

State Information

Chief Executive Officer's Funding Agreement - Certifications and Assurances / Letter Designating Signatory Authority

Fiscal Year 2025

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations
 Funding Agreements
 as required by
 Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Program
 as authorized by
 Title XIX, Part B, Subpart II and Subpart III of the Public Health Service Act
 and
 Tile 42, Chapter 6A, Subchapter XVII of the United States Code

Title XIX, Part B, Subpart II of the Public Health Service Act		
Section	Title	Chapter
Section 1911	Formula Grants to States	42 USC § 300x
Section 1912	State Plan for Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Certain Individuals	42 USC § 300x-1
Section 1913	Certain Agreements	42 USC § 300x-2
Section 1914	State Mental Health Planning Council	42 USC § 300x-3
Section 1915	Additional Provisions	42 USC § 300x-4
Section 1916	Restrictions on Use of Payments	42 USC § 300x-5
Section 1917	Application for Grant	42 USC § 300x-6
Section 1920	Early Serious Mental Illness	42 USC § 300x-9
Section 1920	Crisis Services	42 USC § 300x-9
Title XIX, Part B, Subpart III of the Public Health Service Act		
Section	Title	Chapter
Section 1941	Opportunity for Public Comment on State Plans	42 USC § 300x-51
Section 1942	Requirement of Reports and Audits by States	42 USC § 300x-52
Section 1943	Additional Requirements	42 USC § 300x-53
Section 1946	Prohibition Regarding Receipt of Funds	42 USC § 300x-56
Section 1947	Nondiscrimination	42 USC § 300x-57

Section 1953	Continuation of Certain Programs	42 USC § 300x-63
Section 1955	Services Provided by Nongovernmental Organizations	42 USC § 300x-65
Section 1956	Services for Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders	42 USC § 300x-66

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standard or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standard for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §§794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to non-discrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Title II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetland pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to

State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).

12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

LIST of CERTIFICATIONS

1. Certification Regarding Debarment and Suspension

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that the applicant, defined as the primary participant in accordance with 2 CFR part 180, and its principals:

- a. Agrees to comply with 2 CFR Part 180, Subpart C by administering each lower tier subaward or contract that exceeds \$25,000 as a "covered transaction" and verify each lower tier participant of a "covered transaction" under the award is not presently debarred or otherwise disqualified from participation in this federally assisted project by:
 - a. Checking the Exclusion Extract located on the System for Award Management (SAM) at <http://sam.gov> [sam.gov]
 - b. Collecting a certification statement similar to paragraph (a)
 - c. Inserting a clause or condition in the covered transaction with the lower tier contract

2. Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies that the applicant will, or will continue to, provide a drug-free work-place in accordance with 2 CFR Part 182by:

- a. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's work-place and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- b. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about--
 1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 2. The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 4. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
- c. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a) above;
- d. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a), above, that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will--
 1. Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 2. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
- e. Notifying the agency in writing within ten calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
- f. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d) (2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted?
 1. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 2. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
- g. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

3. Certifications Regarding Lobbying

Per 45 CFR §75.215, Recipients are subject to the restrictions on lobbying as set forth in 45 CFR part 93. Title 31, United States Code, Section 1352, entitled "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions,"

generally prohibits recipients of Federal grants and cooperative agreements from using Federal (appropriated) funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the Federal Government in connection with a SPECIFIC grant or cooperative agreement. Section 1352 also requires that each person who requests or receives a Federal grant or cooperative agreement must disclose lobbying undertaken with non-Federal (non- appropriated) funds. These requirements apply to grants and cooperative agreements EXCEEDING \$100,000 in total costs.

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than Federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. (If needed, Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," its instructions, and continuation sheet are included at the end of this application form.)
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

4. Certification Regarding Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (PFCRA) (31 U.S.C § 3801- 3812)

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies that the statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of his or her knowledge, and that he or she is aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject him or her to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. The undersigned agrees that the applicant organization will comply with the Public Health Service terms and conditions of award if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

5. Certification Regarding Environmental Tobacco Smoke

Public Law 103-227, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Act), requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for the provision of health, daycare, early childhood development services, education or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law also applies to children's services that are provided in indoor facilities that are constructed, operated, or maintained with such Federal funds. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residence, portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment, service providers whose sole source of applicable Federal funds is Medicare or Medicaid, or facilities where WIC coupons are redeemed.

Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.

By signing the certification, the undersigned certifies that the applicant organization will comply with the requirements of the Act and will not allow smoking within any portion of any indoor facility used for the provision of services for children as defined by the Act.

The applicant organization agrees that it will require that the language of this certification be included in any subawards which contain provisions for children's services and that all subrecipients shall certify accordingly.

The Public Health Services strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the non-use of tobacco products. This is consistent with the PHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

HHS Assurances of Compliance (HHS 690)

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972, THE AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975, AND SECTION 1557 OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

The Applicant provides this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts or other Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

THE APPLICANT HEREBY AGREES THAT IT WILL COMPLY WITH:

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 80), to the end that, in accordance with Title VI of that Act and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
2. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-112), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 84), to the end that, in accordance with Section 504 of that Act and the Regulation, no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
3. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-318), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 86), to the end that, in accordance with Title IX and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
4. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (Pub. L. 94-135), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 91), to the end that, in accordance with the Act and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
5. Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. 111-148), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 92), to the end that, in accordance with Section 1557 and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any health program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.

The Applicant agrees that compliance with this assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of Federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the Applicant, its successors, transferees and assignees for the period during which such assistance is provided. If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of Federal financial assistance extended to the Applicant by the Department, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant, or in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is so provided, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property. The Applicant further recognizes and agrees that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance.

The grantee, as the awardee organization, is legally and financially responsible for all aspects of this award including funds provided to sub-recipients in accordance with 45 CFR §§ 75.351-75.352, Subrecipient monitoring and management.

I hereby certify that the state or territory will comply with Title XIX, Part B, Subpart II and Subpart III of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended, and summarized above, except for those sections in the PHS Act that do not apply or for which a waiver has been granted or may be granted by the Secretary for the period covered by this agreement.

I also certify that the state or territory will comply with the Assurances Non-Construction Programs and Certifications summarized above.

Kristin McClure

Name of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or Designee: _____

DocuSigned by:

Signature of CEO or Designee¹: Kristin McClure

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Title: **Chief Data Officer**

Date Signed: **8/21/2024**

mm/dd/yyyy

¹If the agreement is signed by an authorized designee, a copy of the designation must be attached.

Please upload your state's Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) – 3rd allotment proposal to here in addition to other documents. You may also upload it in the attachments section of this application.

Based on the guidance issued on October 11th, 2022, please submit a proposal that includes a narrative describing how the funds will be used to help individuals with SMI/SED, along with a budget for the total amount of the third allotment. The proposal should also explain any new projects planned with the third allotment and describe ongoing projects that will continue with the third allotment. The performance period for the third allotment is from September 30th, 2024, to September 29th, 2026, and the proposal should be titled "BSCA Funding Plan 2025". The proposed plans are due to SAMHSA by September 1, 2024.

OMB No. 0930-0168 Approved: 06/15/2023 Expires: 06/30/2026

Footnotes:

PHILIP B. SCOTT
GOVERNOR



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 18, 2024

Xavier Becerra, Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Bldg.
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

This letter is to advise that Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Human Services, is my formal designee for all transactions required to administer the Vermont Human Services Plan Budget for FFY 2025, including each related block grant as listed below. The Agency of Human Services of the State of Vermont is designated to administer the grants or supervise their administration.

Application for Social Services Block Grant

Social Security Act, Sec. 2005 (42 U.S.C. 1397d). Regulations: 45 CFR Parts 96.70 - 96.74

Application for Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant

U.S.C. 42 Chapter 6A Subchapter XVII Part A. Regulations: 45 CFR Part 75

Application for Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant

Social Security Act, Sec. 501-513 (42 U.S.C. 701-713). Regulations: 45 CFR, Parts 96.1 - 96.112

Application for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant

Title XIX, Part B of the Public Health Services Act (42 U.S.C. 300x). Regulations: 45 CFR Part 96

Community Mental Health Block Grant

P.L. 102-321 - Amendment to Title V created by ADAMHA Reorganization Act

Application for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant

P.L. 97-35. Regulations: 45 CFR, Parts 96.1 - 96.112

Applications for Community Services Block Grant

P.L. 97-35, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 Regulations: 45 CFR, parts 96.1 - 96.112

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip B. Scott", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

PBS/kp

109 STATE STREET ♦ THE PAVILION ♦ MONTPELIER, VT 05609-0101 ♦ WWW.VERMONT.GOV
TELEPHONE: 802.828.3333 ♦ FAX: 802.828.3339 ♦ TDD: 802.828.3345

GENERAL ASSURANCES

The Agency of Human Services agrees to maintain documentation to substantiate all the following assurance items. Such documentation is available for federal review to determine adequacy and completeness.

