

# FUNDING OUTLOOK - COVID RELIEF FUNDING & BEYOND

Victoria Fine, Regional Grant Manager Learn Design Apply, Inc.



### **AGENDA**

1

Introduction

2

Funding Overview

3

COVID Relief Highlights

4

**USDA RUS-DLT Grant** 

5

**Questions** 

# INTRODUCTION

### LEARN DESIGN APPLY, INC.

- Grant management and consulting firm
- Free initial consultation and planning
- Partnerships with technology vendors who specialize in distance learning and telehealth
- Services offered:
  - Where to find funding, "follow the money"
  - Which programs are the best fit / prequalification
  - Funding strategy
  - Application process project management and comprehensive assistance
  - Grant writing (when allowed by the program) or assistance in locating a grant writer
  - Post-award support





## **FUNDING OVERVIEW**

#### **FUNDING TYPES**

#### **Discretionary**

- Competitive
- Often a more involved application process
- Applications are reviewed / scored before winners are announced

#### **COVID Relief**

- Can be discretionary or non-discretionary
- Short-term
- Finite

#### **Non-discretionary**

- Non-competitive
- Often a minimal application process
- Formula-based, money is allocated to specific entities



#### Funding is rarely about what you are getting

#### It's all about how what you are getting addresses a specific need

- Who do you serve demographics?
- Where do you serve geography?
- What specific challenges do you face?
- Why do these challenges exist?
- How do you hope to address these challenges?
  Over what time period?
- How do you plan to measure and achieve your proposed goals?

Basically, funding follows the problem. And one size does not fit all!

#### HEALTHCARE FUNDING FOCUS AREAS

- COVID relief funding (telehealth, vaccine distribution, training / workforce development, etc.)
- Telehealth to rural, underserved communities
- Education, training, and workforce development for healthcare professionals





# COVID RELIEF HIGHLIGHTS



# FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program – Round 2

- For <u>nonprofit and public</u> healthcare providers to expand / develop telehealth services in response to the pandemic
- Covers <u>telecommunications services</u>, <u>information services</u>, <u>and devices</u>
- Round 2 awardees will be determined based on objective evaluation metrics (available now)
- Application window: <u>April 29, 2021 –</u>
  <u>May 6, 2021</u> (just 7 days to apply!)



# ARP Funding for Health Centers (H8F)

- For <u>HRSA Health Center Program</u>
  recipients
- Formula-based, allocations list available now
- Very <u>broad and flexible</u> fund in focus areas and eligible items
- Health Centers must submit information about planned activities and costs by
   May 31, 2021



# ARP Emergency Rural Development Grants for Rural Health Care

- USDA emergency pilot program for facilities in <u>rural</u>, <u>underserved</u> areas to respond to the pandemic
- Covers vaccine distribution, medical supplies, reimbursement for lost revenue, telehealth expansion, constructing temporary / permanent structures, staffing needs, among others
- Program released no sooner than 150 days from 3/11/2021
- More info coming soon





# USDA RUS-DLT GRANT



### THE BASICS



# **USDA Rural Utilities Service Distance Learning & Telemedicine Program**

- Annual technology-focused competitive grant program
- Provides funding for <u>interactive</u>, "<u>real time</u>" distance learning and / or telehealth projects that give rural residents access to content and / or services
- Almost any type of organization is eligible to apply (Exceptions: Federal organizations, sole proprietors, and organizations in coastal barrier zones)
- Very consistent and reliable source of funding (one that you can rely on long-term!)
- LDA helps dozens of organizations apply for this program every year



### THE DETAILS



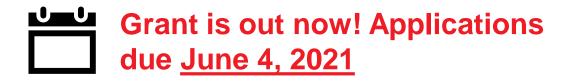
#### **Project Design & Scoring**

- Connecting rural entities together or to an urban hub for resource / content sharing
- Scored on sites that receive the services, information, or content ("end-user sites")
- Objective scoring based on <u>rurality</u>, <u>economic need</u>, <u>and special</u> <u>considerations</u>



#### **Budget & Expenditures**

- 3-year grant period
- 15% match requirement
- Funds must go toward <u>hardware /</u>
  <u>software</u> primarily being used for distance learning and / or telemedicine
- Up to 20% of budget can be spent on broadband-related expenses





## **QUESTIONS?**

## Thank you!

Info@LearnDesignApply.com