DPH RFP # 2019 – 0910 Connecticut Healthy Communities Project RFP Questions and Answers

1. I am wondering if our status as a REACH recipient would preclude us from applying for the funds.

No. Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) recipients are welcome to submit a proposal so long as they meet the other requirements outlined in the CT HCP RFP.

2. We are reviewing the RFP and Food is an unallowable expense so we are wondering if we can provide vouchers to participants for produce. They would use these vouchers at farmers markets.

No, vouchers at farmers markets are not an allowable expense.

3. Do we have to implement both aim 1 and 2?

Aims 1 and 2 are specific to the state-level requirements from the CDC funding. Applicants must implement Strategy 1, foodservice guidelines, and at least one of breastfeeding strategies outlined (Strategies 2-4). Please see Section III.C.2.b. for more details, starting on page 22 of the RFP.

4. Can we just implement breastfeeding and not the food service guidelines in work sites and community sites?

No. Applicants must implement Strategy 1, foodservice guidelines, and at least one of breastfeeding strategies outlined (Strategies 2-4). Please see Section III.C.2.b. for more details, starting on page 22 of the RFP.

5. We provide a monthly lunch to our employees for site meetings would applying the guidelines to those lunches meet the requirements of the grant?

Applicants should propose how they will address foodservice guidelines in community sites and worksites, and in a variety of venues, as defined in the RFP. Healthy meetings are one of the venues that may be addressed in the proposal. Additional implementation background and guidance is also available on the CDC SPAN website as outlined on page 20 of the RFP.

6. Do the worksites where FSG's will be conducted need to be federal?

No. Worksites, as defined in the RFP, are areas where an industry is located or where work takes place which may include, but is not limited to, hospitals, universities/colleges, private workplaces, and state, local and tribal government facilities. The implemented guidelines must align to the federal guidelines, but are not restricted to federal facilities.

7. Is part of this grant trying to get contracts to implement FSG's for federal employees?

The purpose of the funding is to implement foodservice guidelines in community sites and worksites that align to the federal foodservice guidelines referenced on page 22 of the RFP. The target population is not limited to federal employees only – impacted individuals include a variety of employees and community residents, depending on the sites selected for implementation.

8. Is strategy 1 an educational program?

Strategy 1 is meant to support community sites or worksites in implementing venue-appropriate foodservice guidelines to make healthy foods available within the site. It is not defined as an educational program. Additional implementation background and guidance is also available on the CDC SPAN website as outlined on page 20 of the RFP.

9. Is strategy 3 an educational program?

Strategy 3 is intended to connect community groups or FQHCs in the applicant's geographic area to state-level training and technical assistance for Secrets of Baby Behavior, and to create a breastfeeding support group that meets the needs of at-risk families in the applicant's community. It is not defined as an educational program. Additional implementation background and guidance is available in the CDC Guide to Strategies to Support Breastfeeding Mothers and Babies at the link provided within the strategy on page 23.

10. Do we have to use the FSG and the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans? Strategy 1 refers to the FSG but does not refer to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans under the describe the plan section.

The purpose of the funding is to implement foodservice guidelines in community sites and worksites that align to the federal foodservice guidelines referenced on page 22 of the RFP, which are consistent with the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Applicants should describe their plan to address the strategies as outlined on page 22 of the RFP.