Each assurance item is followed by an indication of the categorical grant programs to which it applies. A specific reference to the comparable planning requirements of each program is included for the convenience of state and federal reviewers.

1. SINGLE STATE AGENCY

The Agency of Human Services is the single State Agency responsible for the administration or supervision of the administration of this plan.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

2. COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS

The Agency of Human Services agrees to administer the program in accordance with the applicable Act, the State Plan and all applicable regulations, policies and procedures established by the Commissioner or the Deputy Secretary, including the requirements at 34CFR Part 85 Subpart F, Drug free Workplace Act of 1988 and debarment and suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, Section 85.510 and certification regarding lobbying as required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

3. COMPLIANCE BY LOCAL AGENCIES

Where the Agency of Human Services supervises the administration of the State Plan, there are adequate methods for assuring compliance with the requirements of the plan by local agencies and/or services contractors.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

4. EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION

The Agency of Human Services utilizes such methods of administration as are necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the plan.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND FISCAL REQUIREMENTS

The Agency of Human Services' uniform administrative requirements and cost principles are in compliance with the relevant provisions of 45 CFR Part 74, except where these provisions are superseded by statute or program regulations.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

6. TRAINING OF STAFF

The Agency of Human Services provides a program of appropriate training for all classes of positions and volunteers, if applicable.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)

- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

7. MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS

The Agency of Human Services maintains sufficient fiscal control and accounting procedures to assure proper disbursement of and accounting for federal funds paid under this plan.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

8. SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

The Agency of Human Services has implemented such regulations, standards, and procedures as are necessary to meet the requirements on safeguarding confidential information under relevant program regulations.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

9. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Agency of Human Services agrees to furnish such reports and evaluations to the Deputy Secretary or the Commissioner as may be specified.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

10. STANDARDS FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

All providers of service under this plan operate fully in conformance with all applicable federal, state and local fire, health, safety and sanitation and other standards prescribed in law or regulations. The Agency of Human Services provides that where the state or local public jurisdictions require licensure for the provision of services, agencies providing such services shall be licensed.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

11. AMENDMENTS TO STATE PLAN

The State Plan provides for amendment whenever there is any material change in any applicable phase of State law, organization, policy, agency operations or other major conditions which affect the administration of this plan. Such amendments will be made in conformance with applicable regulations and submitted to the federal government before they are put into effect or at a reasonable time thereafter.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

12. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Agency of Human Services has an equal employment opportunity policy, implemented through an affirmative action plan for all aspects of personnel administration as specified in 45 CFR Part 86.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

13. NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF HANDICAP

All recipients of funds from the Agency of Human Services are required to operate each program or activity so that, when viewed in its entirety, the program or activity is readily accessible to and usable by a handicapped person. Where structural changes are required, these changes shall be made as quickly as possible in keeping with 45 CFR 84 and P.L. 97-45.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

14. CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

The Agency of Human Services has developed a system to ensure that benefits and services available under the State Plan are provided in a non-discriminatory manner as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended.

- Social Services Block Grant
- Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal and Child Health Service Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant

- Community Services Block Grant
- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

15. WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

With regards to the provision of any services included in this plan to individuals or groups of individuals, the Agency of Human Services has established in writing and will maintain policies and procedures for the provision of such services. These policies shall include a description of the scope and nature of each service and the procedures and conditions under which each such services are to be provided, including criteria for establishment of fee schedule or contributions, if applicable.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

16. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Agency of Human Services has a reasonable and objective method for determining the needs of all eligible residents of all geographic areas in the State and for allocating resources to meet those needs.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

17. PRIORITIES

The Agency of Human Services has a reasonable and objective method for establishing priorities for service and such methods are in compliance with applicable statutes.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

