

**Family Violence Prevention and Services Act  
American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act  
COVID-19 Testing, Vaccines, and Mobile Health Units Access Supplemental  
Funding Announcement**

<b>Award Amount:</b>	\$122,807.02
<b>Type of Award:</b>	Supplemental award to existing FVPSA CORE Grant Recipients
<b>Terms and Conditions</b>	<a href="#"><u>Mandatory General Terms and Conditions</u></a>
<b>Match Requirements:</b>	No match is required.
<b>Release Date:</b>	October 03,2024
<b>Application Due Date:</b>	October 21, 2024
<b>Project Period:</b>	August 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025
<b>Eligibility:</b>	Existing Council for Women and Youth Involvement FVPSA Core Subgrantees
<b>Requirements:</b>	FVPSA ARP supplemental grant recipients are required to submit pre-award documents related to the funding. Pre-award documents consist of the supplemental funding application and a project narrative/scope of work ( <a href="#">link</a> ), which must be uploaded into the EBS System by October 21, 2024.
<b>Reporting:</b>	Performance Progress Report (PPR) is due by 6:00 pm on October 15, 2025. This is a mandatory report and will detail the implementation and allocation of the FVPSA ARP supplemental funding your agency received.

The North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement (CFWYI) is pleased to announce the availability of supplemental funding through the FVPSA ARP COVID-19 Testing, Vaccines, and Mobile Health Units Access Supplemental Funding (referred to hereinafter as “FVPSA ARP-COVID Grant”).

### **Purpose and Use of the Award Funds**

The purpose of these funds is to provide comprehensive support services tailored to address the societal changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as ensuring that survivors have access to safe and secure housing and place-based health care, and enhancing the capacity of domestic violence programs to operate effectively and to promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of survivors and their families during and after the pandemic. The funding allows opportunity for subgrantees to continue efforts to prepare, prevent, and respond to post COVID-19 public health emergency needs and to take a proactive approach to strengthening and improving the agency’s ability to offer services that support safe and healthy living as we navigate a post-pandemic environment. Subgrantees may use this supplemental funding to help mitigate and prevent the further spread of COVID-19 while also supporting general operating, program, and personnel expenses. It is anticipated that this funding will enable subgrantees to create a safer and healthier physical, mental, and environmental space for clients and staff.

The COVID funds can be allocated for personnel, fringe, supplies, professional services, and other general operating costs associated with providing services to victims of domestic violence. The awards allow subgrantees to improve and bolster their ability to be proactive in maintaining a safe environment for clients and staff as we navigate the post-pandemic environment. This funding announcement includes several additional project ideas and categories for subgrantees to consider including in their budgets in order to utilize and expend the grant award in ways consistent with the purposes of the funds. *See* “Allowable Uses of Funds,

Subgrantees may allocate a portion of their grant award toward employee wellness and retention in accordance with their documented and board-approved agency policies. Subgrantees may also use the funds to improve their ability to offer virtual access to services provided by the agency for staff and clients in the event of a future COVID outbreak. Other examples of line items that can be incorporated into your budget are listed below. Additionally, funds may be utilized to recover from the impacts of Hurricane Helene as described below.

#### **A. Allowable Uses of Funds (not an exhaustive list)**

FVPSA ARP-COVID supplemental funds can be used to provide temporary refuge in conjunction with supportive services in compliance with applicable state or tribal law or regulations. Allowable uses include but are not limited to:

## **1. Staff Wellness and Retention Efforts**

In accordance with board-approved agency policies, subgrantees may use these funds to:

- Invest in employee wellness such as providing opportunities for staff to attend Wellness Retreats, such as those offered at the Art of Living Retreat Center in Boone NC [Experience the Transformative Power of Meditation and Wellness Retreats \(artoflivingretreatcenter.org\)](http://artoflivingretreatcenter.org).
- Provide/invest in wellness resources, such as yoga and exercise supplies.
- Provide retention bonuses, livable wages through salary increase and incentive pay to staff.
- Provide professional development for staff, including registration, travel, and subsistence expenses associated with attending conferences and other trainings.
- Provide childcare, transportation subsidies, and other fringe or personal benefits authorized by HHS regulations (45 CFR part 75).

