Project Bread's COVID-19 Rapid Response Emergency Grant

Project Bread is pleased to offer a grant opportunity for school districts and organizations that are providing meals for children 0-18 through the Summer Food Service Program and 0-21 through the Seamless Summer Option under the National School Lunch Program during the COVID-19 crisis.

Background
Project Bread ensures reliable access to food for Massachusetts residents through policy and programmatic solutions. For over twenty years, Project Bread has worked with Massachusetts communities to increase participation in Summer Eats (the USDA Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option through the National School Lunch Program) through the Child Nutrition Outreach Program (CNOP), in partnership with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Project Bread’s CNOP team provides technical assistance, outreach and marketing, grants, and innovative solutions to support sponsors that are implementing and expanding their programs. During this COVID-19 crisis, this support is more critical than ever. Our goal is to ensure that all children in Massachusetts have reliable access to food throughout this shutdown, when school meals are not available.

Eligibility
- During the COVID-19 Rapid Response period, Project Bread’s grants are open to any 2019 Summer Food Service Program sponsor or National School Lunch Program operator using the Seamless Summer Option in Massachusetts.
- While individual sites are not eligible to apply, we strongly encourage sponsors to work with current and potential sites to develop grant proposals that best meet the needs of their communities.
- If you have any questions about your eligibility or community, please reach out to us at cnop@projectbread.org

Award Range and Allowable Expenses
- Sponsors are eligible for grants of $500-$5,000 depending on the proposed scope of work and number of meals served.
- Grant funds may be used for personnel, transportation, promotion/marketing, and/or food preparation/storage/serving equipment & supplies.
- Funds may not be used for retroactive expenses incurred prior to receipt of grant award.
- Monetary awards are accompanied by comprehensive technical assistance and support.

Funding Priorities
All efforts to provide reliable meals for children throughout this period will be considered for funding. However, three priority areas for funding have been identified:
- New site locations, where there are specific gaps in service
- At least two meals provided each day
- Meal delivery option (school-bus stop or other innovative solution)

Criteria Used for Grant Review
All applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Level of need within the community as demonstrated by percent of children eligible for free and reduced price meals
- Existing resources available within the community to meet the need
- Applicant’s proposed plans for increasing participation within their community and/or meeting the needs of their community
- Applicant’s track record of accomplishments and ability to achieve measurable results
- Applicant's commitment to provide services that support their clients’ dignity and rights

**Application Process and Deadline**

- Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis beginning on April 7th. Grants will be made beginning April 10th until the funding has been fully allocated.
- Grant application can be found at this link: [https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_6036?SA=SNA&FID=35096](https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_6036?SA=SNA&FID=35096)
- If you have not applied for funding from Project Bread before, please click “New Applicant,” underneath the email box, to create an account.

**Reporting Requirements**

- Completion of final grant report, including number of children served and number of meals served.

**Additional Support**

Project Bread’s Child Nutrition Outreach Program will provide design support for signage, social media, and other advertising and promotional needs.

**Contact Information**

- Please contact CNOP at cnop@projectbread.org or at 617-239-2543 with any questions or if you have difficulty submitting your application.