

Communities that do not currently offer emergency medical services but are turning to this grant program to initiate such a service received the lowest competitive rating. DHS does not believe creating a nonaffiliated EMS program is a substantial and sufficient benefit under the program.

Specific rating criteria and priorities for each of the grant categories are provided below following the descriptions of this year's eligible programs. The rating criteria, in conjunction with the program description, provide an understanding of the evaluation standards.

(1) EMS Operations and Safety Program

There were five different activities available for funding under this program area: EMS training, EMS equipment, EMS personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and modifications to facilities. Requests for equipment and training to prepare for response to incidents involving CBRNE were available under the applicable equipment and training activities.

(i) *Training Activities.* DHS believes that upgrading a service that currently meets a basic life support capacity to a higher level of life support creates the most benefit. Therefore, DHS gave a higher competitive rating to nonaffiliated EMS organizations that seek to upgrade from first responder to EMT-B level. Since training is a pre-requisite to the effective use of EMS

equipment, organizations whose request is more focused on training activities received a higher competitive rating than organizations whose request was more focused on equipment. The second priority was to elevate emergency responders' capabilities from EMT-B to EMT-I or higher.

(ii) *EMS equipment acquisition.* As noted above, training received a higher competitive rating than equipment. Applications seeking assistance to purchase equipment to support the EMT-B level of service received a higher priority than requests seeking assistance to purchase equipment to support advance level EMS services. Items that were eligible but a lower priority include tents, shelters, generators, lights, and heating and cooling units.

(iii) *EMS personal protective equipment.* DHS gave the same priorities for EMS PPE as it did for Fire Department PPE discussed above. Acquisition of PASS devices was not funded for EMS programs.

(iv) *Wellness and Fitness Activities.* DHS believes that to have an effective wellness/fitness program, nonaffiliated EMS organizations must offer periodic health screenings, entry physical examinations, and an immunization program similar to the programs for fire departments discussed above. Accordingly, applicants for grants in this category must currently offer or

plan to offer with grant funds *all three benefits* (periodic health screenings, entry physical examinations, and an immunization program) to receive funding for any other initiatives in this activity.

(v) *Modification to EMS stations and facilities.* DHS believes that the competitive rankings and priorities applied to modification of fire stations and facilities, discussed above, apply equally to EMS stations and facilities.

(2) EMS Vehicle Acquisition Program

DHS gave the highest funding priority to acquisition of ambulances and transport vehicles due to the inherent benefits to the community and EMS service provider. Due to the costs associated with obtaining and outfitting non-transport rescue vehicles relative to the benefits derived from such vehicles, DHS gave non-transport rescue vehicles a lower competitive rating than transport vehicles. Vehicles that have a very narrow function, such as aircraft, boats, and all-terrain vehicles, received the lowest competitive rating. DHS anticipates that the EMS vehicle awards will be very competitive due to very limited available funding. Accordingly, it is unlikely that DHS will fund any vehicles that are not listed as a "Priority One" in the 2006 program year. The following chart delineates the priorities in this program area for each type of community.

EMS VEHICLE PRIORITIES

| Priority One | Priority Two | Priority Three |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambulance or transport unit to support EMT-B needs and functions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First responder non-transport vehicles Special operations vehicles. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helicopters/planes. Command vehicles. Rescue boats (over 13 feet in length). Hovercraft. Other special access vehicles. |

DHS has not differentiated priorities in this year's EMS vehicle program for different types of communities.

Along with the priorities illustrated above, DHS has accepted the fire service recommendation that emerged from the criteria development process that funding applicants that own few or no vehicles of the type sought will be more beneficial than funding applicants that own numerous vehicles of that same type. DHS assessed the number of vehicles an applicant owns by including all vehicles of the same type. For example, transport vehicles were considered the same as ambulances. DHS gave a higher competitive rating to applicants that have an aged fleet of emergency vehicles, and to applicants

with old, high-mileage vehicles. A higher competitive rating was given to applicants that respond to a significant number of incidents relative to applicants responding less often while servicing similar communities.

(3) Administrative Costs

Panelists assessed the reasonableness of the administrative costs requested in each application and determined if it is reasonable and in the best interest of the program.

Dated: August 31, 2006.
George W. Foresman,
Under Secretary for Preparedness.
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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[FEMA-1658-DR]

Texas; Amendment No. 1 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas (FEMA-1658-DR), dated August 15, 2006, and related determinations.