18. ELIGIBILITY

The activities covered by this State Plan serve only those individuals and groups eligible under the provisions of the applicable statute.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

19. RESIDENCY

No requirements as to duration of residence or citizenship will be imposed as a condition of participation in Vermont's program for the provision of services.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

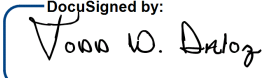
20. COORDINATION AND MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF SERVICES

The Agency of Human Services has entered into cooperative arrangements with, and utilizes the services and facilities of, other appropriate public and private agencies whose activities further the purposes of the program covered by this plan or which are specifically referenced in the applicable statute. Such coordination shall maximize utilization of public and private resources.

- State Plan on Aging (Title III of the Older Americans Act)
- State Plans on Child and Family Services (45 CFR § 1357, 45 CFR § 1340, 45 CFR Parts 98 & 99, 45 CFR Part 260, 45 CFR 96)
- State Plan on State Council on Developmental Disabilities (45 CFR § 1386)

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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Signature



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services

Office of the Secretary
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

www.humanservices.vermont.gov

Jenney Samuleson, *Secretary*
Todd Daloz, *Deputy Secretary*

[phone] 802-241-0440
[fax] 802-241-0450

Lauren Christopher
Director of the Division of Energy Assistance
Office of Community Services
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
330 C Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

I certify that the Vermont Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Block Grant Plan complies with the sixteen assurances required by 2605 (b) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended.

A letter from Governor Phil Scott delegating authority to the Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Human Services as his designee for all documents pertaining to the LIHEAP program is enclosed.


If you have any questions, please contact Richard Giddings at Richard.Giddings@vermont.gov or (802) 786-5986.

Miranda Gray, Deputy Commissioner ESD
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972, THE AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975, AND SECTION 1557 OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

The Applicant provides this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts or other Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

THE APPLICANT HEREBY AGREES THAT IT WILL COMPLY WITH:

- 1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 80), to the end that, in accordance with Title VI of that Act and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
2. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-112), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 84), to the end that, in accordance with Section 504 of that Act and the Regulation, no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
3. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Pub. L. 92-318), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 86), to the end that, in accordance with Title IX and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
4. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (Pub. L. 94-135), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 C.F.R. Part 91), to the end that, in accordance with the Act and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.
5. Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. 111-148), as amended, and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 92), to the end that, in accordance with Section 1557 and the Regulation, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any health program or activity for which the Applicant receives Federal financial assistance from the Department.

The Applicant agrees that compliance with this assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of Federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the Applicant, its successors, transferees and assignees for the period during which such assistance is provided. If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of Federal financial assistance extended to the Applicant by the Department, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant, or in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is so provided, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property. The Applicant further recognizes and agrees that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance.

The person whose signature appears below is authorized to sign this assurance and commit the Applicant to the above provisions.

5/16/2024

Date

DocuSigned by:

Todd W. Daloz

Signature of Authorized Official

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary

Name and Title of Authorized Official (please print or type)

Vermont Agency of Human Services

Name of Agency Receiving/Requesting Funding

280 State Drive

Street Address

Waterbury, VT 05671

City, State, Zip Code

Please mail form to:

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Office for Civil Rights
200 Independence Ave., S.W. Room 509F
Washington, D.C. 20201

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL
REMEDIES ACT (PFCRA)**

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that the statements herein are true, accurate and complete, and agrees to comply with the Public Health Service terms and conditions if an award is issued as a result of this application. Willful provision of false information is a criminal offense (Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1001). Any person making any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement may, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, be subject to civil penalties under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (45 CFR Part 79).

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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Signature

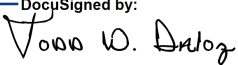
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

The grantee certifies that it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- (b) Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about— (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace; (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace; (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
- (c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will— (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and (2) Notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after each conviction;
- (e) Notifying the agency within ten days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted— (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination; or (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
- (g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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Signature

CERTIFICATION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

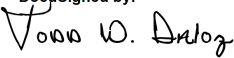
Public Law 103-227, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Act), requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for the provision of health, day care, early childhood development services, education or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law also applies to children's services that are provided in indoor facilities that are constructed, operated, or maintained with such federal funds. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences; portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment; service providers whose sole source of applicable Federal funds is Medicare or Medicaid; or facilities where WIC coupons are redeemed. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 for each violation and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.

