be accepted.

3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

The Grants.gov registration process can take several days. If your organization is not currently registered, please begin this process immediately. For assistance with <https://www.grants.gov>, please contact them at support@grants.gov or 800-518-4726 between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

- At the <https://www.grants.gov> website, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, including the hours of operation. ACL strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application due date to begin the application process because of the time involved to complete the registration process.

- All applicants must have a UEI number and be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, www.sam.gov) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete, and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award. Effective June 11, 2018, when registering or renewing your registration, you must submit a notarized letter appointing the authorized Entity Administrator. Please be sure to read the FAQs located at www.sam.gov to learn more. Applicants should allot sufficient time prior to the application deadline to finalize a new, or renew an existing registration. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award. Maintain documentation (with dates) of your efforts to register or renew at least two weeks before the deadline. See the SAM Quick Guide for Grantees at: <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/help/samQUserGuides.jsf>.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov before you can submit an application through Grants.gov. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award.

- Note: Failure to submit the correct EIN Suffix can lead to delays in identifying your organization and access to funding in the Payment Management System.
- Effective October 1, 2010, HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for and ultimately receive federal grant funds from any HHS Operating/Staff Division (OPDIV/STAFFDIV) or receive subawards directly from the recipients of those grant funds to:
 1. Register in SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
 2. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
 3. Provide its UEI number in each application or plan to submit to the OPDIV.

Additionally, all first-tier subaward recipients must have a UEI number at the time the subaward is made.

- The Federal Government will transition from the DUNS Number to the New Unique Entity Identifier. As of April of 2022, the federal government stopped using the DUNS number to uniquely identify entities. At that point, entities doing business with the federal government will use a Unique Entity Identifier (SAM) created in SAM.gov. They will no longer have to go to a third-party website to obtain their identifier. This transition allows the government to streamline the entity identification and validation process, making it easier and less burdensome for entities to do business with the federal government. If your entity is registered in SAM.gov today, your Unique Entity ID (SAM) has already been assigned and is viewable in SAM.gov. This includes inactive registrations. The Unique Entity ID is currently located below the DUNS Number on your entity registration record. Remember, you must be signed in to your SAM.gov account to view entity records. To learn how to view your Unique Entity ID (SAM) go to this help [article](#).
- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information included on the SF424 and all necessary assurances and certifications. In accordance with the Federal Government's efforts to reduce reporting burden for recipients of federal financial

assistance, the general certification and representation requirements contained in the Standard Form 424B (SF-424B) – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs, and the Standard Form 424D (SF-424D) – Assurances – Construction Programs, have been standardized federal-wide. Effective January 1, 2020, the updated common certification and representation requirements will be stored and maintained within SAM.

Organizations or individuals applying for federal financial assistance as of January 1, 2020, must validate the federally required common certifications and representations annually through SAM located at SAM.gov.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment from <https://www.grants.gov> that contains <https://www.grants.gov> tracking number. The Administration for Community Living will retrieve your application form from <https://www.grants.gov>.

4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications 01/25/2023

01/25/2023

Date for Informational Conference Call:

12/14/2022

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties, either on your end or, with <http://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov web page: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only)

If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, please contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII of this notice and provide a written explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. ACL will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: We will not consider your application for further review if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

If for any reason (including submitting to the wrong funding opportunity number or making corrections/updates) an application is submitted more than once prior to the application due date, ACL will only accept your last validated electronic submission, under the correct funding opportunity number, prior to the Grants.gov application due date as the final and only acceptable application

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from <http://www.grants.gov> indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an <http://www.grants.gov> submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the cut off date.

Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) will automatically send applicants a tracking number and date of receipt verification electronically once the application has been successfully received and validated in <http://www.grants.gov>.

5. Intergovernmental Review

This program is not subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

6. Funding Restrictions

The following activities are not fundable:

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

Note: A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report has raised considerable concerns about grantees and contractors charging the Federal Government for additional meals outside of the standard allowance for travel subsistence known as per diem expenses. Executive Orders on Promoting Efficient Spending (E.O. 13589) and Delivering Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government (E.O. 13576) have been issued and instruct Federal agencies to promote efficient spending. Therefore, if meals are to be charged in your proposal, applicants should understand such costs must meet the following criteria outlined in the Executive Orders and HHS Grants Policy Statement:

- Meals are generally unallowable except for the following:
 - For subjects and patients under study (usually a research program);
 - Where specifically approved as part of the project or program activity, e.g., in programs providing children's services (e.g. Head Start);
 - When an organization customarily provides meals to employees working beyond the normal workday, as a part of a formal compensation arrangement,
 - As part of a per diem or subsistence allowance provided in conjunction with allowable travel; and
 - Under a conference grant, when meals are necessary and integral part of a conference, provided that meal costs are not duplicated in participants' per diem or subsistence allowances. (Note: conference grant means the sole purpose of the award is to hold a conference.)

The following updated sections 2 CFR 200.216 “Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment” became **effective on or after August 13, 2020**.

Recommended Actions for any recipient that has received a loan, grant, or cooperative agreement **on or after August 13, 2020**:

- Develop a compliance plan to implement 2 CFR 200.216 regulation.
- Develop and maintain internal controls to ensure that your organization does not expend federal funds (in whole or in part) on covered equipment, services or systems.
- Determine through reasonable inquiry whether your organization currently uses “covered telecommunication” equipment, services, or systems and take necessary actions to comply with the regulation as quickly as is feasibly possible.

7. Other Submission Requirements

V. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Applicants must document all of their source material. If any text, language and/or materials are from another source, the applicant must make it clear the material is being quoted and where the text comes from. The applicant must also cite any sources when they obtain numbers, ideas, or other material that is not their own.

Applications are scored by assigning a maximum of 100 points across the following review criteria:

- Project Abstract
- Problem Statement
- Approach
- Outcomes and Evaluation
- Organizational Capability
- Work Plan (application attachment) *
- Budget Narrative/Justification (application attachment) *
- Letters of Commitment (application attachment)

*** NOTE: Spreadsheets, such as Excel, do not display properly when uploaded through Grants.gov. If you create your Budget Narrative/Justification in a spreadsheet, save each page as a .pdf, and combine into one document for uploading.**

Project Abstract

Maximum Points: 6

Does the abstract include each of the following:

1. The goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project (*1 point*)
2. The nutrition model program you plan to implement/disseminate (indicate selected Replication Model Toolkit (*1 point*))
3. Projected number of program participants; (*1 point*)
4. Key partners (*1 point*)
5. Target population (s) (*1 point*)
6. Targeted/impacted geographic area(s) (*1 point*)

Problem Statement**Maximum Points: 5**

Does the applicant:

1. Briefly describe and cite (using reliable population-based, state, and local data sources) the status of the issues surrounding nutritional health, food security, physical capabilities, mental health and social connection in their region and how their proposed nutrition model program will improve this status? This includes the targeted services to underserved older adults with greatest social and economic need, so as to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings. (2 points)
2. Describe how their proposed nutrition model program could fill the gap between the current availability of programs and the ideal situation where nutrition programs are readily available? This should include a description of the current delivery status of nutrition programs, sustainability efforts, geographic/population reach of the proposed programs in their region and the extent to which a network exists for systematically delivering and sustaining this program. (3 points)

Approach**Maximum Points: 42**

Note: if the applicant proposes to use ACL funds to implement a program other than one outlined in one of the Replication Model Toolkits (Reference the Replication Toolkits in the Appendix for detailed descriptions and project flexibilities); reviewers must assign zero (0) out of the 42 possible points for the Approach section.

Capacity Building and Program Implementation (28 points)

Does the applicant:

1. State their project's goals and major objectives that align with Goal 1 described in this funding opportunity: *Successfully implement a Replication Model Toolkit of a selected Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services grant?* (2 points)
2. Identify the Replication Model Toolkit (specifically, Replication Model Toolkit A, B or C. (Reference the Replication Toolkits in the Appendix for detailed descriptions and project flexibilities) they are proposing to implement and a rationale for selecting that program? The rationale should relate to the project relevance and current need of the population and target area identified. (2 points)
3. State the projected total number of participants that they expect to reach through their proposed nutrition model program and explain how they developed these target numbers? Participants may include and should be clearly delineated into distinct goal figures: older adults to be reached by programs, staff or volunteers who will receive training, others (as applicable, with any definitions provided by the applicant). (4 points)
4. Provide a coherent approach to implementing and disseminating the proposed nutrition program using the Replication Model Toolkit selected? (4 points)
5. Describe any existing nutrition initiatives in their area and whether they plan to coordinate with these efforts? (2 points)
6. Describe how the proposed program enhances services and health equity for the population to be served? (2 points)
7. Describe whether their existing infrastructure for implementing the proposed program is adequate? If not, describe any foundation building required. (2 points)

8. Describe how they intend to identify, market to, and recruit participants for their proposed program? (2 points)
9. Describe any major challenges and barriers they anticipate encountering, and how they will address those challenges and barriers? (2 points)

Special Target Populations

- Does the applicant describe any underserved population(s) to be served by the proposed Replication Model program (underserved/under-resourced communities including but not limited to individuals who are Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; and persons who live in rural areas). Target populations include older adults with the greatest economic need, to permit such individuals to remain in home and community-based settings and/or older adults who formerly participated in the congregate nutrition program and other community-based programs, whose activity levels, access to healthy food, as well as opportunities to connect socially with others, grocery shop, obtain medical care, and exercise may have declined or changed significantly. (3 points)

