

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

ISSUE DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2020

UNDER 21 SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION ACTIVITY MINI-GRANTS FY 2021

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 16, 2020, 4:00 P.M.

1. ABOUT THE COALITION

Since January 2013, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a contract to the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc. to create a county-wide coalition to address the illegal and underage use, misuse and abuse of substances that include, but are not limited to, alcohol, opioids and other prescription drugs.

This prevention coalition, Many Voices for Smart Choices, and its members work together to deliver activities that:

- Address change in the social environment by promoting community norms and public policies that decrease substance use.
- Build the capacity of those who work with youth and young adults to deliver prevention services.
- Reduce risk factors and increase protective factors among youth and families by providing substance use prevention, education, outreach programs and services.

Thus, it is the responsibility of the Collaboration Council to manage the Under 21 Substance Use Prevention Activity mini-grants for the current fiscal year.

2. PREVENTING UNDERAGE SUBSTANCE USE

Though progress is being made, underage substance use and misuse remains prevalent among youth and young adults in the United States. According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 2.2 million adolescents aged 12 – 17 years reported drinking alcohol in the past month, 1.2 million adolescents aged 12-17 were past month binge drinkers, and approximately 131,000 adolescents aged 12-17 were heavy drinkers. Besides being illegal, underage alcohol use can lead to other risky and dangerous behaviors, which can seriously inhibit the ability for youth and young adults to grow into productive and healthy adults. While marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug among youth and young adults in the United States, the rate of nonmedical use of prescription opioids (NMO) and over-the-counter (OTC) medications has seen a decline, but remains a concern.

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Adolescent Health, prescription drug misuse (e.g. NMO and OTC) is among the fastest growing drug problems in the United States. In 2018, 2.8 percent of adolescents aged 12 to 17 reported misusing opioids over the past year. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) reports that the prevalence of prescription opioids and OTC medications use among adolescents may be a result of the common misperception that because they are medically prescribed by physicians, they are safe even when not used as

intended.

Prevention is a proactive process that empowers individuals and systems to meet the challenges of life events and transitions by creating and reinforcing conditions that promote healthy behaviors and lifestyles. The Substance Abuse Prevention Program within the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services envisions that Montgomery County residents will have access to quality prevention and health promotion services, and all people will be educated in ways that will improve and maintain good prevention practices for themselves and their families.

3. UNDER 21 MINI-GRANTS BACKGROUND

Funded by Montgomery County government, the overall purpose of the mini-grants is to support underage and illicit substance use prevention activities throughout Montgomery County. Funds must be used to provide primary prevention activities directly serving youth who are at risk for substance misuse and/or overuse.

The mini-grants are intended to be combined with other local funds for community-based substance use prevention activities for youth under the age of 21. This application provides the opportunity for community groups to apply for funds to partially support their planned activities.

Eligible Applicants.

Community-based groups that are incorporated or have at least a two year history of operations (planning and decision-making group) that would provide assurance of likely successful program implementation and fiscal management.

Only one application per group can be submitted.

4. Mini-Grant Program Activities

Populations to be served. The target populations can be **middle school and/or high school-aged youth or older youth who are under 21 years of age.**

Eligible Activities

- Grant-supported activities can help support single events or ongoing programs.
- All activities must occur outside of the school's instructional periods. Before and/or afterschool, lunchtime, early dismissal, school holidays and weekends are acceptable times.
- All activities must have an education component addressing the issue(s) of underage alcohol use, illegal use of marijuana, over-the-counter drugs, and/or prescription drug misuse and abuse. The focus can be on one or more substances.
- Prevention education activities can be held in person or via virtual platforms (e.g. Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.).
- **All activities must show evidence of youth involvement in the planning and/or execution of the plan.**
- Adequate adult supervision must be provided for direct service activities by screened and trained adults.
- The minimum ratio of adults to students must be 1:10 for all age groups.

- Activities must encourage youth to creatively outreach to their parents and families about program activities and education.

Ineligible Expenses or Activities

- Funding cannot be used to rent equipment for post prom or graduation events that support gambling-like activities. You may have such equipment but it must be paid via other funding sources.
- Funding cannot be used to develop a curriculum or create educational brochures.
- Funding cannot be used for poster or video contests.
- Funding will not support activities that are only surveying youth.
- **SALES TAX CANNOT BE REIMBURSED.**

Implementation Time Line

Expenses incurred for projects funded via these grants **must begin after January 1, 2021** and **conclude by May 31, 2021**

Evaluation

All activities supported by the mini-grants must have identified the **number of youth to be served** and **how the activities will lead to a positive impact on participating youth with regard to substance use prevention**. Grant recipients must collect information to measure participation and outcomes.

a) MINI-GRANT BUDGET

Grant Amount. Requested grant funding must be at least \$500 and no more than \$2,000.

