

draw down projects will be made in writing. The official award document is the Financial Assistance Award, which provides the amount of Federal funds approved for use in the project, the project and budget periods for which support is provided, the terms and conditions of the award, and the total project period for which support is contemplated. The Financial Assistance Award will be signed by the Grants Officer.

### 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Grantees are subject to the audit requirements in 45 CFR parts 74 (non-governmental) and 92 (governmental) and OMB Circular A-133.

*Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)*: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, the Department is required to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval any reporting and record keeping requirements or regulations including program announcements. This program announcement does not contain information collection requirements beyond those approved for ACF grant applications under the Program Narrative Statement by OMB (Approval Number 0980-0204).

The project description is approved under OMB control number 0970-0139 which expires 3/31/2004. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed and reviewing the collection information.

### 3. Reporting

All grantees are required to submit quarterly program reports. Grantees are also required to submit semi-annual

expenditure reports using the required financial standard form (SF-269) which is located on the Internet at: <http://forms.psc.gov/forms/sf/SF-269.pdf>. A suggested format for the program report will be sent to all grantees after the awards are made.

### VII. Agency Contacts

Program Office Contact: Marianna RayNor-Hill, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services Operations Center, 1815 Fort Meyer Drive, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22209. e-mail: [lmatos@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:lmatos@acf.hhs.gov); telephone: (202) 401-9343.

Grants Management Office Contact: Daphne Weeden, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services Operations Center, 1815 Fort Meyer Drive, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22209. e-mail: [dweeden@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:dweeden@acf.hhs.gov); telephone: (202) 401-4577.

### VIII. Other Information

Additional information about this program and its purpose can be located on the following Web site: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs>.

Dated: February 24, 2004.

**Clarence H. Carter,**

*Director, Office of Community Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Administration for Children and Families

[ACYF/FYSB 0002-2004]

### Notice of Technical Assistance Meetings for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program Announcement

**AGENCY:** Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, ACF, DHHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to inform interested parties of the availability of technical assistance meetings for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program Announcement that was published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 2004.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Spangnuolo, Mid Atlantic Network of Youth and Family Services (MANY); 135 Cumberland Rd. Suite 201; Pittsburgh, PA 15237; 412-366-6562; 412-366-5407 fax; [susan@manynet.org](mailto:susan@manynet.org).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Mentoring Children of Prisoners grant program is administered through the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB). Through the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program, FYSB awards grants to community- and faith-based organizations that provide children and youth of incarcerated parents with mentors. Each mentoring program is designed to ensure that mentors provide young people with safe and trusting relationships; healthy messages about life and social behavior; appropriate guidance from a positive adult role model; and opportunities for increased participation in education, civic service, and community activities.

FYSB is currently soliciting for applications to carry out the mentoring activities described in the program announcement that was published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 2004. Applications for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program are due April 23, 2004.

MANY will provide technical assistance to interested parties about the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program and grant opportunity through workshops. You must register for the workshops in advance through the contact listed above. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting, please provide information regarding your requirements at the time of registration.

Workshop meeting places and times:

March 8, 2004—9:30 a.m.—4 p.m. ....	Westin Crown Center, 1 Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108, Meeting Room: Pershing Place West.	Kansas City, MO.
March 9, 2004—9:30 a.m.—4 p.m. ....	Hilton Jacksonville, 1201 Riverplace Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida 32207, Meeting Room: St. Johns.	Jacksonville, FL.
March 9, 2004—9:30 a.m.—4 p.m. ....	Radisson Hotel Toledo, 101 North Summit Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604, Meeting Room: Ballroom 1.	Toledo, OH.
March 10, 2004—9:30 a.m.—4 p.m. ....	Positively Oak Cliff, 3107 West Camp Wisdom Road, Suite 980, Dallas, TX 75237.	Dallas, TX.
March 10, 2004—9:30 a.m.—4 p.m. ....	NJ Department of Corrections, Central Office, Stuyvesant Ave. & Whittlesey Road, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.	Trenton, NJ.