Key Partners

- Does the applicant describe key partners and their role in the implementation and dissemination of the proposed nutrition program? If the applicant does not receive OAA Title III-C funds, have they indicated a key partner that is an OAA Title III-C provider, like an Area Agency on Aging or a State Unit on Aging? (3 points)

Sustainability (14 points)

Does the applicant:

1. State the project's goals and major objectives related to Goal 2 of this funding opportunity. *Ensure the sustainability of the project in the community through the implementation of robust sustainability strategies.* (6 points)
2. Describe their sustainability strategies to support the proposed program during and beyond the grant period, including:
 - a. Any proposed or current centralized and coordinated processes to promote a unified and consistent approach to sustaining the project? (2 points)
 - b. Who their sustainability partners are, the role they will play, and how they plan to engage them on a regular basis? (2 points)
 - c. Any other business planning efforts to be undertaken (e.g., infrastructure, health IT, etc.)? and (2 points)
 - d. Any major sustainability challenges and/or barriers they anticipate encountering (or are encountering), and how their project will address those challenges and barriers? (2 points)

Outcomes and Evaluation

Maximum Points: 18

Project Outcomes

1. Does the applicant describe the quantifiable and measurable outcomes that will be achieved during the project period? Does the project collect program data as outlined in the respective Replication Model Toolkit selected? Do the measurable outcomes align with those required in the respective Replication Model Toolkit (*Reference the Replication Toolkits in the Appendix for detailed descriptions and project flexibilities*) selected? Does the project anticipate reaching 25% by the end of Year 1, 50% by the end of Year 2, and 100% by the end of Year 3? (6 points)
2. Does the applicant list measurable outcomes in the Work Plan, in addition to any discussion included in the narrative? (5 points)

Quality Assurance

1. Does the applicant describe how they will monitor and track progress on the program's tasks and objectives? (2 points)
2. Does the applicant describe how they will monitor whether the proposed program is being implemented according to the Replication Model Toolkit selected for implementation? (2 points)

Dissemination

1. Does the applicant describe the method that will be used to disseminate the project's results and findings in a timely manner and in easily understandable formats, to parties who might be interested in using the results to inform practice, service delivery, program development, and/or policy-making? (1 point)
2. Does the applicant clearly state their commitment to cooperate with any broader efforts led by ACL and/or the National Nutrition and Aging Resource Center to help others understand how the project can be replicated in other communities? Examples of this assistance may include: creating tip sheets, participating in conference sessions and webinars, creating or sharing template materials, etc. (1 point)
3. Does the applicant state their commitment to participating in any ACL/National Nutrition and Aging Resource Center sponsored research and/or evaluation? (1 point)

Organizational Capacity

Maximum Points: 10

1. Does the applicant describe how their agency is organized, the nature and scope of its work, and/or the capabilities it possesses? Did they include an organizational chart as an Appendix. Did they include information about any consultants and contractual organization(s) that will have a significant role in implementing the proposed nutrition model program and achieving project goals? (3 points)
2. Does the applicant describe any experience delivering nutrition programs to older adults, particularly those with greatest social and economic need, and individuals at risk for institutional placement, and how they will leverage this experience to integrate the proposed Replication Model program within their organization? (2 points)
3. Does the applicant describe the project management, including the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants, and key partner organizations, as well as how they will contribute to achieving the project's objectives and outcomes? (3 points)
Did they:

- a. Provide a description of the qualifications and experience of the key personnel for this proposed project, including for the Project Director. (Include resumes or CVs as an appendix.);
 - b. Specify who will have day-to-day responsibility for key tasks such as leadership of project, monitoring the project's on-going progress, preparation of reports, and communications with other partners and ACL;
 - c. Describe how they will ensure project continuity should staffing turnover, delays or changes occur; and
 - d. Detail the approach that will be used to monitor and track progress on the project's tasks and objectives.
4. Does the applicant describe the capabilities of their organization, such as the record of the project team in preparing cogent and useful reports, publications, and other products? *(1 point)*
 5. Does the applicant indicate how they encourage applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability? *(1 point)*

Work Plan

Maximum Points: 8

1. Does the applicant include a work plan for year 1, 2 and 3? *(3 points - 1 point per year)*
2. Does the workplan reflect that it is consistent with the Project Narrative and Budget Narrative/Justification? *(2 points)*
3. Does the Work Plan include a statement of the project's overall goals, anticipated outcomes, key objectives, and the major tasks/action steps that will be pursued to achieve the goal and outcome(s)? *(1point)*
4. Does the Work Plan identify timeframes involved (including start- and end-dates) and the lead person (including partners/consultants) responsible for completing each task? *(1 point)*
5. Does the work plan describe plans to hire, contract, and/or establish formal referral arrangements with all partners and begin work within sixty days of award? *(1point)*

Budget Narrative/Justification

Maximum Points: 6

1. Does the applicant include detailed budgets for year 1, 2, 3 and a totaled, combined three-year budget? Are budget line items clearly delineated and consistent with Work Plan objectives? Are relevant activities from the Project Narrative and Work Plan reflected in the budget as appropriate? *(4 points -1 for each year and the combined budget)*
2. Does the budget include travel for 1-2 project staff to attend an annual INNU grantee convening? *(1 point)*
3. Does the budget include travel for 1-2 project staff to attend an annual nutrition and/or aging conference to disseminate their project activities? *(1 point)*

Letters of Commitment

Maximum Points: 5

Does the applicant include Letters of Commitment (as an Appendix) describing and confirming commitments from key partners, such as collaborating organizations and agencies that were named in the Project Abstract and Approach sections? **If the applicant does not directly**

receive OAA Title III-C funds, do they clearly identify at least one key partner that receives OAA Title III-C funds? (5 points)

2. Review and Selection Process

As required by 2 CFR Part 200 of the Uniform Guidance, effective January 1, 2016, ACL is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS), <https://www.fapiis.gov> before making any award in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$150,000) over the period of performance. An applicant may review and comment on any information about itself that a federal awarding agency has previously entered into FAPIIS. ACL will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in FAPIIS, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 2 CFR Section 200.205 Federal Awarding Agency Review of Risk Posed by Applicants (https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=se2.1.200_1205&rgn=div8).

An independent review panel of at least three individuals will evaluate applications that pass the screening and meet the responsiveness criteria if applicable. These reviewers are experts in their field, and are drawn from academic institutions, non-profit organizations, state and local governments, and federal government agencies. Based on the Application Review Criteria as outlined under section V.1, the reviewers will comment on and score the applications, focusing their comments and scoring decisions on the identified criteria.

Final award decisions will be made by the Administrator, ACL. In making these decisions, the Administrator will take into consideration: recommendations of the review panel; reviews for programmatic and grants management compliance; the reasonableness of the estimated cost to the government considering the available funding and anticipated results; and the likelihood that the proposed project will result in the benefits expected.

3. Anticipated Announcement Award Date

Award notices to successful applicants will be sent out prior to the project start date.

The anticipated project period start date for this announcement is: 05/01/2023

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive an electronic Notice of Award. The Notice of Award is the authorizing document from the U.S. Administration for Community Living authorizing official, Office of Grants Management. Acceptance of this award is signified by the drawdown of funds from the Payment Management System. Unsuccessful applicants are generally notified within 30 days of the final funding decision and will receive a disapproval letter via e-mail. Unless indicated otherwise in this announcement, unsuccessful applications will not be retained by the agency and will be destroyed.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

The award is subject to HHS Administrative Requirements, which can be found in 45 CFR Part 75 and the Standard Terms and Conditions, included in the Notice of Award as well as implemented through the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

Should you successfully compete for an award, recipients of federal financial assistance (FFA) from HHS will be required to complete an HHS Assurance of Compliance form (HHS 690) in which you agree, as a condition of receiving the grant, to administer your programs in compliance with federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex and disability, and agreeing to comply with federal conscience laws, where applicable. This includes ensuring that entities take meaningful steps to provide meaningful access to persons with limited English proficiency; and ensuring effective communication with persons with disabilities. Where applicable, Title XI and Section 1557 prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and gender identity. The HHS Office for Civil Rights provides guidance on complying with civil rights laws enforced by HHS. See <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-providers/provider-obligations/index.html> and <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/nondiscrimination/index.html>.

A standard term and condition of award will be included in the final notice of award; all applicants will be subject to a term and condition that applies the terms of 48 CFR section 3.908 to the award and requires the grantees inform their employee in writing of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712 in the predominant native language of the workforce.

Applicants may follow their own procurement policies and procedures when contracting with Project Funds, but You must comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.326. Additionally, when using Project Funds to procure supplies and/or equipment, applicants are encouraged to purchase American-manufactured goods to the maximum extent practicable. American-manufactured goods are those products for which the cost of their component parts that were mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States exceeds 50 percent of the total cost of all their components. For further guidance regarding what constitutes an American manufactured good (also known as a domestic end product), see 48 C.F.R. Part 25.