Matching Requirement. Community groups applying must contribute matching funds of at least 30% of the amount requested. *(For example, an application for \$2,000 must show a match of \$600.)* These matching funds can be other funding or financial sources or in kind contributions. In kind contributions can include facility costs, donated goods, chaperone costs, entertainment costs, volunteer time, or other services. You may charge admission (encouraged). Applications which do not meet this match requirement will not be considered.

Total Activity Budget. When combining the grant funding and applicant's match, the total budget for the activity can exceed \$2000, but only a maximum of \$2000 can be charged to the grant.

Payment. Payment of grant funding will be on a reimbursement basis. Upon submission of evidence of grant expenditures and the required invoice, payment will be made. There will be no advances.

b) FURTHER INFORMATION BEFORE SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

- Two optional informational meetings will be offered on: **Monday, October 26, 2020 at 3:00 PM and Friday, October 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM. These meetings will be online.** You must send an email to info@collaborationcouncil.org with **Under 21 Mini-Grant Optional Informational Meeting** in the subject line by end of business on **Thursday, October 22, 2020**, please include the name(s) and email(s) of those attending as well as which meeting you want to join. A link to the meeting will be emailed to each attendee.

Note: information will be provided that clarifies the application content and process. No guidance will be offered on the activity to be proposed.

- All questions must be emailed to info@collaborationcouncil.org. Include **FY21 Under 21-Mini-Grant** in the subject line. No questions will be taken over the phone. Deadline for submitting questions is **Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 4:00 p.m.**
- Updates will be posted on the Many Voices for Smart Choices website www.manyvoicessmartchoices.org.

c) SUBMISSION PROCEDURES:

The following procedures are required for all application submissions. Failure to specifically follow these procedures may result in denial of your application.

- a) All applications, with attachments, must be emailed to info@collaborationcouncil.org. Include **FY21 Under 21 Mini-Grant Application** in the subject line. Note: you are responsible for ensuring the delivery prior to the deadline.
- b) The deadline to submit your application is **Monday, November 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** Applications received after this date and time will not be accepted and will be returned unopened.
- c) The identified applicant's contact person will be notified of receipt of application via email no later than **Tuesday, November 17, 2020.**

8. Required Application Content and Format

PLEASE NOTE: (Incomplete Applications and Handwritten Applications will be rejected)

An application that qualifies for funding consideration must include the following:

- a. **Cover page** (use Attachment 1).
- b. **Program Narrative** with the following identified sections (**underlined**), answering the following questions in the order they appear. Do NOT attach brochures or other supplemental information.
Description of Applicant:
 - Describe your group's mission and history;
 - Briefly describe the person(s) who will be responsible for the activity;
 - If you are working with a public school, please describe your interaction with the school's principal in developing this proposal.

Description of Youth to Be Served

- How many youth do you plan to serve?
- Describe the youth population you intend to serve in terms of their ages and other characteristics (income, race/ethnicity, gender, etc.).
- Why are you focusing on this group?
- **Describe how youth will be involved in the planning and carrying-out of the activity.**
- How will you recruit youth to participate in the activity?

Description of Proposed Activity

- Describe the activity: date(s)/times of program; location; what will the youth be doing;
- Describe how you will include education and skill-building activities that will help youth to not use alcohol and other drugs;
- Describe how you will ensure the safety of participants:
 - Describe specific plans for supervision/chaperoning of the youth;
 - Describe how adults who will be with the youth are screened and trained;
 - Briefly describe any other relevant emergency and safety measures that will be in place.
- Describe how the program and participating youth will reach out to their parents and families about the program's activities and what they are learning about substance misuse and overuse.

Expected Outcomes and Evaluation

- Describe specifically how the youth will gain from their participation in the activity in relationship to prevention of substance misuse and overuse;
- Describe how you will collect information that measures what the youth have gained.

c. Budget and Other Financial Information (Use Attachment 2)

All components of the application must be prepared using word-processing software. No handwritten applications will be accepted.

