Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience (NFR) Grant Program

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Program Summary: On Tuesday November 18, 2025, the County Council unanimously passed **Resolution 20-979** that appropriated $1.5 million for the FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience Grant Program. The goal of this Grant Program is to provide funding to 501(c)(3) nonprofits to offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the recent Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions. Grant Program awards will supplement core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of federal funds. The Grant Program will be limited to nonprofits and their federally funded programs providing direct services to Montgomery County residents. More information on the intent of this Grant Program can be found in the **Council Packet** and the **November 18, 2025 hearing**. Applications will have a Priority Deadline of noon on Monday, December 22, 2025, but other proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until available funds are fully committed. Awards are expected to range from $25,000 to $300,000.

Key Grant Program Dates:
- **NOFO Available: Wednesday,** November 28, 2025
- **MS Teams Live Online Grant Program Information Session (link to join below):** Wednesday, December 3, 2025 from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- **Priority Submission Deadline:** Monday, December 22, 2025, at Noon with a rolling deadline afterwards until all funds are committed.

Key Grant Program Resources:
- **Grant Program Application Page**
- **Link to the Wednesday, December 3, 2025 3:00 to 4:00 PM Information Session OR a recording of the event**
- **OGM Board Race-Ethnicity Reporting Template**
- **OGM's Resources for Applicants Webpage**

Grant Program Details, Submissions, and Support: Application details can be downloaded, and the application may be submitted through OGM's Online Grants Application Platform through the links above. Applicants requiring an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation should contact the Office of Grants Management to discuss alternative submission options. Applications that are incomplete, do not meet legal requirements, or are submitted after all funds have been committed will not be accepted.

For questions on eligibility and priorities under this Grant Program, please contact the OGM Director using the Contact Information below. For platform support or for alternate ADA submission options, please contact the Office of Grants Management staff using the contact information below.

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SECTION I – GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

A. Background

Since January 2025, **changes in policy by the Federal administration** have drastically shifted the federal funding regime that many local jurisdictions and nonprofit organizations have come to rely on. In many cases, these changes have delayed, disrupted, or reduced the flow of federal dollars that **drive essential programs and services throughout the United States**. These changes have included, but are not limited to, **frozen** or delayed reimbursements for approved costs already incurred, stop-work orders or termination of existing grant awards and cancellation of future expected funding, increased reporting and oversight, **increased scrutiny of nonprofit operations and policy alignment**, and addition of new rigorous compliance requirements. The **longest-ever Federal government shutdown from October 1 to November 12, 2025 stopped the flow of most Federal funds, further stressing the nonprofit sector**. While Montgomery County Government has been able to adapt to changes successfully thus far due to its larger economies of scale, nonprofits in Montgomery County are facing greater difficulties due to their smaller size, the **prolonged duration of the shutdown**, and increased pressure on the nonprofit sector specifically. As a result, nonprofits in Montgomery County have had to lay off staff or reduce/withhold pay and benefits, diminish or delay payments to contractors including local businesses, and cut back on essential services to County residents. **Indications are that the Federal administration will continue to apply pressure to the nonprofit sector**; prolonged exposure to these financial risks may force many of Montgomery County's nonprofits to go insolvent. This may put County residents out of work and leave gaps in the provision of critical services, that would usually warrant financial relief.

On Tuesday, November 18, 2025, the County Council unanimously passed **Resolution 20-979** that appropriated $1.5 million for the FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience Grant Program. The goal of this Grant Program is to provide funding to 501(c)(3) nonprofits to offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions. Grant Program awards will supplement, among other items, core operating and salary costs required to sustain organizations in the absence of federal funds. The Grant Program will be limited to nonprofits and their federally funded programs that provide direct services to Montgomery County residents. More information on the intent of this Grant Program can be found in the **Council Packet** and the **November 18, 2025 hearing**.

Given the expected ongoing nature of federal impacts, applications to this Grant Program will be accepted on a rolling basis until the available funds are fully committed. However, to meet the urgency of Montgomery County nonprofits' immediate needs, a Priority Deadline for review and awarding has been set for **noon on Monday, December 22, 2025**. Proposals that meet the Priority Deadline will be reviewed first and potentially awarded. Proposals received past the Priority Deadline will be reviewed as a cluster every other week. The Euna application page for this Grant Program (link above) will be updated once all funds have been committed. If additional funding becomes available, OGM will update the Euna application page and send a notice through **the Montgomery County Grant Opportunities Newsletter**.

About the Office of Grants Management: As charged in Bill 36-19, the OGM provides a central point of contact regarding the grants that the County receives or awards. The OGM

also develops countywide policies and procedures regarding grants management and ensures these are consistent with racial equity and social justice goals and performs outreach regarding grants offered by the County and other grants functions. For additional information on other Montgomery County grant programs, please visit the **OGM's County homepage** at **https://montgomerycountymd.gov/ogm/**. Applicant instructional materials and guides can be found on **OGM's Resources for Applicants page**.

B. Eligibility Criteria

Resolution 20-979 lays out clear eligibility criteria for this Grant Program. Applicants and proposals must meet all the following eligibility requirements below to be considered for funding. Applicants may only submit one application per organization. If an applicant receives multiple federal grants/funding streams, these should be consolidated into a single application for the organization.

For the purposes of this specific Grant Program, **Federal funds are defined as funds whose source funding is derived from the federal government as Federal Financial Assistance (FFA).** This could include, but is not limited to, federal grants as well as other federal payments such as entitlements. This definition is also inclusive of federal pass-through funding that a nonprofit receives from another entity such as Montgomery County Government, the State of Maryland, another nonprofit, or other entity; so long as the initial source of funds is the federal government.