3. Reporting

Reporting frequency for performance and financial reports, as well as any required form or formatting and the means of submission will be noted within the terms and conditions on the Notice of Award.

4. FFATA and FSRS Reporting

The Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires data entry at the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (<http://www.FSRS.gov>) for all sub-awards and sub-contracts issued for \$25,000 or more as well as addressing executive compensation for both grantee and sub-award organizations.

For further guidance please follow this link to access ACL's Terms and Conditions: <https://www.acl.gov/grants/managing-grant#>

VII. Agency Contacts

Project Officer

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Last Name:

Simon

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VIII. Other Information

Application Elements

- SF 424, required – Application for Federal Assistance (See “Instructions for Completing Required Forms” for assistance).
- SF 424A, required – Budget Information. (See Appendix for instructions).
- Separate Budget Narrative/Justification, required (See “Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Format” for examples and “Budget Narrative/Justification – Sample Template.”)

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grant projects are REQUIRED to provide a Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding, as well as a combined multi-year detailed Budget Narrative/Justification.

- SF 424B – Assurance, required. Note: Be sure to complete this form according to instructions and have it signed and dated by the authorized representative (see item 18d on the SF 424).
- Lobbying Certification, required.
- Proof of non-profit status, if applicable
- Copy of the applicant’s most recent indirect cost agreement or cost allocation plan, if requesting indirect costs. If any sub-contractors or sub-grantees are requesting indirect costs, copies of their indirect cost agreements must also be included with the application.
- Project Narrative with Work Plan, required (See “Project Work Plan – Sample Template” for a formatting suggestions).

- Vitae for Key Project Personnel.
- Letters of Commitment from Key Partners, if applicable.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-13)

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The project description and Budget Narrative/Justification is approved under OMB control number 0985-0018. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed and reviewing the collection information.

Appendix

Accessibility Provisions for All Grant Application Packages and Funding Opportunity Announcements

Should you successfully compete for an award, recipients of federal financial assistance (FFA) from HHS will be required to complete an HHS Assurance of Compliance form (HHS 690) in which you agree, as a condition of receiving the grant, to administer your programs in compliance with federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex and disability, and agreeing to comply with federal conscience laws, where applicable. This includes ensuring that entities take meaningful steps to provide meaningful access to persons with limited English proficiency; and ensuring effective communication with persons with disabilities. Where applicable, Title XI and Section 1557 prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and gender identity, The HHS Office for Civil Rights provides guidance on complying with civil rights laws enforced by HHS. See <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-providers/provider-obligations/index.html> and <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/nondiscrimination/index.html>.

- Recipients of FFA must ensure that their programs are accessible to persons with limited English proficiency. HHS provides guidance to recipients of FFA on meeting their legal obligation to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to their programs by persons with limited English proficiency. Please see <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/special-topics/limited-english-proficiency/fact-sheet-guidance/index.html> and <https://www.lep.gov>. For further guidance on providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services, recipients should review the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care at <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlid=53>.
- Recipients of FFA also have specific legal obligations for serving qualified individuals with disabilities. Please see <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/understanding/disability/index.html>.
- HHS funded health and education programs must be administered in an environment free of sexual harassment. Please see <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/sex-discrimination/index.html>; <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/shguide.html>; and <https://www.eeoc.gov/sexual-harassment>.
- Recipients of FFA must also administer their programs in compliance with applicable federal religious nondiscrimination laws and applicable federal conscience protection and associated anti-discrimination laws. Collectively, these laws prohibit exclusion, adverse

treatment, coercion, or other discrimination against persons or entities on the basis of their consciences, religious beliefs, or moral convictions. Please see <https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/conscience-protections/index.html> and <https://www.hhs.gov/conscience/religious-freedom/index.html>.

Please contact the HHS Office for Civil Rights for more information about obligations and prohibitions under federal civil rights laws at <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html> or call 1-800-368-1019 or TDD 1-800-537-7697.

Instructions for Completing Required Forms

This section provides step-by-step instructions for completing the four (4) standard Federal forms required as part of your grant application, including special instructions for completing Standard Budget Forms 424 and 424A. Standard Forms 424 and 424A are used for a wide variety of Federal grant programs, and Federal agencies have the discretion to require some or all of the information on these forms. ACL does not require all the information on these Standard Forms. Accordingly, please use the instructions below in lieu of the standard instructions attached to SF 424 and 424A to complete these forms.

a. Standard Form 424

1. **Type of Submission:** (REQUIRED): Select one type of submission in accordance with agency instructions.

- Preapplication
- Application
- Changed/Corrected Application – If ACL requests, check if this submission is to change or correct a previously submitted application.

2. **Type of Application:** (REQUIRED) Select one type of application in accordance with agency instructions.

- New
- Continuation
- Revision

3. **Date Received:** Leave this field blank.

4. **Applicant Identifier:** Leave this field blank

5a **Federal Entity Identifier:** Leave this field blank

5b. **Federal Award Identifier:** For new applications leave blank. For a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the previously assigned Federal award (grant) number.

6. **Date Received by State:** Leave this field blank.

7. **State Application Identifier:** Leave this field blank.

8. **Applicant Information:** Enter the following in accordance with agency instructions:

a. **Legal Name:** (REQUIRED): Enter the name that the organization has registered with the System for Award Management (SAM), formally the Central Contractor Registry. Information

on registering with SAM may be obtained by visiting the Grants.gov website (<https://www.grants.gov>) or by going directly to the SAM website (www.sam.gov).

b. Employer/Taxpayer Number (EIN/TIN): (REQUIRED): Enter the Employer or Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN or TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, we encourage the organization to include the correct suffix used to identify your organization in order to properly align access to the Payment Management System.

c. Organizational UEI (REQUIRED): If your entity is registered in SAM.gov today, your Unique Entity ID (SAM) has already been assigned and is viewable in SAM.gov. This includes inactive registrations. The Unique Entity ID is currently located below the DUNS Number on your entity registration record. Remember, you must be signed in to your SAM.gov account to view entity records.

d. Address: (REQUIRED) Enter the complete address including the county.

e. Organizational Unit: Enter the name of the primary organizational unit (and department or division, if applicable) that will undertake the project.

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: Enter the name (First and last name required), organizational affiliation (if affiliated with an organization other than the applicant organization), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person to contact on matters related to this application.

9. Type of Applicant: (REQUIRED) Select the applicant organization “type” from the following drop down list.

A. State Government B. County Government C. City or Township Government D. Special District Government E. Regional Organization F. U.S. Territory or Possession G. Independent School District H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education I. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized) J. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized) K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization L. Public/Indian Housing Authority M. Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) N. Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) O. Private Institution of Higher Education P. Individual Q. For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business) R. Small Business S. Hispanic-serving Institution T. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) U. Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs) V. Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions W. Non-domestic (non-US) Entity X. Other (specify)

10. Name of Federal Agency: (REQUIRED) Enter U.S. Administration for Community Living

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number/Title: The CFDA number can be found on page one of the Program Announcement.

12. Funding Opportunity Number/Title: (REQUIRED) The Funding Opportunity Number and title of the opportunity can be found on page one of the Program Announcement.

13. Competition Identification Number/Title: Leave this field blank.

14. Areas Affected by Project: List the largest political entity affected (cities, counties, state etc.)

15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: (REQUIRED) Enter a brief descriptive title of the project (This is not a narrative description).

16. Congressional Districts Of: (REQUIRED) 16a. Enter the applicant's Congressional District, and 16b. Enter all district(s) affected by the program or project. Enter in the format: 2 characters State Abbreviation – 3 characters District Number, e.g., CA-005 for California 5th district, CA-012 for California 12th district, NC-103 for North Carolina's 103rd district. If all congressional districts in a state are affected, enter "all" for the district number, e.g., MD-all for all congressional districts in Maryland. If nationwide, i.e. all districts within all states are affected, enter US-all. See the below website to find your congressional district:

<https://www.house.gov/>

17. Proposed Project Start and End Dates: (REQUIRED) Enter the proposed start date and final end date of the project. **If you are applying for a multi-year grant, such as a 3 year grant project, the final project end date will be 3 years after the proposed start date.** In general, all start dates on the SF424 should be the 1st of the month and the end date of the last day of the month of the final year, for example 7/01/2014 to 6/30/2017. The Grants Officer can alter the start and end date at their discretion.

18. Estimated Funding: (REQUIRED) If requesting multi-year funding, enter the full amount requested from the Federal Government in line item 18.a., as a multi-year total. For example and illustrative purposes only, if year one is \$100,000, year two is \$100,000, and year three is \$100,000, then the full amount of federal funds requested would be reflected as \$300,000. The amount of matching funds is denoted by lines b. through f. with a combined federal and non-federal total entered on line g. Lines b. through f. represents contributions to the project by the applicant and by your partners during the total project period, broken down by each type of contributor. The value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines, as applicable.

NOTE: Applicants should review cost sharing or matching principles contained in Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 75 before completing Item 18 and the Budget Information Sections A, B and C noted below.

All budget information entered under item 18 should cover the total project period. For sub-item 18a, enter the federal funds being requested. Sub-items 18b-18e is considered matching funds. For ACL programs that have a cost-matching requirement (list here), the dollar amounts entered in sub-items 18b-18f must total at least 1/3 of the amount of federal funds being requested (the amount in 18a). For a full explanation of ACL's match requirements, see the information in the box below. For sub-item 18f (program income), enter only the amount, if any, that is going to be used as part of the required match. Program Income submitted as match will become a part of the award match and recipients will be held accountable to meet their share of project expenses even if program income is not generated during the award period.

