

2020 Community Resiliency Fund

The South Carolina Service Commission (SCSC) is the state's lead agency on volunteerism and service. Through AmeriCorps programming and Volunteer Generation Fund resources, SCSC aims to leverage our community's greatest assets – its citizens –to bring about real change. Administratively located within the United Way Association of South Carolina, SCSC receives support from the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency.

To increase the capacity for organizations to engage volunteers to respond and/or prepare for emergency events, SCSC has made available the Community Resiliency Fund. Through this fund, SCSC will provide financial support in the form of fixed-price contracts to service providers who will engage volunteers:

- to respond to needs that have arisen as a result of the spread of COVID-19.

OR

- in disaster or emergency response, training, planning, or preparedness activities.

Fixed-amount contracts will be awarded in the amount of up to \$10,000 each, and activities/deliverables must be completed prior to September 30th, 2020.

Who is eligible to apply?

This opportunity is open to public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations; institutions of higher education; government entities within state territories (e.g. cities, counties), labor organizations; partnerships and consortia; or Tribal organizations, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADS), and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

What are examples of volunteer-driven activities that may be funded?

- Training or certification courses meant to prepare volunteers
- Developing alternative service pathways for tradition in-person volunteerism
- Food, prescription, or supply delivery services
- Tutoring or mentoring services
- Pro Bono medical, legal, financial, or jobs training services related to the spread of COVID-19 (including telehealth, mental health, resume-building, financial planning/stability services, etc.)
- Support for nonprofit hospitals
- Community outreach (including companion services for the elderly, conducting needs assessments, etc.)
- Disaster/emergency preparedness, response and recovery kits and supplies
- Natural disaster or emergency event recovery efforts

Note: There is no requirement for volunteers to physically come together (social distancing is encouraged) and virtual volunteer opportunities be implemented when at all possible.

How will funds be distributed?

50% of the fixed-amount contract will be distributed upon award, and the remaining 50% will be distributed once the contract deliverables have been met. If the contractor does not meet the deliverables specified in their contract by the end to the contract term, the final payment will be prorated based on the percentage of deliverables achieved.

Are there any limitations for how the funds can be used?

Budget requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and SCSC reserves the right to disallow the use of Community Resiliency Fund for any budget line-items deemed to be inappropriate purchases using federal funds. Inappropriate purchases include, but are not limited to:

- Meals/food purchases for volunteers or staff
- Entertainment
- Profit-generating purchases or activities
- Equipment purchases or capital expenditures that exceed \$5,000
- Property
- Fundraising expenses
- Lobbying, political, or abortion activities/services

Is there a financial match/cost share requirement for the contractor?

Yes, SCSC will only fund up to 90% of project costs. Supporting documentation for matching funds will not be required; however, applicants should use the budget section of the application portal to indicate costs that the applicant organization will be incurring to support the project beyond the funding that is being requested from the Community Resiliency Fund.

What criteria will be used for selecting contractors?

The Community Resiliency Fund is a non-competitive initiative, and SCSC intends to fund contractors/applications on a pass/fail basis until available funding has been exhausted. In general, the following criteria will be used to assess proposals.

- Does the proposal seek to address a COVID-19 or Disaster/Emergency need?
- Does the proposal seek to significantly engage volunteers as part of the intervention?
- Are the funds being requested in alignment with a fair-market value for the services/deliverables that will be rendered?
- Will the contractor be able to capture and report on deliverable, outputs, and outcomes specified in the proposal by no later than September 30th, 2020?

When are proposals due and when will funding be distributed?

SCSC will accept proposals until Wednesday, July 29th 2020. We anticipate providing funding decisions within 10 business days of receiving a proposal, and initial 50% payment will be made within 14 business days of execution of a signed contract.

Specifications

1. Eligible projects will take place within the state of South Carolina and benefit one or more communities across the state. Projects should be focused on building resiliency and systems to help communities recover emotionally, socially, and physically.
2. Applicants must be registered with the appropriate state and federal licensing entity and be insured to carry out the project as described in their application.
3. Projects must significantly engage volunteers, but may be managed by paid staff of the organization applying for funding consideration.
4. Materials and supplies utilized for the project must be necessary, reasonable and allowable.
5. Applicants must have a DUNS number and active SAM registration by the time of submitting a request for funding.

DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711 or by applying online: [DUNS Request Service](#).

After obtaining a DUNS number, all applicants must register with the SAM at www.sam.gov and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete and, if a contract is awarded, throughout the life of the award. SAM registration must be renewed annually. Applicants must use their SAM-registered legal name and address on all funding applications to the SC Service Commission. Please ensure that your organization's SAM account is open for "Public View."

All organizations registered in sam.gov are required to submit an original, signed notarized letter designating their Entity Administrator at the time of renewal. Applicants who do not comply with these requirements may be ineligible to receive or maintain an award. See the [SAM Quick Guide](#) for Grantees.

Required Deliverables

1. Post and promote the organization's volunteer opportunities on VolunteerSC.org
2. Account for at least 10 general volunteers per project serving at least 100 hours and/or account for at least 5 skill-based volunteers per project serving at least 25 hours. Skill-based volunteers are considered volunteers with specialized training and competence that would qualify them to perform volunteer duties over and above a general volunteer. (e.g. lawyers, medical professionals, emergency response personnel, mental health professionals, carpenters, etc.)
3. Publicly recognize funding and support provided by the South Carolina Service Commission and the Corporation for National and Community Service.
4. Provide a final report the includes:

- a. A brief write-up regarding the services that were provided and key accomplishments of the project.
 - b. If appropriate, pictures that could be featured on SCSC’s website and social media pages.
 - c. Supporting documentation that substantiates the total number of volunteers engaged and number of outputs/outcomes that were produced as a result of receiving Community Resiliency Funding.
5. Participate in pre and post-project surveys administered by SCSC.

How to Apply

Interested organizations can access our online application portal [here](#). Use the following pages as a guideline to draft your responses prior to submitting your final responses on the online portal. The below form is for your use and is NOT to be submitted online for this process.

Community Resiliency Fund Application

Applicant Organization Name:	
Applicant Organization Address:	
Applicant Organization Tax ID:	
Duns Number:	
Is the organization’s SAM registration up-to-date and active?	Yes / No
Project Manager Name:	
Project Manager Phone:	
Project Manager Email:	
Amount Requested (Max. \$10,000):	

Fully describe your project including (1) the need being addressed, (2) the services to be performed, (3) who the beneficiaries will be, and (4) how the project will actively engage volunteers.

SOUTH CAROLINA SERVICE COMMISSION



--

Describe the collaborations and partnerships involved and how you will encourage participation across your community.

--

How many volunteers will be engaged in the project?

--

What will be the outputs/outcomes of the project? (i.e. # of meals delivered, # of needs assessments completed, # of tutoring sessions completed, # or disaster preparedness kits produced.)

--

SOUTH CAROLINA SERVICE COMMISSION



Please justify why the amount of funding being request is a fair-market value for the outputs/outcomes that will be produced under the contract. *(Example Farm Fresh Food Bank is requesting \$1,000 to deliver 100 meals to elderly individuals. Based on data XYZ the average cost to deliver a meal is \$10.)*

What will your organization use Community Resiliency funds to support? *(Contractors will not be required to provide supporting documentation for expenses; however please provide estimates regarding how funding will be spent. Use the CRF Share column to outline funding request from SCSC (this should match the amount listed in Section I of the application. Please use the Contractor Share column to outline the additional costs of implementing the project that will be covered by the contractor (must be a minimum of 10% of the budget).*

Description/Calculation of Cost	CRF Share	Contractor Share

SOUTH CAROLINA SERVICE COMMISSION



TOTAL REQUEST		

General Terms and Conditions

- Applicants selected for funding will be required to complete a contract agreement and adhere to all terms and conditions included in the executed agreement.

Applicant Signature	Date

Questions regarding this fund may be referred to Rosland Powell, Impact Services Manager at Rosland.Powell@uwasc.org.