

Hurricane Ian & Nicole

Long-Term Recovery Grant Program



**American
Red Cross**

Request for Proposals

March 15, 2023

The American Red Cross (Red Cross) is addressing the priority needs of those impacted by Hurricane Ian by investing in a long-term recovery grant program via Request for Proposal (RFP) that supports projects focused on individual, household and community recovery and resiliency by extending the impact of our direct relief and financial assistance programs. The grant funding period is June 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024. Applications for funding will be accepted from March 20, 2023 to April 17, 2023.

All American Red Cross long-term recovery grant programs work to fulfill the organization's mission to "prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors" while upholding its core values of compassion, collaboration, creativity, credibility, and commitment. The American Red Cross Hurricane Ian Long-Term Recovery Grant Program is dedicated to funding organizations and transformational projects that assist the most vulnerable individuals, households, and communities in their long-term recovery with programs and services that embody *the Red Cross values of care, respect, equality, diversity, inclusiveness, transparency, and careful stewardship of all donor funds*.

The Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Program relies upon its divisional, regional, and local infrastructure, as well as its partner organizations to identify the post-disaster recovery needs of individuals, households and the communities impacted by disaster events. Based upon data collected over time in reference to Hurricane Ian, this RFP of the Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Program will provide funding in three focus areas. In addition to an emphasis on addressing the inequities individuals and households face during recovery, the Hurricane Ian Long-Term Recovery Grant Program is interested in receiving and considering grant applications that introduce innovative solutions that address community recovery and resiliency.

- 1) **Individual and Household Needs** grants provide services that help individuals and households meet their disaster-caused recovery needs. Examples of these services include:
 - Supporting housing recovery and mitigation
 - Addressing disaster-caused physical health, mental health and/or spiritual care needs
 - Supporting access to and delivery of high-quality childcare services
 - Providing additional and alternative vocational training and placement services to those affected by a disaster event
 - Outreach to help underserved and vulnerable populations access recovery services
- 2) **Community Recovery Capacity Building** grants support expansion or establishment of programs that support community recovery. Examples of these services include:
 - Building Long-Term Recovery Group capacity by providing funding to hire staff
 - Awarding funding to Long-Term Recovery Group's Unmet Needs Committees

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- Supporting community needs assessment efforts to identify unmet recovery needs
- Creating or expanding information and referral systems to increase awareness of resources across all impacted communities
- Expanding services that address identified disaster-caused needs

- 3) **Community Recovery and Resiliency** grants will strengthen a community's recovery and resilience through supporting systemic solutions, examples of these services include:
- Developing and implementing new resiliency, preparedness and social skills focused programs for children and/or youth
 - Implementing preparedness programming
 - Engaging disaster-impacted communities in resilience strengthening planning, and
 - Developing and implementing unique initiatives that meet community recovery needs

GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS

In general, all grant applications submitted to this RFP should include grant funded program activities that can be completed on or before July 31, 2024. The anticipated range of award for any individual grant will be between \$100,000 - \$3,000,000.

ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

The American Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Programs all follow standard finance and funding practices regarding expenses that are allowable to be included in any grant application project budget. The four examples below represent some of the most frequently asked questions about what can and cannot be included in a grant application project budget.

- All proposed grant budgets may include staff salaries or consultant fees for those individuals necessary for the implementation or provision of grant funded services.
- Indirect and/or "overhead" administrative expenses may not be included in funding requests of \$50,000 or less. Requests over \$50,000 may include up to three percent (3%) of all expenses for administrative costs (costs associated with running the organization, but not limited to, administrative staff salaries, rent, utilities and office supplies).
- Applicants with project budgets that exceed the proposed grant budget must include lists of confirmed additional funding sources to cover the balance of project expenses.
- *Capital requests will only be considered under limited circumstances with approval from Red Cross Senior Leadership.*

For more information regarding allowable items in a grant application project budget please contact: hurricaneianltr@redcross.org

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ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Funded organizations will be expected to begin delivery of grant funded activities within one (1) month of grant award. All organizations receiving Red Cross Long-Term Recovery grant funding are also required to measure, track and report outcomes for all grant supported activities according to a reporting schedule outlined in the Grant Agreement. An organization must meet both the following minimum criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Non-profits with a minimum of three years as IRS-approved 501(c)(3) *OR* Faith-based organizations with an expertise in community recovery *AND*
- Non-profit or faith organization with a minimum institutional annual budget of \$250,000 (as reported on the most recent independent financial audit or IRS Form 990).

The Red Cross may consider a limited number of applicants who are not eligible based on the above criteria, but who address a critical geographical or programmatic need. These organizations will be asked to operate under a fiscal agent. Fiscal agency allows an organization without Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status to receive funds via an established nonprofit with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

Preference for grant funding will be given to organizations with established successful disaster recovery programming, including organizations with 1) expertise in providing post-disaster recovery services to vulnerable populations; 2) collaborative relationships with or helping to coordinate the efforts of nationally or regionally recognized VOAD; and/or 3) prior Red Cross Long-Term Recovery Grant Program funded successful grant projects.

For more information on fiscal agency, please contact: hurricaneianltr@redcross.org

GRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL AWARDED GRANTEES

- An executed Grant Agreement signed by authorized representatives of both the Red Cross and prospective grantee.
- The Red Cross will require grantees to submit reports on project progress and outcomes as well as updates on financial expenditures. Reporting frequency will be determined based upon project scope, amount of funding award and grantee capacity.
- Organizations funded to provide certain professional services will be required to provide assurances that proper licensing for all grant-funded staff is up-to-date and monitored.
- Organizations providing direct services to children or populations with physical or mental disabilities must provide assurances that background checks are conducted and maintained on all staff for the duration of the Red Cross grant term.
- All public acknowledgement of Red Cross grants must be coordinated with the Red Cross and consistent with the guidelines outlined in the grant agreement.

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IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND DATES

- Grant Period for RFP funded grants is June 1, 2023, through July 31, 2024.
- RFP online informational sessions and Red Cross Online Grant Management System trainings will be during the weeks of March 20 – 24, 2023 and March 27 – 31, 2023.
- RFP online application process opens: March 20, 2023.
- RFP deadline for online application submission: April 17, 2023.
- Grant decisions will be announced as they are awarded

GRANT APPLICATIONS

To apply, please visit the Red Cross Grants Management System portal:

https://webportalapp.com/sp/redcross_grants_se23. The Applicant Guide to the Red Cross Grant Management System is also being made available with this RFP Grant Guidance. For ease of access, all Hurricane Ian Long-Term Recovery Grant Program materials are also available online at www.redcross.org.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Prior to completing a grant application, all applicants must fill out an organizational profile that also requires the following documents to be uploaded into the system:

- 1) IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination. (If using Fiscal Agent, the IRS letter and all supporting documentation must be that of the Fiscal Agent.)
- 2) IRS W9 Form
- 3) List of the organization's current board and leadership members
- 4) Most recent two (2) years of audited financials (P&L and Balance Sheet) OR most recent two (2) years of 990s
- 5) Current organizational fiscal year budget

CONTACT

For additional information about the Grant Proposal Application process, please contact hurricaneianltr@redcross.org.