There are two types of match: 1) non-federal cash and 2) non-federal in-kind. In general, costs borne by the applicant and cash contributions of any and all third parties involved in the project, including sub-grantees, contractors and consultants, are considered **matching funds**. Examples

of **non-federal cash match** includes budgetary funds provided from the applicant agency's budget for costs associated with the project. Generally, most contributions from sub-contractors or sub-grantees (third parties) will be non-federal in-kind matching funds. Volunteered time and use of third party facilities to hold meetings or conduct project activities may be considered in-kind (third party) donations.

NOTE: **Indirect charges** may only be requested if: (1) the applicant has a current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another federal agency; or (2) the applicant is a state or local government agency. State governments should enter the amount of indirect costs determined in accordance with HHS requirements. **If indirect costs are to be included in the application, a copy of the approved indirect cost agreement or cost allocation plan must be included with the application. Further, if any sub-contractors or sub-grantees are requesting indirect costs, a copy of the latest approved indirect cost agreements must also be included with the application, or reference to an approved cost allocation plan.**

19. Is Application Subject to Review by State Under Executive Order 12372

Process? Please refer to IV. Application and Submission Information, 4. Intergovernmental Review to determine if the ACL program is subject to E.O. 12372 and respond accordingly.

20. Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt? (Required) This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. If yes, include an explanation on the continuation sheet.

21. Authorized Representative: (Required) To be signed and dated by the authorized representative of the applicant organization. Enter the name (First and last name required) title (Required), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person authorized to sign for the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)

Standard Form 424A

NOTE: Standard Form 424A is designed to accommodate applications for multiple grant programs; thus, for purposes of this ACL program, many of the budget item columns and rows are not applicable. You should only consider and respond to the budget items for which guidance is provided below. Unless otherwise indicated, the SF 424A should reflect a multi-year budget.

Section A - Budget Summary

Line 5: Leave columns (c) and (d) blank. Enter TOTAL Federal costs in column (e) and total non federal costs (including third party in-kind contributions and any program income to be

used as part of the grantee match) in column (f). Enter the sum of columns (e) and (f) in column (g).

Section B - Budget Categories

Column 1: Enter the breakdown of how you plan to use the Federal funds being requested by object class category.

Column 2: Enter the breakdown of how you plan to use the non-Federal share by object class category.

Column 5: Enter the total funds required for the project (sum of Columns 1 and 2) by object class category.

Section C - Non-Federal Resources

Column A: Enter the federal grant program.

Column B: Enter in any non-federal resources that the applicant will contribute to the project.

Column C: Enter in any non-federal resources that the state will contribute to the project.

Column D: Enter in any non-federal resources that other sources will contribute to the project.

Column E: Enter the total non-federal resources for each program listed in column A.

Section D - Forecasted Cash Needs

Line 13: Enter Federal forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year only.

Line 14: Enter Non-Federal forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year.

Line 15: Enter total forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year.

Note: This area is not meant to be one whereby an applicant merely divides the requested funding by four and inserts that amount in each quarter but an area where thought is given as to how your estimated expenses will be incurred during each quarter. For example, if you have initial startup costs in the first quarter of your award reflect that in quarter one or you do not expect to have contracts awarded and funded until quarter three, reflect those costs in that quarter.

Section E – Budget Estimates of Federal Funds Needed for Balance of the Project (i.e. subsequent years 2, 3, 4 or 5 as applicable).

Column A: Enter the federal grant program

Column B (first): Enter the requested year two funding.

Column C (second): Enter the requested year three funding.

Column D (third): Enter the requested year four funding, if applicable.

Column E (forth): Enter the requested year five funding, if applicable.

Section F – Other Budget Information

Line 21: Enter the total Indirect Charges

Line 22: Enter the total Direct charges (calculation of indirect rate and direct charges).

Line 23: Enter any pertinent remarks related to the budget.

Separate Budget Narrative/Justification Requirement

Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grant programs are REQUIRED to provide a combined multi-year Budget Narrative/Justification, as well as a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding. A separate Budget

Narrative/Justification is also REQUIRED for each potential year of grant funding requested.

For your use in developing and presenting your Budget Narrative/Justification, a sample format with examples and a blank sample template have been included in these Attachments. In your Budget Narrative/Justification, you should include a breakdown of the budgetary costs for all of the object class categories noted in Section B, across three columns: Federal; non-Federal cash; and non-Federal in-kind. Cost breakdowns, or justifications, are required for any cost of \$1,000 or for the thresholds as established in the examples. The Budget Narratives/Justifications should fully explain and justify the costs in each of the major budget items for each of the object class categories, as described below. Non-Federal cash as well as, sub-contractor or sub-grantee (third party) in-kind contributions designated as match must be clearly identified and explained in the Budget Narrative/Justification. The full Budget Narrative/Justification should be included in the application immediately following the SF 424 forms.

Line 6a: **Personnel:** Enter total costs of salaries and wages of applicant/grantee staff. Do not include the costs of consultants, which should be included under 6h Other.

In the Justification: Identify the project director, if known. Specify the key staff, their titles, and time commitments in the budget justification.

Line 6b: **Fringe Benefits:** Enter the total costs of fringe benefits unless treated as part of an approved indirect cost rate.

In the Justification: If the total fringe benefit rate exceeds 35% of Personnel costs, provide a breakdown of amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs, such as health insurance, FICA, retirement, etc. A percentage of 35% or less does not require a breakdown but you must show the percentage charged for each full/part time employee.

Line 6c: **Travel:** Enter total costs of all travel (local and non-local) for staff on the project. NEW: Local travel is considered under this cost item not under Other. Local transportation (all travel which does not require per diem is considered local travel). Do not enter costs for consultant's travel - this should be included in line 6h.

In the Justification: Include the total number of trips, number of travelers, destinations, purpose (e.g., attend conference), length of stay, subsistence allowances (per diem), and transportation costs (including mileage rates).

Line 6d: **Equipment:** Enter the total costs of all equipment to be acquired by the project. For all grantees, "equipment" is nonexpendable tangible personal property having a useful life of more

than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. If the item does not meet the \$5,000 threshold, include it in your budget under Supplies, line 6e.

In the Justification: Equipment to be purchased with federal funds must be justified as necessary for the conduct of the project. The equipment must be used for project-related functions. Further, the purchase of specific items of equipment should not be included in the submitted budget if those items of equipment, or a reasonable facsimile, are otherwise available to the applicant or its subgrantees.

Line 6e: **Supplies:** Enter the total costs of all tangible expendable personal property (supplies) other than those included on line 6d.

In the Justification: . For any grant award that has supply costs in excess of 5% of total direct costs (Federal or Non-Federal), you must provide a detailed break down of the supply items (e.g., 6% of \$100,000 = \$6,000 – breakdown of supplies needed). If the 5% is applied against \$1 million total direct costs (5% x \$1,000,000 = \$50,000) a detailed breakdown of supplies is not needed. Please note: any supply costs of \$5,000 or less regardless of total direct costs does not require a detailed budget breakdown (e.g., 5% x \$100,000 = \$5,000 – no breakdown needed).

Line 6f: **Contractual:** Regardless of the dollar value of any contract, you must follow your established policies and procedures for procurements and meet the minimum standards established in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR's) mentioned below. Enter the total costs of all contracts, including (1) procurement contracts (except those which belong on other lines such as equipment, supplies, etc.). Note: The 33% provision has been removed and line item budget detail is not required as long as you meet the established procurement standards. Also include any awards to organizations for the provision of technical assistance. Do not include payments to individuals on this line. Please be advised: A subrecipient is involved in financial assistance activities by receiving a sub-award and a subcontractor is involved in procurement activities by receiving a sub-contract. Through the recipient, a subrecipient performs work to accomplish the public purpose authorized by law. Generally speaking, a sub-contractor does not seek to accomplish a public benefit and does not perform substantive work on the project. It is merely a vendor providing goods or services to directly benefit the recipient, for example procuring landscaping or janitorial services. In either case, you are encouraged to clearly describe the type of work that will be accomplished and type of relationship with the lower tiered entity whether it be labeled as a subaward or subcontract.

In the Justification: Provide the following three items – 1) Attach a list of contractors indicating the name of the organization; 2) the purpose of the contract; and 3) the estimated dollar amount. If the name of the contractor and estimated costs are not available or have not been negotiated, indicate when this information will be available. The Federal government reserves the right to request the final executed contracts at any time. If an individual contractual

item is over the small purchase threshold, currently set at \$100K in the CFR, you must certify that your procurement standards are in accordance with the policies and procedures as stated in 45 CFR Part 75 for states, in lieu of providing separate detailed budgets. This certification should be referenced in the justification and attached to the budget narrative.

Line 6g: **Construction:** Leave blank since construction is not an allowable costs for this program.

