OPIOID OPERATIONAL COMMAND CENTER
FY2020 Statewide and Local Grant Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Is there a limit to the number of applications that can be submitted by a single entity?**
   No. There is no limit to the number of applications submitted by a single entity.

2. **Who is eligible to apply?**
   State and local governments and private community based organizations are eligible to apply. With respect to private community based organizations, the Opioid Operational Command Center (OOCC) aims to support programs and organizations with substantial track records, patient flow, revenues, and assets. Generally, the OOCC does not finance start-up organizations.

3. **What is the difference between and OIT Grant and a Non-OIT grant in the grant application?**
   The OOCC allocates directly approximately $10 million in crisis funding each year. In fiscal year 2020, $4 million of these crisis funds will be allocated as block grants to Opioid Intervention Teams (OITs) in Maryland's 24 jurisdictions. These grants are formula-driven.

   The balance of the OOCC's crisis-fund budget will be used to provide grants to other state agencies, local governments and private community-based programs and to support the OOCC's operating budget. These funds are referred to in the application as a non-OIT grant.

4. **Is there a minimum or maximum amount for awards?**
   There is no set minimum or maximum.

5. **How many years can a grant submission cover?**
   Applicants must submit a proposal for one year that aligns with the State Fiscal Year (July 1 – June 30). Grant award recipients must re-apply for the following fiscal year if funds are needed beyond the specified grant period. Applicants should be very clear about how the requested use of grant funds in the new application is a wholly different project from the program currently in implementation, builds on the current project/grant, or is a continuation request of the current program.

6. **How many State, Local Government and non-governmental grants will be awarded for FY2020?**
   The OOCC has about $5 million to award in new grant funding in FY2020. Opioid Intervention Team (OIT) grants will receive $4 million directly, for a total of $9 million in opioid-related grants.

7. **What types of projects are eligible for a grant?**

The project must align with one of the following approaches to addressing the opioid crisis: Prevention & Education, Enforcement, and Treatment & Recovery. Further information about these objectives are contained in the Conditions document.

8. **Can programs be funded across multiple areas of focus?**
   While it is understood that some proposals could be considered as addressing multiple categories (e.g., Prevention & Education and Treatment & Recovery), applicants are encouraged to select the primary area of focus on the grant application.

9. **What types of expenses are NOT allowable?**
   a. Fundraising or lobbying;
   b. Reimbursement of pre-award costs;
   c. Supplanting of existing local, state, or federal for funds activities described in this program; and,
   d. Staffing costs prior to the date of the award.

10. **How can a non-governmental organization enhance its project application?**
    It is advisable that organizations include letters of support with their project application submission. The OOCC Scoring Review Committee will look favorably upon applications that demonstrate the support of the local jurisdiction.

11. **Do non-governmental grant applicants require a state or local government sponsor?**
    No, a non-governmental grant applicant is not required to obtain a state or local government sponsor to administer the grant. However, the OOCC Scoring Review Committee will look favorable upon grant applications with an identified sponsor/grant administering agency. This information should be clearly noted on the application. (A sponsoring agency may charge up to 10% for indirect costs, but it must be included in the application budget.)

12. **Does the full grant award need to be expended before the end of FY2020 (i.e., June 30, 2020)?**
    Yes. The OOCC's funds are general funds and must be expended or contractually encumbered before the end of the fiscal year.

13. **What are the characteristics of a sustainability plan?**
    Examples of sustainability plans have included, but are not limited to: (1) commitment by a hospital partner or private foundation to provide post-award funding; (2) development of the ability to bill third-party payers for services provided; and/or (3) development of the ability to sustain employment of staff members hired for the program.

14. **Is a specific amount or percentage of matching funds required?**
    There is no specific amount or percentage of matching funding required.

15. **What are indirect costs?**

Indirect costs include items that are associated with running the organization as a whole and benefit more than one project/program. Allowable indirect costs include items such as administrative staff salaries, rent, office supplies, insurance, etc.

16. **Indirect costs are limited to ten percent. Is this rate flexible?**
The OOCC's policy regarding the 10% limit on indirect costs is firm and not negotiable. If the sponsoring/grant administering agency requests indirect costs, the balance for indirect costs may still not exceed 10%.

The following exception is made to the above policy: Per State law, indirect costs will be reimbursed at the rate that a nonprofit organization has negotiated and received either (1) under a direct federal award or (2) from a nonfederal entity based on specified federal cost principles.

17. **What is the difference between the following grant application questions: "Program Goals and Objectives" and "Program Measurement/Performance Indicators?**
A program goal describes the overarching aim of the program. For instance, the goal of an employee overdose prevention training program is to ensure employees are prepared to respond to overdoses by training 100% of employees in overdose prevention within 12 months. This is a SMART program goal. A Program Measurement/Performance Indicator instead describes the progress the program is making toward that goal (e.g., number and/or percentage of employees who have completed the overdose training program during each quarter).

18. **When is the grant application deadline?**
The deadline to submit the grant application package for FY2020 is June 13, 2019. The entire package must be received by this deadline.

19. **When will the OOCC inform applicants of grant decisions?**
Statewide, Local Government and non-governmental grant awards will be made in July 2019.

20. **What happens to any funds that cannot be expended during the award period?** These funds will revert back to the OOCC and will be repurposed for other projects and programs.

21. **To whom should grant applicants direct questions about the grant application?** Please email Danielle Holmes at Danielle.holmes1@maryland.gov for more information about the grant application process.