There is no limit on the number of pages for the program narrative, but succinct and thorough proposals will be appreciated by the reviewers.

Email Application with Cover Page and Budget together (either as one document or three separate attachments to info@collaborationcouncil.org. Include **FY21 Under 21 Mini-Grant Application** in the subject line. Note: you are responsible for ensuring the delivery prior to the deadline.

Staple the cover page, program narrative and budget together in the upper left-hand corner only.
(Not applicable at this time)

9. APPLICATION REVIEW AND AWARD PROCESS

A team of representatives from the Collaboration Council, Montgomery County government and a coalition member will review all qualified applications. Factors that will be considered include: clarity and quality of the application in achieving the Under 21 Mini-grant intentions; ensuring that a variety of types of activities are funded with geographic distribution across the county.

Prior grantees who failed to submit copies of expense receipts and/or a project summary are not eligible to apply.

Depending upon the amount of the requests and the final decisions regarding grants to be awarded, it is anticipated that at approximately 9 - 19 applications will be funded.

All applicants will receive notice of their grant award status on or by **Wednesday, December 16, 2020**. No debriefing will occur.

10. Expectations of Grantees

All grantees will be required to:

- **Attend a mandatory** meeting, either in-person or virtually, at a date and time that is established at the time of grant awards. This meeting will review invoicing and reporting procedures and provide guidance on evaluation activities. **Anyone who fails to attend this meeting will forfeit their grant award.**
- Have procedures in place that monitor and account for grant funds so that the required invoice and documentation will enable reimbursement.
- Submit a program report using a format to be provided, with the acknowledgement that information can be circulated publicly.
- Submit an invoice cover page with corresponding documentation using a format to be provided.

Contact Information:

Please send any and all questions by email to info@collaborationcouncil.org. Include **FY21 Under 21-Mini-Grant** in the subject line. No phone calls please.

Click on link to download Attachment 1: [FY21 Under 21 Mini-Grant – Attachment 1: Cover Page](#)

Click on link to download Attachment 2: [FY21 Under 21 Mini-Grant – Attachment 2: Budget](#)

Attachment 1

Cover Page

Applicant Organization's Official Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Alternate Contact Person: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Group/organization Federal ID tax number: _____

Have you received a DHHS Under 21 Activity Grant before? No Yes

If Yes, when? _____ Amount: _____

Name of Activity:

Location of Activity:

Number of Youth to be Served: _____ Age Range: _____

Date(s) and time(s) of program activity(ies): _____

Amount of Grant Request: \$_____ (cannot exceed \$2,000)

Amount of Match: \$_____ Total Activity Budget: \$_____

I confirm that this application includes the required Program Narrative and Proposed Budget form.

Signature of Person Authorized by Applicant Typed Name

Title

Date



Attachment 2

Budget and Financial Information Form



Applicant Organization’s Official Name: _____

Person Responsible for Accounting for Grant Expenditures: _____

E-mail: _____

Briefly describe how expenditures will be tracked and evidence of payment collected:

Proposed Budget

Using the form below, account for all the expenses for the proposed activity or program and whether they will be covered by the Under 21 Grant or by other resources (match).

Round all amounts to the nearest dollar. Carefully check your math.

The Under 21 Grant Request cannot exceed \$2,000 and the match other resources must be equal to at least 30% of the requested grant amount.

After the budget, briefly describe the sources of your match.

EXPENSES: Budget Category <i>In each budget category, provide a brief description and calculation of costs.</i>	REVENUE SOURCES		
	Under 21 Grant Request	Match: \$ amount (In Kind, other money sources)*	Program/Activity Grant and Match Total
Staff: (hourly wages for adults, volunteers, paid staff, etc.) <i>Must include copies of approved and signed timesheets or equivalent with names, dates and hours worked.</i>	\$	\$	\$
Supplies: (food, disposable program supplies, etc.)	\$	\$	\$
Facility Rental	\$	\$	\$
Entertainment: (Direct costs for entertainment or equipment rental for program)	\$	\$	\$
Publicity activities: (flyers, posters, etc.)	\$	\$	\$
Transportation: (Bus, Van Rental for Transporting Youth to Event)	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL	\$	\$	\$
	<i>This column cannot exceed \$2,000.</i>	<i>This column must equal at least 30% of the grant request</i>	
*Sources of Match: Briefly describe the source of the match for each expenditure listed in that column.			