Line 6h: **Other:** Enter the total of all other costs. Such costs, where applicable, may include, but are not limited to: insurance, medical and dental costs (i.e. for project volunteers this is different from personnel fringe benefits), non-contractual fees and travel paid directly to individual consultants, postage, space and equipment rentals/lease, printing and publication, computer use, training and staff development costs (i.e. registration fees). If a cost does not clearly fit under another category, and it qualifies as an allowable cost, then rest assured this is where it belongs.

Note: A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report number 11-43, has raised considerable concerns about grantees and contractors charging the Federal government for additional meals outside of the standard allowance for travel subsistence known as per diem expenses. If meals are to be charged towards the grant they must meet the following criteria outlined in the Grants Policy Statement:

- *Meals are generally unallowable except for the following:*
- *For subjects and patients under study(usually a research program);*
- *Where specifically approved as part of the project or program activity, e.g., in programs providing children's services (e.g., Headstart);*
- *When an organization customarily provides meals to employees working beyond the normal workday, as a part of a formal compensation arrangement;*
- *As part of a per diem or subsistence allowance provided in conjunction with allowable travel; and*
- *Under a conference grant, when meals are a necessary and integral part of a conference, provided that meal costs are not duplicated in participants' per diem or subsistence allowances (Note: the sole purpose of the grant award is to hold a conference).*

In the Justification: Provide a reasonable explanation for items in this category. For example, individual consultants explain the nature of services provided and the relation to activities in the work plan or indicate where it is described in the work plan. Describe the types of activities for staff development costs.

Line 6i: **Total Direct Charges:** Show the totals of Lines 6a through 6h.

Line 6j: **Indirect Charges:** Enter the total amount of indirect charges (costs), if any. If no indirect costs are requested, enter "none." Indirect charges may be requested if: (1) the applicant

has a current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another federal agency; or (2) the applicant is a state or local government agency. **State governments should enter the amount of indirect costs determined in accordance with DHHS requirements.** An applicant that will charge indirect costs to the grant must enclose a copy of the current rate agreement. Indirect Costs can only be claimed on Federal funds, more specifically, they are to only be claimed on the Federal share of your direct costs. Any unused portion of the grantee's eligible Indirect Cost amount that are not claimed on the Federal share of direct charges can be claimed as un-reimbursed indirect charges, and that portion can be used towards meeting the recipient match.

Line 6k: **Total:** Enter the total amounts of Lines 6i and 6j.

Line 7: **Program Income:** As appropriate, include the estimated amount of income, if any, you expect to be generated from this project that you wish to designate as match (equal to the amount shown for Item 15(f) on Form 424). **Note:** Any program income indicated at the bottom of Section B and for item 15(f) on the face sheet of Form 424 will be included as part of non-Federal match and will be subject to the rules for documenting completion of this pledge. If program income is expected, but is not needed to achieve matching funds, **do not** include that portion here or on Item 15(f) of the Form 424 face sheet. Any anticipated program income that will not be applied as grantee match should be described in the Level of Effort section of the Program Narrative.

c. Standard Form 424B – Assurances (required)

This form contains assurances required of applicants under the discretionary funds programs administered by the Administration for Community Living. Please note that a duly authorized representative of the applicant organization must certify that the organization is in compliance with these assurances.

d. Certification Regarding Lobbying (required)

This form contains certifications that are required of the applicant organization regarding lobbying. Please note that a duly authorized representative of the applicant organization must attest to the applicant's compliance with these certifications.

Proof of Nonprofit Status (as applicable)

Non-profit applicants must submit proof of non-profit status. Any of the following constitutes acceptable proof of such status:

- A copy of a currently valid IRS tax exemption certificate.
- A statement from a State taxing body, State attorney general, or other appropriate State official certifying that the applicant organization has a non-profit status and that none of the net earnings accrue to any private shareholders or individuals.
- A certified copy of the organization's certificate of incorporation or similar document that clearly establishes non-profit status.

Indirect Cost Agreement

Applicants that have included indirect costs in their budgets must include a copy of the current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another federal agency. This is optional for applicants that have not included indirect costs in their budgets.

Budget Narrative/Justification- Sample Format

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Object Class Category	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Cash	Non-Federal In-Kind	TOTAL	Justification
Personnel	\$47,700	\$23,554	\$0	\$71,254	Federal Project Director (name) = .5 FTE @ \$95,401/yr = \$47,700 Non-Fed Cash Officer Manager (name) = .5FTE @ \$47,108/yr = \$23,554 Total 7 1,254
Fringe Benefits	\$17,482	\$8,632	\$0	\$26,114	Federal Fringe on Project Director at 36.65% = \$17,482 FICA (7.65%) Health (25%)

					Dental (2%) Life (1%) Unemployment (1%) Non-Fed Cash Fringe on Office Manager at 36.65% = \$8,632 FICA (7.65%) Health (25%) Dental (2%) Life (1%) Unemployment (1%)
Travel	\$4,707	\$2,940	\$0	\$7,647	Federal Local travel: 6 TA site visits for 1 person Mileage: 6RT @ .585 x 700 miles \$2,457 Lodging: 15 days @ \$110/day \$1,650 Per Diem: 15 days @ \$40/day \$600 Total \$4,707 Non-Fed Cash Travel to National Conference in (Destination) for 3 people Airfare 1 RT x 3 staff @ \$500 \$1,500 Lodging: 3 days x 3 staff @ \$120/day \$1,080 Per Diem: 3 days x 3 staff @ \$40/day \$360 Total \$2,940
Equipment	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	No Equipment requested OR: Call Center Equipment

					Installation = \$5,000 Phones = \$5,000 Total \$10,000
Supplies	\$3,700	\$5,670	\$0	\$9,460	Federal 2 desks @ \$1,500 \$3,000 2 chairs @ \$300 \$600 2 cabinets @ \$200 \$400 Non-Fed Cash 2 Laptop computers \$3,000 Printer cartridges @ \$50/month \$300 Consumable supplies (pens, paper, clips etc...) @ \$180/month \$ 2,160 Total \$9,460
Contractual	\$30,171	\$0	\$0	\$30,171	(organization name, purpose of contract and estimated dollar amount) Contract with AAA to provide respite services: 11 care givers @ \$1,682 = \$18,502 Volunteer Coordinator = \$11,669 Total \$30,171

					<i>If contract details are unknown due to contract yet to be made provide same information listed above and:</i> A detailed evaluation plan and budget will be submitted by (date), when contract is made.
Other	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,880	\$11,480	Federal 2 consultants @ \$100/hr for 24.5 hours each = \$4,900 Printing 10,000 Brochures @ \$.05 = \$500 Local conference registration fee (name conference) = \$200 Total \$5,600 In-Kind Volunteers 15 volunteers @ \$8/hr for 49 hours = \$5,880
Indirect Charges	\$20,934	\$0	\$0	\$20,934	21.5% of salaries and fringe = \$20,934 IDC rate is attached.
TOTAL	\$140,294	\$40,866	\$5,880	\$187,060	

Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Template

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Object Class Category	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Cash	Non-Federal In-Kind	TOTAL	Justification
Personnel					
Fringe Benefits					
Travel					
Equipment					
Supplies					
Contractual					
Other					
Indirect Charges					

TOTAL					
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Project Work Plan - Sample Template

NOTE : Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a Project Work Plan for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Goal:

Measurable Outcome(s):

* Time Frame (Start/End Dates by Month in Project Cycle)

Major Objectives	Key Tasks	Lead Person	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	7*	8*	9*	10*	11*	12*
1.														
2.														
3.														
4.														
5.														
6.														

NOTE: Please do not infer from this sample format that your work plan must have 6 major objectives. If you need more pages, simply repeat this format on additional pages.

Instructions for Completing the Project Summary/ Abstract

- All applications for grant funding must include a Summary/Abstract that concisely describes the proposed project. It should be written for the general public.
- To ensure uniformity, limit the length to 265 words or less, on a single page with a font size of not less than 11, doubled-spaced.
- The abstract must include the project's goal(s), objectives, overall approach (including target population and significant partnerships), anticipated outcomes, products, and duration. The following are very simple descriptions of these terms, and a sample Compendium abstract.

Goal(s) - broad, overall purpose, usually in a mission statement, i.e. what you want to do, where you want to be.

Objective(s) - narrow, more specific, identifiable or measurable steps toward a goal. Part of the planning process or sequence (the "how") to attain the goal(s).

Outcomes - measurable results of a project. Positive benefits or negative changes, or measurable characteristics among those served through this funding (e.g., clients, consumers, systems, organizations, communities) that occur as a result of an organization's or program's activities. These should tie directly back to the stated goals of the funding as outlined in the funding opportunity announcement. (Outcomes are the end-point)

Products - materials, deliverables.

- A model abstract/summary is provided below:

The Delaware Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD), in **partnership** with the Delaware Lifespan Respite Care Network (DLRCN) and key stakeholders will, in the course of this two-year project, expand and maintain a statewide coordinated lifespan respite system that builds on the infrastructure currently in place.

