

**Con Alma Health Foundation: Community Rebuild Post Covid-19 Grant Opportunity
Frequently Asked Questions**

Below are questions posed during the 10/5/2021 preproposal workshop and our responses.

Q1. How many grants do you expect to award?

Answer: *Con Alma will award up to \$1 million in grants to nonprofit organizations that focus on communities and nonprofit organizations in New Mexico most impacted by the pandemic.*

Q2: Is applying for general operating funds an option?

Answer: *Please refer to the Guidelines for details on the focus, scope, and parameters of the specific grant opportunity. Applications must address the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on certain populations and/or nonprofits. Applicants must submit a project budget detailing proposed use of funds. Thus, grant funds are not intended to be used for general operating support. The project budget template allows for certain line items costs (such as personnel) often associated with operating support. Also see response to Q3 below.*

Q3. Can these funds be used to support salaries for those working on the grant program?

Answer: *Yes. We recognize the importance of providing support for those who will accomplish the key activities outlined in your application. The project budget template includes salaries (personnel) as an option; be sure to include the rationale. As noted in the Guidelines “Provide a clear relation between the request to be funded and Covid-19” and “show association between proposed expenses/costs and the desired outcomes.”*

Q4. Can a new organization apply?

Answer: *Organizations that are newly formed may apply to Con Alma however an organization must have an EIN (Employer Identification Number) and have a 501c3 designation from the IRS to apply. If you do not have either of these, an organization may still apply through a Fiscal Sponsor. Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.*

Q5. If an organization already has another COVID-19 grant (e.g., U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), can the organization apply for these funds to expand on that work?

Answer: *Yes. As noted in the Guidelines, those funded through other grants, including CAHF’s (Phase 1) Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout, are eligible to apply for this Phase 2 opportunity (focused on community rebuild).*

Q6. Can an organization make multiple applications?

Answer: *No, submitting more than one application is not recommended. An organization that is serving as a Fiscal Sponsor on behalf of a project/organization, may submit its own application as the role of Fiscal Sponsor does not equate to submitting multiple applications.*

Q7. We are thinking through a coalition proposal between 4-5 partners. Can each organization submit an individual proposal for their piece of the work or would a joint proposal be better? If so, would the joint proposal be capped at the same \$100,000 amount?

Answer: *Submission of a single, joint proposal is recommended – submitted by the ‘lead’ organization identified by the coalition or collaborative. Doing so will ensure the application reflects the coalition’s vision, goals, activities, and outcomes. The proposed budget may also include expenses based on what resources are needed by coalition partners to undertake specific responsibilities and roles.*

Q8. Do you welcome coordinated applications from organizations working together but keeping our actual finances/applications separate?

Answer: *Please see answer to question #7 above.*

Q9. Please clarify how to prepare the budget. Is the budget the overall 501c3's budget or the project only budget when this question is asked: Organization's Annual Budget (drop down)

- a. Less than \$25,000;
- b. \$25,001 - \$50,000;
- c. Greater than \$50,000

Answer: *This question refers to the Annual Budget (current operating budget) of the organization submitting the application. The system automatically checks that the selection made by the applicant is within the range that appears in Organizational Profile as the organization's annual budget. As noted in the Guidelines and in the step-to-step Grant Portal tutorials, it is important that an applicant either creates or reviews and updates information in the Organization Profile.*

Q10. Is the budget exclusively an organization budget or will there be income and expenses related to the project we will be describing in the proposal?

Answer: *As noted in the Guidelines, you will need to use template in grant portal to show the project's total revenues (secured and pending) and expenses (all expenses and what you are requesting from CAHF). Additionally, you are asked to "upload a copy of the organization's general operating budget, showing all revenue sources and major expense categories, for the most current fiscal year." Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.*

Q11. How many letters of support will we need?

Answer: *We do not require letters of support unless you will be working within the jurisdiction of a Sovereign Nation. If you propose to work within a Sovereign Nation, you must upload a letter of support from an existing community group that is based within the tribal community or from a tribal governmental entity (department / agency) as an attachment to the application. Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.*

Q12. Our organization missed the Phase 1 opportunity dedicated to Covid-19 vaccines. Could this application also be used to support vaccination outreach?

Answer: *The current grant opportunity is focused on community rebuild post Covid-19 efforts. Please review the Guidelines to determine if your efforts, inclusive of vaccine outreach or not, align with the parameters outlined.*

Q13. We have been wanting to launch a program targeting rural veterans and their families through Telehealth behavioral health initiatives. Do you think this is something Con Alma would identify as a fit for this grant?

Answer: *Please review the Guidelines to see if your proposed efforts align with the parameters of the grant opportunity. As noted, the current grant opportunity is focused on community rebuild post Covid-19 efforts.*

Q14. For a domestic violence, sexual violence, and abuse/neglect response agency – what social determinants of health would you suggest our agency should consider in its application? Also, substance use disorder has become an evident factor in our agency's work. What factors would you anticipate agencies may consider addressing with this opportunity?

Answer: As emphasized in our presentation and noted on our website, Con Alma is non-prescriptive in its grantmaking. A core value is community self-definition and self-determination. As such, we expect organizations to identify needs and solutions that reflect and engage the community. Please review the Guidelines to determine if this grant opportunity is a good fit for your organization and communities you serve in New Mexico. Also, make sure there is a clear connection to the community rebuild post Covid-19.

Q15. Is the budget exclusively an organization budget or will there be income and expenses related to the project we will be describing in the proposal?

Answer: You will need to use template in grant portal to show the project's total revenues (secured and pending) and expenses (all expenses and what you are requesting from Con Alma). Additionally, you are asked to "upload a copy of the organization's general operating budget, showing all revenue sources and major expense categories, for the most current fiscal year." Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.

Q16. Can we use the term "community build better" rather than "rebuild?" I ask given that our communities in McKinley and San Juan do not have access to safe drinking water, homes, employment, or economic ecosystems.

Answer: We are cognizant that inequities exist in varying levels and there are certain communities that must build systems and infrastructure where none have previously existed. Your proposal should reflect the purpose and intent of the overall grant opportunity, which is related to the ongoing healing, recovery, and rebuild (however you define that) post Covid-19.

Q17. Is partial funding ever awarded? Or is it all or nothing?

Answer: Whenever possible, Con Alma aims to award the full amount requested. In the past, Con Alma has provided smaller awards than that requested depending on resources available.

Q18. Will you be available to make 1:1 appointments for questions that are more specific?

Answer: Our preference is to receive inquiries via email so we may track the inquiries (and add them to this list of FAQs when appropriate). Additionally, applicants may submit a "Request Description" to Program Director at nelsy@conalma.org – with a clear summary of what you will do and accomplish if this is funded (up to 150 words). Responses depends on time availability and the number of inquiries received. It is highly recommended that inquiries be submitted no later than 1-2 weeks prior to the application deadline (11/1/2021).