By signing this certification, the offeror/contractor (for acquisitions) or applicant/grantee (for grants) certifies that the submitting organization will comply with the requirements of the Act and will not allow smoking within any portion of any indoor facility used for the provision of services for children as defined by the Act.

The submitting organization agrees that it will require that the language of this certification be included in any sub awards which contain provisions for children's services and that all sub recipients shall certify accordingly.

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Title 31, United States Code, Section 1352, entitled "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," generally prohibits recipients of Federal grants and cooperative agreements from using Federal (appropriated) funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the Federal Government in connection with a SPECIFIC grant or cooperative agreement. Section 1352 also requires that each person who requests or receives a Federal grant or cooperative agreement must disclose lobbying undertaken with non-Federal (non-appropriated) funds. These requirements apply to grants and cooperative agreements EXCEEDING \$100,000 in total costs(45 CFR Part 93).

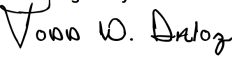
The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of the Congress in connection with the making of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub grants, and contracts under grants, loans and cooperative agreements), and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, U.S. Code. "Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure."

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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Signature

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

The undersigned (authorized official signing for the applicant organization) certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that the applicant, defined as the primary participant in accordance with 45 CFR Part 76, and its principals:

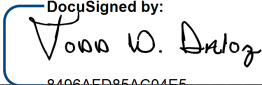
- (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
- (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a criminal judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- (c) Are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and
- (d) Have not within a 3-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

Should the applicant not be able to provide this certification, an explanation as to why should be placed after the assurances page in the application package.

The applicant agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include, without modification, the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transaction" (Appendix B to 45 CFR Part 76) in all lower tier covered transactions (i.e., transactions with sub grantees and/or contractors) and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

Vermont Agency of Human Services
Organization Name

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary
Name and Title of Authorized Representative

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Signature

STATE OF VERMONT
AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

Public Hearing on AHS Block Grants
and State Plans taken on Tuesday,
June 18, 2024, by videoconference,
beginning at 2 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

Todd Daloz, Deputy Secretary VT AHS
Sarena Boland, AHS
Megan Mack, DCF
Karolyn Long, DCF
Ari Kisler, OEO
Ed Dwinell, DCF
Jim Uber, DAIL
Steve DeVoe, DMH
Alex Venafra, DMH
Adam Mozisek, VDH
Megan Hoke, VDH
Katherine Richardson VDH
Katie Stetler, VDH
Courtney Smalt, VDH
Ciara Kilburn, Steps to End Domestic Violence

CAPITOL COURT REPORTERS, INC.
P.O. BOX 329
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05402-0329
(802) 863-6067
EMAIL: info@capitolcourtreporters.com

1 MS. BOLAND: I think that we probably
2 could get started. This is the FY25 Public Annual
3 Block Grant and State Planning public hearing. We
4 have a transcriptionist, Kim Sears. So what we would
5 like to do is go through everyone who is here and
6 introduce yourselves for her attendance record.

7 I can start. I'm Sarena Boland, and
8 I'm the Financial Manager for the Agency of Human
9 Services Fiscal Department, and more specific part of
10 the Grants Management Unit.

11 MR. DALOZ: Yes. Sarena, if you just
12 want to call on people, that may be the most
13 efficient way to --

14 MS. BOLAND: Sure. Why don't you go
15 ahead, Todd.

16 MR. DALOZ: Hi, folks. Todd Daloz he/
17 him pronouns. I am the Deputy Secretary of the
18 Agency of Human Services. I'll go through a little
19 spiel here in a minute once we all introduce
20 ourselves.

21 MS. BOLAND: How about we start with
22 DCF.

23 MS. MACK: Megan Mack. I work on --
24 for DCF on the Cost Allocation Team. And I am a
25 Financial Manager II. And I work under Ed Dwinell,

1 who is here.

2 MS. BOLAND: Okay. Next in DCF?

3 MS. LONG: This is Karolyn Long. I'm
4 the Director of Operations for the Child Development
5 Division and the Department for Children and
6 Families. Hi.