The **goal** of this project is to improve the delivery and quality of respite services available to families across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating existing respite systems in Delaware. The **objectives** are: 1) to improve lifespan respite infrastructure; 2) to improve the provision of information and awareness about respite service; 3) to streamline access to respite services through the Delaware ADRC; 4) to increase availability of respite services. Anticipated **outcomes** include: 1) families and caregivers of all ages and disabilities will have greater options for choosing a respite provider; 2) providers will demonstrate increased ability to provide specialized respite care; 3) families will have streamlined access to information and satisfaction with respite services; 4) respite care will be provided using a variety of existing funding sources and 5) a sustainability plan will be developed to support the project in the future. The expected **products** are marketing and outreach materials, caregiver training, respite worker training, a Respite Online searchable database, two new Caregiver Resource Centers (CRC), an annual Respite Summit, a respite voucher program and 24/7 telephone information and referral services.

Instructions for Completing the "Supplemental Information for the SF-424" Form

1. Project Director.

Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

2. Novice Applicant.Select "Not Applicable To This Program."

INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (INNU) REPLICATION TOOLKITS

Potential applicants are encouraged to view overviews of each project here: [Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services Grant Overviews - YouTube](#).

Replication Model A: Maryland Department of Aging: Addressing Malnutrition in Community Living Adults, A Toolkit for Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)

Also referred to as “AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit”

How to Use This Toolkit

Please begin by reviewing the Notice of Funding Opportunity HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008, which outlines requirements for ALL Replication projects. The information contained in this replication toolkit provides specific information and requirements regarding Replication Model A. This Replication Model Toolkit outlines the required elements within a Replication Project A application for HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants.

The toolkit specifies proposed application:

- Required elements.
- Components which may or should be customized.
- Areas where flexible approaches are permitted.

Successful applications will outline a proposed project that includes all required elements while also demonstrating that customized and flexible items are planned.

If funded, your project team will receive regular technical assistance from the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging as well as consultation with members of the original grant’s project team, as feasible.

All surveys/forms and other materials are intended to be customized by the grantee, and the grantee should review the materials thoroughly to assure the use of customized information, including dates, contact names, etc.

If your grant proposal involves any programmatic, policy, organizational, or financial system changes, it is your responsibility to make sure the changes are acceptable and compatible with your state/local policies and requirements.

Summary of the ProjectTo replicate this project, applications must propose to design an agency-wide – or larger area, such as a statewide or region-wide – document, with associated policies and procedures, to identify and address malnutrition in older adults based on the techniques presented in the AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit. Organizations are not required to have a registered dietitian on staff or as a consultant. However, applicants should consider how to appropriately refer individuals who are identified at malnutrition risk to supports and services that address their respective risk.

Simply put, there are three steps to addressing malnutrition:

- Step 1: Implement validated screening tools.
- Step 2: Address root cause(s).
- Step 3: Monitor client progress and quality of services.

This unique and successful project created training and toolkit materials designed specifically for AAAs to help them identify how they can play an important role in identifying and supporting community-based older adults who have, or are at risk for, malnutrition. When AAAs identify and treat malnutrition, these actions can also help improve other chronic conditions like diabetes and heart disease.

The AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit includes:

- Step-by-step process and rationale for why AAAs are so important for addressing this significant and costly chronic illness.
- Sample referral guide you can “plug and play” into your organization.
- Distinct chapters that ask questions, so you can use the toolkit as a training tool.
- Explanation of how EVERY staff person can identify or address malnutrition risk.
- Sample screening tools, case studies, and questions to consider as you develop an agency-specific plan.
- Numerous resources for obtaining health care payments, using billing codes, etc. (Note: This area may require extensive customization based on your state and local healthcare environment).

Replication Requirements, Anticipated Customization, and Flexibilities

Table: Replication Model A Requirements, Customization, and Flexibilities*

Category	Grant Requirements (Elements that must be included)	Required Customization (Elements that must be included and adjusted to project)	Project Flexibilities (Optional elements; not exclusive)	Application Section (Bolded sections are required; others are recommended)
Population Served	• 60 and over • Targeted populations	• Specific targeted population • Persons screened for malnutrition and appropriately referred	• Risk of hospital readmission • Food insecurity • Chronic disease	• Abstract • Problem statement • Approach
Service Delivery	Older Americans Act Nutrition Program (congregate and/or home-delivered)	• Agency-wide approach to screening and referrals • Staff roles	• Virtual • In-person • Volunteers	• Approach

Partnerships	Older Americans Act programs	Specific organizations that provide services and/or are referral entities, including health care entities, emergency feeding organizations, transportation entities, and state programs	• Faith-based organizations • Schools • Volunteers • Housing authorities	• Abstract • Approach
Activities and Services	N/A	• Establish and implement a robust referral network • Staff trainings • Policies and procedures • Screening and referral method	• Surveys • Site visits • Presentations • Malnutrition awareness class	• Approach
Evaluation	Pilot test AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit	• Planned evaluation process • Quality assurance	• Frequency and method of data collection • Knowledge of malnutrition or	• Outcomes and evaluation

Category	Grant Requirements (Elements that must be included)	Required Customization (Elements that must be included and adjusted to project)	Project Flexibilities (Optional elements; not exclusive)	Application Section (Bolded sections are required; others are recommended)
		• Malnutrition Screening Tool • Client demographics	malnutrition risk factors	

Outcomes	Number and percent of total participants who are identified as at risk of malnutrition	• Number and types of referrals to address identified risks • Dissemination (webinars, conference sessions, etc.)	• Participant and/or staff knowledge change • Policy/procedure impacts on staff or systems efficiencies • Costs and benefits • Change in malnutrition risk	• Abstract • Outcomes and evaluation
Products	Capstone project to share experiences with others	• Customized AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit • Policies and procedures	• Surveys • Presentations • Evaluation reports	• Abstract • Approach
Sustainability	N/A	• Continue effective policies and procedures developed during the project • Schedule for updating AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit	• Funding to support screening or services • Embed training and referral processes into staff job descriptions • Include malnutrition identification into organization's mission	• Sustainability

*Please refer to [HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants](#) for requirements that apply to all Replication Projects.

Grant-related Resources

- [AAA Malnutrition Pathway Presentation](#)
- [AAA Malnutrition Pathway Site Visit Agenda](#)
- [AAA Malnutrition Pathway Survey](#)
- [Addressing Malnutrition in Community Living Older Adults, Maryland Department of Aging](#)

- [Summary Brief: Maryland Department of Aging](#)

FAQ for Replication Model A

1. Is field testing required to replicate the AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit?

Proposals should include a planned evaluation approach, which must include pilot – also called field – testing.

2. Do we use the same format and structure as the existing toolkit?

Project-customized AAA Malnutrition Pathways toolkits should include all the major headings/sections that the existing toolkit of the original AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit. Projects are required to customize the specific information to reflect local referral resources, screening tools, health care partnerships, resource materials, and other items that are current and relevant to their respective area. For example, applicant areas may not have Care Transition Organizations or Primary Care Program health care entities, and applicants should customize the project's AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit appropriately.

3. There are already several organizations in my jurisdiction that screen for malnutrition and refer participants who are at risk or identified with malnutrition. Do we have to work with them, or can we select our own malnutrition screening tools?

Applicants are responsible for selecting partners they choose to work with and whether their project will utilize existing screening tools and referral processes or develop new screening tools or processes.

4. Do we need to have a dietitian on staff or as a consultant?

No, as outlined in this Replication Model Toolkit, it is not a requirement to have a dietitian on staff or as a consultant. However, applicants must consider how to appropriately refer individuals who are identified at malnutrition risk to supports and services that address their respective risk.

5. The Maryland 2017 INNU grant produced 4 products, including the AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit. Are applicants required to replicate the other projects from this grant?

Only the AAA Malnutrition Pathways Toolkit is required to be replicated in 2023- HHS-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants. The other three products produced during the Maryland 2017 INNU grant (meal packages, home-delivered screening tool, evaluation of malnutrition awareness workshop) ARE NOT part of this Replication Model Toolkit and are not required projects within HHS-2023- ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants.

Replication Model B: Iowa Department on Aging, Encore Café

Also referred to as “Café Toolkit”

How to Use This Toolkit

Please begin by reviewing the Notice of Funding Opportunity HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008, which outlines requirements for ALL Replication projects. The information contained in this replication toolkit provides specific information and requirements regarding Replication Model A. This Replication Model Toolkit outlines the required elements within a Replication Project A application for HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants.

The toolkit specifies proposed application:

- Required elements.

- Components which may or should be customized.
- Areas where flexible approaches are permitted.

Successful applications will outline a proposed project that includes all required elements while also demonstrating that customized and flexible items are planned.

If funded, your project team will receive regular technical assistance from the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging as well as consultation with members of the original grant's project team, as feasible.

All surveys/forms and other materials are intended to be customized by the grantee, and the grantee should review the materials thoroughly to assure the use of customized information including dates, contact names, etc.

If your grant proposal involves any programmatic, policy, organizational, or financial system changes, it is your responsibility to make sure the changes are acceptable and compatible with your state/local policies and requirements.

Summary of the Project

To replicate this project, applications must propose the development of a café model for congregate nutrition site(s) within one or more localities or Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and/or statewide in alignment with the materials developed by the Iowa Department on Aging's 2017 Innovations in Nutrition Services and Programs grant.

Products include a Café Toolkit, as well as policies and procedures.

The café concept was designed to address declining congregate meal attendance and encourage older adults to participate. In particular, the project aimed to attract the younger subpopulation of older adults called "Baby Boomers."