Interested parties should contact Susan Spanguolo; MANY; 135 Cumberland Road; Suite 201 Pittsburgh, PA 15237; 412-366-6562; 412-366-5407 fax; [susan@manynet.org](mailto:susan@manynet.org) to register for the meeting.

Dated: March 2, 2004.

Joan E. Ohl,

Commissioner, Administration on Children, Youth and Families.

[FR Doc. 04-5132 Filed 3-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Administration for Children and Families

#### Administration for Native Americans (ANA); Adoption of ANA Program Policies and Procedures

**AGENCY:** Administration for Children and Families, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Administration for Native Americans (ANA) herein issues final interpretive rules, general statements of policy and rules of agency procedure or practice relating to the Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) Language Preservation and Maintenance (hereinafter referred to as Native Language), and Environmental Regulatory Enhancement (hereinafter referred to as Environmental) programs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 21, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sheila Cooper, Director of Program Operations at (877) 922-9262.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Pursuant to Section 814 of the Native American Programs Act of 1974, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2991b-1, under the statute, ANA is required to provide members of the public an opportunity to comment on proposed changes in interpretive rules, statements of general policy, and rules of agency procedure or practice and to give notice of the final adoption of such changes at least 30

days before the changes become effective.

ANA published a Notice of Public Comment (NOPC) in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 64685) on November 14, 2003 on the proposed ANA policy and program clarifications, modifications, and activities for FY 2004. The NOPC closed December 14, 2003. ANA received comments from three different entities: (A) one comment was submitted from an Alaska Village Council; (B) three comments were received from a national Native American non-profit organization, and (C) several editorial comments were received from an individual. ANA has considered all the public comments received and has included clarifications and modifications reflecting several of the comments in the SY 2004 SEDS, Native Language and Environmental Program Announcements.

#### Final Policies and Procedures and Comments and Responses

##### 1. Policy on Deadline Date for Applications

For FY 2004, ANA will have one closing date for the SEDS Program or other special initiative undertaken pursuant to Section 803(a) of the Native American Programs Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. 2991b, and one closing date each for the Alaska SEDS Program, Native Language program, and the Environmental program. (*Legal authority: Sections 803(a) and (d) and 803C of the Native Americans Programs Act of 1972, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2991b and 2991b-3*)

##### 2. Receipt of Applications

ANA's program announcements will now require that all applications for funding be "received by" ANA by the closing date. Consistent with past practices, ANA will not acknowledge receipt of applications. Previously, ANA accepted applications for funding if they were postmarked on or before the closing date. The change to receipt of the application by the closing date is expected to reduce disputes regarding postmarks and late-arriving applications. This change will also ensure ANA has the appropriate number

of skilled peer panel reviewers available to review submitted applications. Applications received after the published closing date as stipulated in this published announcement will not be considered. The new program announcement closing schedules will allow ANA to release all funding to communities earlier in the fiscal year; provide applicants additional time to receive agency comments and seek free technical assistance before the next competition in the program. Additionally, ANA grantees will have the opportunity to implement projects in a timely manner, recruit personnel to support the grantee's objectives; and decrease the number of requests for no cost grant extensions. This modification will afford ANA the opportunity to perform grant administration and program monitoring and evaluation activities that support new and non-competing continuation grants. (*Legal authority: Sections 833(a) and (d) and 803C of the Native Americans Programs Act of 1974, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2991b and 2991b-3*)

*Discussion of Comment:* The one comment received on this section expressed concern with the change associated with the receipt of applications from "postmarked by" to "received by." The commenter expressed concern that unreliable mail service delivery from remote areas will cause undue stress on organizations.

*Response:* During the previous competitive cycle, ANA performed an assessment of all phases and benchmarks of the pre-award process to determine areas of needed efficiency. The determination to change from "postmarked by" to "received by" was given much consideration, especially considering some ANA applicants are located in isolated communities. This policy will be an adjustment for all applicants, however the outcomes of improved reader selection, the elimination of disputes associated with postmarks and late-arriving applications, and other pre-award activities are more beneficial to applicants than the re-instatement of the "post-marked by" policy. ANA intends to have the program announcements