

NOT-FOR-PROFIT CONTRACTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 13, 2022

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Via Zoom Webinar

Meeting Minutes

For the third time that the Not-for-Profit Contracting Advisory Committee (NFPCAC) met by Zoom.

Introductory remarks were made by Liz Fine, Counsel to Governor Hochul; and Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado.

Remarks by Marla Simpson, Associate Director, Immigrant & Refugee Services, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York, and Chair of the Advisory Committee; and Fran Barrett, Interagency Coordinator for Nonprofit Organizations followed.

Jason DiGianni, Assistant Unit Chief, Legal and Procurement Unit, Division of the Budget, discussed –

- 1) Current Master Grant Contract –
 - was designed with standardized terms and conditions, but
 - has not been updated in nearly a decade.
- 2) An update, to include housekeeping (technical changes), adjustments for changes in statute; and to make the document more streamlined and easier to understand is underway.
- 3) We have worked in partnership with our agencies and counsel across NYS, the nonprofit organizations' counterparts, to find areas where they've experienced challenges, and where they've *felt and heard* about the nonprofit community's pain points;
- 4) In light of its importance to all contracting for NYS, a regular review of this contract template will be built into the process;
- 5) We are asking that nonprofits submit substantive Master Grant Contract feedback (specifically what areas of the contract have been challenging – we are not currently seeking grammatical or stylistic suggestions) to nonprofits@exec.ny.gov -- for instance, standard terms that may not fit with the kind of grants you've been working with/the services you provide;
 - Not every suggestion, comment or concern can or will be used; and
 - We hope to hear from a number of nonprofits, with significant challenges rising to the top, so we can organize and collate those responses.

Ian Carlson, Director, NYS Grants Management - Grants Gateway - presented an updated PowerPoint presentation detailing the transition from Grants Gateway to the State Financial System (SFS), and how New York State is preparing for this.

John O'Leary, Deputy Secretary for Energy and Environment, gave a detailed overview of the intersection of his agency and the nonprofit sector, and offered to continue the dialogue begun in this NFPCA committee meeting.

Carolyn Dee, Senior Policy Advisor, Financial Services and Technology, to Governor Hochul, discussed the Secure Choice Program.

Carolina Rodriguez, Director of the Education Debt Consumer Assistance Program (EDCAP), explained student loan forgiveness.

There were comments on:

- The need to enable nonprofit organizations to financially empower their employees to participate in Secure Choice by increasing their funding, including by addressing current indirect rate.
- The wisdom of engaging with the nonprofit sector in an interactive process of Master Grant Contract feedback.

There were questions on:

- Whether legislative grants will be handled via SFS.
- Deadline, if any, for nonprofits offering Master Grant Contract feedback.
- How to contact John O'Leary, Deputy Secretary for Energy and Environment.
- The address of the SFS Portal.

The following issues will stay on the NFPCAC agenda:

- Contract Reform
- Grants Gateway transition to new SFS system

Next Steps and Conclusion:

- Fran Barrett provided closing remarks, thanked everyone for joining the call, and encouraged ongoing conversation about upcoming NYS changes impacting the nonprofit sector; and invited participants to reach out directly via, the Nonprofit Unit's new website and email address post-meeting if questions arise.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:49PM.