This unique and successful project created training and toolkit materials designed specifically for AAAs to help them identify what changes and innovations could play an important role in supporting community-based older adults, especially the younger older adults (Baby Boomers) to participate more often in congregate meal programs.

The Café Toolkit includes:

- Sample initial participant's survey questions and data collection processes to collect information from current and prospective participants.
- Sample request for quote to identify food vendors for café sites.
- Sample memorandum of understanding between the organization and café sites.
- Volunteer training materials – volunteers acted as program ambassadors and offered referrals to additional programs and services.
- Senior dining site policies and procedures – outline of expectations, procedures, and resources for the operation of café sites.
- Participant nutritional risk survey.
- Participant satisfaction survey.
- A volunteer orientation was held to introduce the cafes, new services, and how the volunteers would play a key role.

The results of the original Encore Café project:

The project impacted many older Iowans through the grant cycle by increasing food access for at-risk older adults, increasing access to health education, and improving community resources for older adults by opening four congregate meal site locations with innovative programming.

- Across four pilot sites there was a 66% increase in meals served after the first year and a 208% increase in meals served by year three, compared to participation pre-project.
- Innovations added to traditional congregate site dining included:
 - Buffet-style service.
 - Salad bar with featured daily salad.
 - Poured or served beverages.
 - Volunteer program ambassadors who assisted with meal service while also connecting participants with other services.
 - Nutrition education based on initial participant survey results.
 - Choice of entrées.
 - Special meals (celebrating holiday, seasonal, farm-to-table, etc.).
 - Food boxes/bags of fresh produce for meal participants.
 - Enhanced ambiance (character and atmosphere of a place).
 - Opportunity to participate in activities before, during, and after the meal.
 - Ethnic or cultural meals/sides/foods.
 - Foods for health conditions.
 - Food made to order.
 - Times for meals- breakfast/dinner/weekends/all day.
 - Picnic style meal.
 - Partnerships for creative marketing and advocacy.
 - Creative name and branding.

Replication Requirements, Anticipated Customization, and Flexibilities

Table: Replication Model B Requirements, Customization, and Flexibilities*

Category	Grant Requirements (Elements that must be included)	Required Customization (Elements that must be included and adjusted to project)	Project Flexibilities (Optional elements; not exclusive)	Application Section (Bolded sections are required; others are recommended)
Population Served	• 60 and over • Targeted populations	• Specific targeted population	• Food insecurity • Chronic disease	• Abstract • Problem Statement • Approach
Service Delivery	Older Americans Act Congregate Nutrition Program	N/A	N/A	• Approach
Partnerships	• Older Americans Act programs	N/A	Enlist the support of agencies and groups to help sponsor or 'guest volunteer' for different events	• Abstract • Approach

	Nutrition providers			
Activities and Services	- Partners provide meals and services at selected sites - Volunteers to serve as program ambassadors during mealtimes	- At least three new enhancements to meal program Initial Participant survey Nutritional Risk Survey - Nutrition education - Other wellness education	- Frequency of surveys - Site visits - Presentations - Nutrition education - Other wellness education - Culinary training or cooking demonstrations	Approach
Evaluation	- Incorporate screening of participants' nutrition, socialization, and health/well-being status - Nutrition Risk Survey	- Planned evaluation process - Quality assurance Satisfaction Survey	- Number and percent of total new participants - Frequency and method of data collection - Demographics of participants	Outcomes and evaluation
Outcomes	- Impact on attendance - Change in donations received - Change in satisfaction - Number and type of new meal site offerings	Dissemination (webinars, conference sessions, etc.)	- Policy/procedure impacts on systems efficiencies - Costs and benefits	Abstract Outcomes and evaluation

Products	• Capstone project to be shared with others	• Customized Café Toolkit • Policies and procedures	• Presentations • Evaluation reports	• Abstract • Approach
Sustainability	N/A	• Continue effective policies and procedures developed during the project • Schedule for updating Café Toolkit • Volunteer training	• Funding to support screening or services • Embed training and referral processes into staff/volunteer job descriptions	• Sustainability

*Please refer to [HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants](#) for requirements which apply to all Replication Projects.

Grant-related Resources

- [Summary Brief](#) (snapshot of project and findings)
- [Initial Participant Survey Questions](#)
- [Encore Café Volunteer Orientation](#) (overview of the program for volunteers, including roles and responsibilities)
- [Request for Quote](#) (quote request to identify food vendors for café sites)
- [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (agreement outlining responsibilities and terms between the program and café sites)
- [Senior Dining Site Policies and Procedures](#) (outline of expectations, procedures, and resources for the operation of café sites)
- [Nutritional Risk Survey](#) (survey to measure impact of the program on nutrition risk behaviors)
- [Satisfaction Survey](#) (survey to measure program participant satisfaction)

The following journal articles describe the project and its outcomes:

- Savannah Schultz, Sarah L. Francis, Carlene Russell, Tim Getty, Alexandra Bauman & Mack Shelley (2021) [Encore Café: An Innovative and Effective Congregate Nutrition Program](#), Journal of Nutrition in Gerontology and Geriatrics, 40:4, 261-279, DOI: 10.1080/21551197.2021.1986455

- Savannah Schultz, Sarah L. Francis, Carlene Russell, Tim Getty, & Alexandra Bauman (2021) [Innovating the Iowa Congregate Nutrition Program: A Needs and Preference Assessment](#), Journal of Nutrition in Gerontology and Geriatrics, 40:4, 232-248, DOI: 10.1080/21551197.2021.1963905

FAQ for Replication Model B

1. How can we develop a grant application without knowing what congregate meal program innovations will be selected by participants?

Applicants may consider performing a survey of existing congregate meal participants prior to completing and submitting the grant or indicate that a formal survey will be completed to determine innovations if the grant is awarded.

Projects are required to implement a minimum of three new offerings within each participating congregate meal site.

2. Can questions be added to the toolkit's participant survey collection tool?

Yes. Applicants may add questions to customize the collection of participant information and preferences.

3. Is the Nutrition Risk Survey provided by the original grantee required? Does it count as a nutrition screen even though it's not on the ACL approved list?

Yes, it is required. Applicants may include the Nutrition Risk Survey in addition to ACL-approved measures listed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. If the Nutrition Risk Survey will be used instead of ACL-approved measures, the application must indicate this and include a rationale.

4. Do I have to use the Satisfaction Survey that is listed on the template?

Yes, the Satisfaction Survey is required and should be customized to include project innovations, local contact information, etc.

5. For Population Served, can I include spouses and others that are under 60 that our state includes in the congregate meal programs?

Older adults must be included in the data collected. The applicant may indicate other populations (e.g., spouses, caregivers, etc.) within the data collected and evaluated, based on the applicant's evaluation framework.

6. Am I limited in the number of participating sites?

There is not a limit to the number of participating congregate meal sites; applications must implement a minimum of one site participating in the project.

7. Do innovations need to be done five days per week and at every location?

No. Applicants must indicate they will implement a minimum of three innovations based on their initial survey of participants. Some innovations may be implemented in select sites, whereas other innovations may be provided uniformly throughout all sites, for example.

8. Do the innovations have to meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and/or Dietary Reference Intake requirements?

Yes, along with any state menu requirements. As indicated in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, the project should be sustainable, so any pandemic-related flexibilities should not be assumed to continue indefinitely.

9. Do the volunteers have to bus tables, provide beverage service, and make referrals to other programs?

The specific tasks assigned to volunteers are decided by the applicant, as long as the goal of having volunteers – to act as senior nutrition program ambassadors, help the participants feel safe and comfortable during the dining experience, and should be able to make referrals to other aging network services – is maintained.

10. Do I need to find a single partner who can create and serve meals as well as provide the educational opportunities?

Applicants may propose partnering with as many entities as they feel necessary to accomplish the project goals. Consider partnering with groups or agencies that can sponsor a special event, or provide guest volunteers for events.

Replication Model C: Georgia State University: Senior Nutrition Program Evidence-Based Suicide Intervention Training

Also referred to as “Suicide Intervention Training Program Toolkit”

How to Use This Toolkit

Please begin by reviewing HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008, which outlines requirements for ALL Replication projects. The information contained in this replication toolkit provides specific information and requirements regarding Replication Model C.

This Replication Model Toolkit outlines the required elements within a Replication Project C application for HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants.

The toolkit specifies proposed application:

- Required elements.
- Components which may or should be customized.
- Areas where flexible approaches are permitted.

Successful applications will outline a proposed project that includes all required elements while also demonstrating that customized and flexible items are planned.

If funded, your project team will receive regular technical assistance from the National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging as well as consultation with members of the original grant’s project team, as feasible.

All surveys/forms and other materials are intended to be customized by the grantee and the grantee should review the materials thoroughly to assure the use of customized information including dates, contact names, etc.

If your grant proposal involves any programmatic, policy, organizational, or financial system changes, it is your responsibility to make sure the changes are acceptable and compatible with your state/local policies and requirements.

Summary of the Project To replicate this project, applications must propose to implement a standardized and manualized suicide intervention program (specifically the LW ASIST training) to home-delivered meal (HDM) participants via nutrition services volunteers, in alignment with the materials developed by the Georgia State University 2018 Innovations in Nutrition Services and Programs grant.