7 MS. BOLAND: Hi.

8 MS. KISLER: This is Ari Kisler with
9 the Office of Economic Opportunity here for the
10 Community Services Block Grant.

11 MS. BOLAND: Go ahead.

12 MR. DWINELL: Ed Dwinell, DCF business
13 office. We handle all the federal claiming for the
14 Block Grants and the Plan.

15 MS. BOLAND: Anyone else from DCF?

16 (No response)

17 MS. BOLAND: All right. Let's move on
18 to DAIL.

19 MR. UBER: Good afternoon. This is Jim
20 Uber. I'm the DAIL Financial Director.

21 MS. BOLAND: Thank you. Anyone else
22 from DAIL?

23 MR. UBER: I think I'm it.

24 MS. BOLAND: Okay. I'm not certain if
25 anyone from DOC is here. They are not really a part

1 of the Block Grant, but they are part of the Agency
2 of Human Services. So I think the invitation was
3 given to everyone. So if anyone from DOC is here
4 feel free to jump in and introduce yourselves.

5 (No response)

6 MS. BOLAND: Let's move on to DMH.

7 MR. DEVOE: Good afternoon, everybody.
8 I'm Steve DeVoe, he/him pronouns. I'm the Director
9 of Quality and Accountability at DMH, and then I'm
10 also our State Planner for our Community Mental
11 Health Block Grant.

12 MS. VENAFRA: Hello. I'm Alex Venaфра.
13 She/her pronouns. I'm a Financial Manager III
14 supporting our federal grants and all our sub grants.

15 MS. BOLAND: Anyone else from DMH?

16 (No response)

17 MS. BOLAND: Okay. Let's move on to
18 VDH.

19 MR. MOZISEK: I'm Adam Mozisek. I am
20 a Federal Grant Administrator in the Business Office,
21 and I prepare the financials for the Substance Abuse
22 Block Grant and the Public Health and Human Services
23 -- Preventative Health and Human Services Block
24 Grant.

25 MS. HOKE: Megan Hoke. I'm a Financial

1 Director of Vermont Department of Health.

2 MS. RICHARDSON: I'm Katherine
3 Richardson, she/her pronouns. I'm the Health
4 Division Admin for the Planning Unit, and I'm the
5 Block Grant Coordinator for PHHS Block Grant. Thank
6 you.

7 MS. STETLER: Hi, everybody. I'm Katie
8 Stetler. I'm the Director of Planning and
9 Improvement at the Health Department, also at the
10 Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

11 MS. SMALT: Hi. My name is Courtney
12 Smalt, I sit in SVH, and I'm the Title 5 MCH Block
13 Grant Coordinator.

14 MS. BOLAND: Anyone from Agency of
15 Human Services?

16 (No response)

17 MS. BOLAND: Let's move to anyone from
18 DVHA.

19 (No response)

20 MS. BOLAND: Okay. I think the floor
21 is all yours now.

22 MR. DALOZ: Thank you, Sarena. I also
23 just to want to make sure is there anyone else who we
24 didn't introduce or needs to be introduced just in
25 case they hopped on later.

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1 MS. KILBURN: Hi, everybody. My name
2 is Ciara Kilburn. I'm the Director of Housing
3 Services at Steps to End Domestic Violence.

4 MR. DALOZ: Great to have you. Thank
5 you. Anyone else?

6 (No response)

7 MR. DALOZ: Okay. Well let me jump in
8 to the formal portion of today's meeting. Good
9 afternoon, folks. Welcome to the Agency of Human
10 Services Block Grant and State Planning hearing. I'm
11 Todd Daloz, the Deputy Secretary with the Agency of
12 Human Services.

13 Under federal regulation we must, prior
14 to the beginning of a new federal fiscal year,
15 conduct a public hearing for the following federal
16 block grants and state plans administered by Agency
17 of Human Services: Social Services Block Grant. The
18 Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant.
19 The Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant.
20 The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block
21 Grant. The Community Mental Health Services Block
22 Grant. The Low-Income Energy Assistance Block Grant.
23 And the Community Services Block Grant.

24 Under State of Vermont statute we must
25 announce the public hearing as community members have

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1 a right to attend meetings of public agencies.
2 Advertisement and notices of public hearing were
3 placed in the Burlington Free Press, the Bennington
4 Banner, the Times Argus, Brattleboro Reformer and
5 Rutland Herald on Friday, May 31, 2024. An
6 electronic notice was also posted to the State of
7 Vermont Public Libraries' website.