## **2. Technology**

Equipment is defined as tangible personal property that has a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost of at least \$5,000. Any equipment purchased with award funds must be pertinent to the COVID-19 activities, and maintained, tracked, and disposed of in accordance with 45 C.F.R. These funds can support technology costs associated with designing, implementing, and assessing ways to optimize the use of virtual services and teleservices for survivors including the following:

- Virtual, remote, telehealth, and teletherapy systems;
- Computers, laptops, and tablets;
- Mobile devices;
- Software;
- Internet services;
- Technology services or tech support contracts; and

- Data security including servers, firewall protection software, and training for personnel and survivors on topics such as proper use of devices and service portals, security of passwords, and available data safety features.

### **3. Supports for Survivors' Basic/Essential Needs**

Subgrantees may offer housing assistance and nominal relocation expenses for clients, including:

- Housing provisions, including assistance with locating and securing safe and affordable permanent housing and homelessness prevention services.
- Temporary rental subsidies.
- Temporary refuge or lodging in individual units such as hotels or apartments (which are not required to be owned, operated, or leased by the program).
- One-time deposits for utility assistance.
- Essential needs for victims and their dependents.
- Payment for vehicle repairs for survivors is allowable, these payments must be made directly to vendors

While funds can also be used to support client expenses on essential needs (such as basic supplies, utilities, transportation, childcare, and accessibility needs for clients with disabilities), checks or payments cannot be paid directly to the client and any personal identifiable information on documentation must be redacted to ensure that client information is confidential.

### **4. Health and Safety** (*includes Hurricane Helene relief, which will require a specific performance report*)

Subgrantees may use funds:

- To contract with doctors and nurses to make rotations at DV programs.
- To integrate health supports into mobile advocacy services for survivors.

- For COVID-19 mitigation, such as supplies, personal protective equipment, and consultants or contractors.
- To purchase furniture and equipment that limits the transfer of germs and viruses by providing surfaces that are easy to clean and disinfect.
- For accessibility services and minor renovations/improvements to facilities, including those needed to remedy hurricane damage, such as updates to ventilation and HVAC systems, new floors, new windows, screens and doors, roof repair, repair of electric systems, wiring, panels, air purifier and water purifier systems, mold removal, debris clean up and removal, pest control, water damage repair, fence replacement or repair, replacement landscaping costs, new appliances, shelter beds, and kitchen and bathroom repairs

## **5. Workforce Expansion, Capacity Building, and Supports and Partnerships**

The supplemental testing funds can be used for workforce related expansions and supports and workforce capacity building by:

- Hiring culturally-competent and linguistically-appropriate providers and staff to design and carry out new programs that increase health and wellbeing services for survivors and children.
- Updating outreach and education materials (websites, social media, toolkits).
- Purchasing a vehicle to expand services and meet gaps in transportation needs.
  - Note. Once purchased, the motor vehicle may only be used for specific grant related activities for survivor services. Before the purchase a vehicle, subgrantees they will need to obtain prior written approval for the purchase. To receive approval subgrantees must submit 3 vehicles quotes at the time of budget creation within-the EBS system.
- Training for staff on best practices for incorporating training needs for survivors with disabilities and language access needs.
- Facilitating online webinars and workshops to develop and enhance advocacy staff and programs to support victims and survivors.
- Purchasing or extending contracts for training software (e.g., recording modules and training sessions for internal and external training needs).
- Conducting outreach to underserved populations to increase virtual access to survivor services.
- Entering into contracts and partnerships for or culturally specific services.

- Implementation of activities that improve health and wellbeing outcomes for survivors and reduce health disparities exacerbated by intimate partner violence.
- Hiring or contracting with a provider to offer therapy, teletherapy, or group therapy services for clients.
- Paying for interpreters and translated materials for communications with Limited English Proficient individuals, or for printing materials in Braille or large print.

These expenses may be considered allowable costs under applicable HHS regulations if the activities generating the expense(s) are necessary to secure and maintain adequate personnel. Please review HHS regulations 45 CFR § part 75 “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards,” Subpart E—Cost Principles, <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-75/subpart-E?toc=1>. These requirements apply to all FVPSA grant recipients and any subrecipients. All FVPSA subgrant recipients should thoroughly review these regulations before developing their proposed budget.

## **B. Unallowable Uses of Funds**

Funds cannot be used for the following purposes:

- Funds cannot be paid directly to the client.
- Capital expenditures for improvements of property or the purchase of real estate.
- Entertainment costs, such as a social activities or events not directly related to the program objectives.
- Certain travel expenses that do not comply with federal or state guidelines.
- Bad debts, meaning any losses arising from uncollected receivables or other claimed expenses.
- Lobbying.
- Fundraising (including financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred solely to raise capital or obtain contributions) and time spent procuring funding including completing federal and state funding applications.