This unique and successful project created materials designed specifically for Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and local nutrition programs to help them identify how their SNP volunteers can play an important role in identifying and supporting community-based older adults who have, or

are at risk for, suicide or mental health distress.

The Suicide Intervention Training Program Toolkit includes:

- [ASIST \(Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training\) Suicide Prevention Training Centre | LivingWorks/ASIST](#)
- [More than a Meal: Facts, Stress, & Coping Information for HDM Volunteers during COVID-19](#) (guidance on how to identify signs of stress and mental health trouble or suicide risk in seniors receiving HDMs)
- [Caring for Wellbeing of Older Adults during COVID-19](#) (tips for ways to connect with seniors while social distancing)
- [Enhancing Socialization through Making Meaningful Volunteer Connections during COVID-19](#) (tips on building and strengthening connections with seniors)
- [Suicide Intervention Response Inventory \(SIRI 2\) with scoring](#)

Outcomes from the original project include:

- Nutrition services volunteers and providers developed suicide intervention skills.
- When suicide intervention skills are employed, those skills remain part of their job role and provide life assisting suicide interventions to the older adults they serve.

Replication Requirements, Anticipated Customization and Flexibilities

Table: Replication Model C Requirements, Customization and Flexibilities*

Category	Grant Requirements (Elements that must be included)	Required Customization (Elements that must be included and adjusted to project)	Project Flexibilities (Optional elements; not exclusive)	Application Section (Bolded sections are required; others are recommended)
Population Served	• 60 and over • Targeted Populations	Specific targeted population	• Risk of hospital readmission • Food insecurity • Chronic disease	• Abstract • Problem statement • Approach
Service Delivery	Older Americans Act Nutrition Program home-delivered meals via volunteers	• Policy and procedure on volunteer training and roles • Agency-wide approach to screening and referrals	• Congregate • Virtual • In-person • Staff training (recommended)	Approach

Partnerships	LivingWorks.net and a LivingWorks trainer	Specific organizations that provide services and/or are referral entities	- Implementation partners: - Faith-based organizations - Senior Centers - Housing authorities	Abstract Approach
Activities and Services	ASIST trainings: LivingWorks.net/ASIST	- Establish policies and procedures for volunteer participant interaction - Referral process that addresses individuals needing additional support	- Surveys - Site visits - Presentations - Referral method	Approach
Evaluation	Volunteer Suicide Intervention Response Inventory	Planned evaluation process	Frequency and method of data collection	Outcomes and evaluation

Category	Grant Requirements (Elements that must be included)	Required Customization (Elements that must be included and adjusted to project)	Project Flexibilities (Optional elements; not exclusive)	Application Section (Bolded sections are required; others are recommended)
		- Quality assurance - Demographics	Number and types of referrals to address identified risks	

Outcomes	- Number and percent of total participants who are identified at elevated suicide risk or in mental health distress (ESR/MHD) - Change in volunteer attitudes and response to someone in crisis	Dissemination (webinars, conference sessions, etc.)	- Policy/procedure impacts on staff or systems efficiencies - Costs and benefits	Abstract Outcomes and evaluation
Products	Capstone project to be shared with others	N/A	- Surveys - Presentations - Evaluation reports	- Abstract - Approach
Sustainability	N/A	Continue effective policies and procedures developed during the project	- Funding to support screening or services - Embed training and referral processes into staff/volunteer job descriptions	Sustainability

*Please refer to [HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-INNU-0008 Replication Grants](#) for requirements which apply to all Replication Projects.

Grant-related Resources Suicide Intervention Skills Training for Volunteers:

- Living Works [ASIST \(Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training\)](#)
- [Suicide Intervention Response Inventory \(SIRI-2\) with scoring](#)

Other Resources (in addition to those provided in FAQ #7):

- [Caring for Wellbeing of Older Adults during COVID-19](#) (tips for ways to connect with seniors while social distancing)

- [Enhancing Socialization through Making Meaningful Volunteer Connections during COVID-19](#) (tips on building and strengthening connections with seniors)
- [More than a Meal: Facts, Stress, & Coping Information for HDM Volunteers during COVID-19](#) (guidance on how to identify signs of stress and mental health trouble or suicide risk in seniors receiving HDMs)
- The Suicidal Behaviors Questionnaire-Revised (SBQ-R) and many other measures are available in the book - Gutierrez, P. M., & Osman, A. (2008). *Adolescent Suicide: An Integrated Approach to Assessment of Risk and Protective Factors*. It is available from the Cornell University Press. The ISBN is 10:0-87580-616-3, list price is \$46 (US). By purchasing the book, you are granted the right to reproduce any of the measures in it at no extra charge and to administer them as paper-and-pencil measures.

FAQ for Replication Model C

1. Do the volunteers have to be currently involved in the home-delivered meals program?

Projects may recruit new volunteers and should follow all existing policies for vetting and onboarding volunteers. Organizations without a current volunteer base may want to consider partnering with a volunteer services agency, faith-based organization, or other partner.

2. This Toolkit indicates the Living Works ASIST program is “evidence-based.” Does that mean the program is eligible for OAA III-D funding?

The LW ASIST program is not currently on the [list of approved programs](#) for OAA Title III-D funding.

3. Can any program that enhances suicide intervention and mental health awareness skills of nutrition service volunteers be used?

No. To be awarded this replication grant, applicants must implement the program listed in the replication toolkit.

4. Is there a limitation on the number of LW ASIST trainings which can be held?

The number of trainings a project proposes will be determined by the applicant. Things to consider include:

- Number of home-delivered meal participants the project intends to serve.
- Number of volunteers that will be trained.
- Attrition rate of volunteers.
- Whether project staff will also be trained (recommended).

5. How do we estimate training costs and schedule trainings in order to submit an accurate budget and workplan?

Projects should contact LivingWorks, the developer of the LW ASIST program, prior to submitting a grant application in order to obtain accurate cost estimates. In addition, the developer can assist projects with identifying existing LW ASIST trainers. Projects can then determine if any LW ASIST trainers are available (including cost) or if they will choose to pay to have project staff trained to provide the LW ASIST trainings. Combining this information should allow applicants to project cost and timeframes for LW ASIST trainings.

6. How often should the SIRI-2 be given to the trained volunteers?

The SIRI-2 is a useful tool for monitoring how closely the volunteers are following prescribed approaches outlined in the LW ASIST program (i.e., fidelity). Applicants should determine how often they wish to do the inventory with their volunteers.

Implementing a pre-training program SIRI-2 and an end of program SIRI-2 is recommended at

minimum. Additional SIRI-2 measurements may be given as the applicant deems appropriate and necessary to monitor fidelity and to perform quality assurance.

7. Are there other resources that might be helpful in customizing this toolkit?

Yes. The chart below has information about performance measures that may be useful to you as you design your replication. Click the Performance Measure to go to the article.

Outcome	Performance measure	Notes
Volunteer attitudes and skills	<i>Attitudes to Suicide Prevention Scale, ASP, Herron et al., 2001</i>	Self-report measure of volunteer's perspectives towards intervention developed specifically for health care members.
	<i>Suicide Identification Reporting Tool, SIRT</i>	Survey with quantitative and free responses to assess the manner particular skills were employed in an at-risk identification.
At-risk identification	<u>Number of identified "at risk" or "in distress" older persons</u>	Frequency counts collected by provider and site coordinators.
	Suicide Behavior Questionnaire, SBQ-R	Clinical assessment used to determine level of risk for suicidal behavior. The SBQ-R and many other measures are available in Gutierrez, P. M., & Osman, A. (2008). <i>Adolescent Suicide: An Integrated Approach to Assessment of Risk and Protective Factors.</i>
	<u>Interpersonal Needs Questionnaire, INQ, Van Orden et al., 2012</u>	Developed specifically for use with Joiner's Interpersonal theory of suicide, the INQ assesses perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness, which in combination lead to active suicidal desire.
	<u>Acquired Capability for Suicide Scale—Fearlessness About Death, ACSS-FAD, Ribeiro et al., 2014</u>	Captures one's psychological defense against ending one's life, and in conjunction with the INQ, can be used as a predictor of suicidal intent or behavior.
	<u>Personal Health Questionnaire, PHQ-2, Kroenke et al., 2001; 2003</u>	This will be used as a sequence for older adults as noted in Richardson et al., 2011, with the PHQ-9 only administered to those that score above 3 on the PHQ-2.
	<u>Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale, GAD-7/GAD-2, Spitzer et al., 2006, Kroenke et al., 2007</u>	This will also be administered as a sequence, using cut offs from Wild et al., (2013), where the GAD-7 is only given to those older persons that score 2 or higher on the GAD-2.
	<i>Kessler Psychological Distress Scale, K6, Kessler et al., 2002</i>	Self-report of how depressive and anxiety symptoms have changed. Can be used to distinguish dysthymia from emergent distress.

	<i>Profile of Chronic Pain: Screen, PCP:S, Ruchlman et al., 2005</i>	Self-report of older person's pain and emotional state. Includes demographic items. Questions on pain tolerance (suicide correlate) will also be included.
Wellness	<i>Five Factor Wellness Inventory, 5F-Wel, Myers & Sweeney, 2005</i>	Measures general wellness, five second-order factors (Creative, Coping, Social, Essential, and Physical) and 17 discrete wellness scales.