8 Additionally, legislative leaders in
9 the Joint Fiscal Committee were notified via email of
10 this public hearing. Electronic summary documents,
11 as well as full draft grant applications, are
12 available on the AHS internet site and by request.

13 I should note that these Block Grants
14 and State Plans and the respective programs and
15 amounts are for the most part included in the state
16 fiscal year 2025 budget.

17 At this time we will take questions
18 from the public. As you heard in the various
19 introductions, the individuals present today are
20 members from each department who will address any
21 specific concerns or questions regarding these grants
22 and plans. We will record your questions and provide
23 a formal written response as soon as possible if one
24 is not given during the course of the meeting. In
25 addition, we will post all questions and answers to

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1 the Agency of Human Services' website.

2 So now I want to just open the floor
3 for any public questions or comments from any member
4 of the public who is joining us today.

5 (Pause)

6 MR. DALOZ: So for folks joining for
7 the first time, we are going to just wait about a
8 minute of silence if that's what we end up with in
9 case anybody wants to -- is having trouble connecting
10 or otherwise. And then we will end up leaving the
11 line open, and I request that people stay available
12 and in the meeting for about 20 minutes. I'll let
13 you know exactly at what time we will wrap up, but
14 just to make sure if people are joining late, we give
15 the public ample opportunity to ask questions and
16 make requests for information about these various and
17 very important programs.

18 So let me just give another 20 seconds
19 of silence, and as long as folks are still available,
20 we will leave the line open for about 20 minutes.

21 (Pause)

22 MR. DALOZ: All right. By my clock, we
23 will keep the line open and respond to questions
24 until 2:33. So if folks could stick around, I will
25 close the meeting when we -- if we don't get any

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1 further questions -- at 2:33. So thanks for hanging
2 in there, and we will respond to any questions as
3 they come up.

4 (Pause)

5 MR. DALOZ: It is 2:23. We will keep
6 the line open for another 10 minutes until 2:33
7 absent any questions or comments from the public.

8 (Pause)

9 MR. DALOZ: All right. The time is
10 2:33. We kept the line open for about 20 minutes
11 after our initial opening of this year's annual
12 public hearing on Agency of Human Services Block
13 Grants and State Plans. Barring any last minute
14 public questions or comments, we will close the
15 meeting. Thanks, everybody, for coming. Thanks for
16 being available, and I think probably most
17 importantly, thanks for all the work it takes to get
18 the Block Grants together and then get the money out
19 the door to really support pretty incredible work
20 across the state in support of all those Vermonters
21 we serve.

22 So thanks very much, and please stay
23 cool for the next couple days and make sure folks you
24 know are also staying cool. Take care.

25 MS. BOLAND: Thank you.

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(Whereupon, the proceeding was
adjourned at 2:33 p.m.)

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I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

Date /s/ Kim U. Sears
Kim U. Sears

<p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <p>05402-0329 - 1:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>10 - 9:6 18 - 1:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>2 - 1:5 20 [4] 8:12, 8:18, 8:20, 9:10 2024 [2] 1:4, 7:5 2025 - 7:16 2:23 - 9:5 2:33 [5] 8:24, 9:1, 9:6, 9:10, 10:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>31 - 7:5 329 - 1:19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>5 - 5:12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>802 - 1:20 863-6067 - 1:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>above-entitled - 11:6 absent - 9:7 Abuse [2] 4:21, 6:20 Accountability - 4:9 across - 9:20 Adam [2] 1:13, 4:19 addition - 7:25 Additionally - 7:8 address - 7:20 adjourned - 10:2 Admin - 5:4 administered - 6:16 Administrator - 4:20 Advertisement - 7:2 afternoon [3] 3:19, 4:7, 6:9 agencies - 7:1 Agency [10] 1:1, 2:8, 2:18, 4:1, 5:14, 6:9, 6:11, 6:16, 8:1, 9:12 ahead [2] 2:15, 3:11 AHS [4] 1:3, 1:8,</p>	<p>1:9, 7:12 Alex [2] 1:12, 4:12 Allocation - 2:24 amounts - 7:15 ample - 8:15 announce - 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