DATES: *Effective Date:* August 28, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Magda Ruiz, Recovery Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2705.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Texas is hereby amended to include the following area among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the catastrophe declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of August 15, 2006:

Hudspeth County for emergency protective measures (Category B) under the Public Assistance program.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 97.030, Community Disaster Loans; 97.031, Cora Brown Fund Program; 97.032, Crisis Counseling; 97.033, Disaster Legal Services Program; 97.034, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 97.046, Fire Management Assistance; 97.048, Individuals and Households Housing; 97.049, Individuals and Households Disaster Housing Operations; 97.050 Individuals and Households Program—Other Needs; 97.036, Public Assistance Grants; 97.039, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

R. David Paulison,

Under Secretary for Federal Emergency Management and Director of FEMA.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4630-FA-07]

Announcement of Funding Awards; Fair Housing Initiatives Program; Fiscal Year 2001

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, HUD.

ACTION: Announcement of funding awards.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, this document notifies the public of the fiscal year 2001 funding awards made under the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP). The purpose of this document is to announce the names and addresses of

the award winners and the amount of the awards to be used to strengthen the Department's enforcement of the Fair Housing Act and to further fair housing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Myron Newry, Director, FHIP Support Division, Office of Programs, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 5230, Washington, DC 20410. Telephone number (202) 708-2215 (this is not a toll-free number). A telecommunications device (TTY) for hearing and speech impaired persons is available at (800) 877-8339 (this is a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 3601-19 (the Fair Housing Act) charges the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development with responsibility to accept and investigate complaints alleging discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale, rental, or financing of most housing. In addition, the Fair Housing Act directs the Secretary to coordinate with state and local agencies administering fair housing laws and to cooperate with and render technical assistance to public or private entities carrying out programs to prevent and eliminate discriminatory housing practices.

Section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, 42 U.S.C. 3616, established the FHIP to strengthen the Department's enforcement of the Fair Housing Act and to further fair housing. This program assists projects and activities designed to enhance compliance with the Fair Housing Act and substantially equivalent state and local fair housing laws. Implementing regulations are found at 24 CFR part 125.

The FHIP has three active funding categories: The Education and Outreach Initiative (EOI), the Private Enforcement Initiative (PEI), and the Fair Housing Organizations Initiative (FHOI). This Notice announces awards made, primarily, under EOI, PEI and FHOI, as well as award(s) under National Programs and other special funding categories.

The Department announced in the **Federal Register** on February 26, 2001 (66 FR 11638 and 66 FR 11793), the availability of approximately \$16,500,000, out of an appropriation of \$24,000,000, and any potential

recapture, to be utilized for the FHIP for projects and activities through PEI, EOI, FHOI with the remaining approximately \$7,500,000 designated to the National Housing Discrimination Audit 2001. Additionally, on July 25, 2001 (66 FR 38846) the availability of approximately \$1,000,000 for a 24-month period was announced under a separate Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) under the EOI—National Program—Model Codes Partnership Component (MCPC). Although the MCPC was first published in the **Federal Register** on February 24, 2000, no timely applications were received.

This Notice announces the award of approximately \$16,336,127 million of FY 2001 grant funding to 94 organizations that submitted applications under the February 26, 2001 SuperNOFA and the award of six contracts to four organizations for approximately \$5,498,754.10 for the National Housing Discrimination Study and other purposes. This Notice further announces the award of approximately \$1,874,519.00 of FY 2000 funding to 2 organizations, which included an award to 1 organization under the July 25, 2001, NOFA. Finally, this notice announces the award of approximately \$1,999,712 in FY 2001 funding to two National EOI programs plus another \$72,000 for partial funding of one FHOI/ENOC program for applications submitted under the March 26, 2002 SuperNOFA.

The Department reviewed, evaluated and scored the applications received based on the criteria in the February 26, 2001 SuperNOFA and the July 25, 2001 NOFA. As a result, HUD has funded the applications announced in Appendix A, and in accordance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (103 Stat. 1987, 42 U.S.C. 3545), the Department is hereby publishing details concerning the recipients of funding awards in Appendix A of this document.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for currently funded Initiatives under the Fair Housing Initiatives Program is 14.408.

Dated: August 10, 2006.

Bryan Greene,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Programs.