Organizations, or indirectly impacted services, that do not meet these eligibility requirements are encouraged to review other grant opportunities that may be funded by **Resolution 20-979** or other funding sources to address Federal impacts to other sectors or needs. Stakeholders can find currently open grant programs on the **OGM Website**, a projection of future opportunities in the **Grants Management Forecast**, and can **sign up for the Montgomery County Grant Opportunities Newsletter** to receive email notifications on recently opened or upcoming opportunities.

Proposal Eligibility Criteria:

- **The proposal MUST seek to offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds (as defined above) due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions.** The definition above includes Federal pass-through funds. Requests to offset other funding sources (i.e. State, County, Foundation, local jurisdiction, etc.) are NOT eligible;
- **The proposal MUST only include funding requests for core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of Federal funds.** Funding requests to offset programmatic costs for a Federal award are NOT eligible; AND
- **Proposal funding requests MUST be limited to nonprofits and their federally funded programs providing direct services to Montgomery County, MD.** Organizations based in Montgomery County but providing federally funded programs and services exclusively outside of Montgomery County are NOT eligible. Organizations providing federally funded programs and services within Montgomery County (regardless of headquarter location) in other jurisdictions AND Montgomery County are eligible but only for the proportion of the programs and services directed at Montgomery County and its residents.

See **Section D. Project Budget and Budget Justification** below for greater detail on eligible and ineligible costs.

Organization Eligibility Criteria:

- The organization must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and be able to demonstrate this designation.

Montgomery County Eligibility Conditions:

- The organization must be currently registered and in Good Standing with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT);
- The organization's principal place of business must be located in Montgomery County; if it is a national or regional organization, it must have a location in Montgomery County through which it provides related services;
- All activities and expenditures under this Grant Program must be provided in Montgomery County, and be exclusively for Montgomery County residents; and
- Current Montgomery County contract or grant award winners must be in performance compliance and current on all reporting obligations for other awards and those reports must reflect substantial progress towards the goals of their awards.

C. Funding Priorities

Outside of the Eligibility Criteria above, funding will be awarded by prioritizing how the cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions impact the solvency of the organization over the next 12 months. Note that delayed disbursement of funds will be treated the same as the cancellation or termination of a grant award.

The Priority Goals of this funding are in the following order:

1) Keeping nonprofits in business, open, and operating,
2) Keeping staff employed and paid,
3) Continuing the provision of services or programs by avoiding disruptions to core operations.

Organizations and their staff based in Montgomery County, MD will also be prioritized over organizations and their staff based in other jurisdictions.

It is up to applicants to clearly articulate how they meet the priority criteria in their proposals so that they are weighted and scored appropriately.

D. Project Budget and Budget Justification

Applicants must use the **Euna Budget Tool** to submit their budgets. Instructions are below. The proposed expenses must all be justified to "offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions to supplement

core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of Federal funds."

Applicants must request between a $25,000 minimum and a $300,000 maximum. Expenses may only be budgeted up to a 12-month period of performance.

Individual expense line-items must be organized into one of the categories below:

- **Personnel** – Staff salaries
- **Fringe Benefits** – Health insurance and other staff benefits
- **Travel** – Transportation stipends, vehicle operation, or public transportation vouchers
- **Equipment** – Items individually worth less than $5,000 but more than $200
- **Supplies** – Items individually worth less than $200
- **Contractual** – Contractors for services or training as well as licenses
- **Construction** – Renovation costs – capital expenses[1] are not allowed
- **Other** – Any other project related costs that do not fit into the categories above; and
- **Indirect Costs** – Applicants may not request direct funding for any activities that are typically included in the organization's indirect cost pool/indirect rate. The CHRC will accept an indirect rate of up to 15% (unless the applicant qualifies for a higher indirect rate pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement § 2-208(c)), while also requiring applicants to describe activities to be covered within their indirect rate.

Eligible and Ineligible Expenses

In general, organizations have significant flexibility in individual line-items that they may request funding for so long as the applicant can justify how it will be used to "offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions to supplement core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of Federal funds." **Organizational costs that are normally covered by unrestricted funds or indirect costs are especially encouraged to be included.**

Examples of costs that could be covered include, but are not limited to:

- Salary and benefits to offset delayed or cancelled federal funds;
- Additional administrative staff to assist with increased Federal compliance requirements;
- Portions of rent (including back rent) or utilities associated with federal funding;
- IT and communications costs;
- General office supplies;
- Insurance; or
- Legal, HR, accounting, or other consulting or contract services.

Applicants should include an Indirect de Minimis rate of 15% or a higher Indirect Rate if they can provide proof of a higher, active Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA).

The following are **not** permissible uses of grant funds:

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[1] Capital expenses are defined as expenses that are $5,000 or more in one-time costs for the purchase or improvement of a single fixed asset.

- Any cost that does not "offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions to supplement core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of Federal funds."
- Programmatic costs from the Federal award or FFA (excluding salary costs)
- Depreciation expenses
- Major equipment or construction projects
- Lobbying or political activity
- To purchase goods or services from Board Members' organizations
- Religious events or celebrations
- Political events or celebrations
- Any other cost deemed by the County as unrelated to the project
- Any purchase or activity outside the grant award period of performance including pre-award costs and expenses
- Prior obligations of and/or debts, fines, and penalties imposed on the Grantee unrelated to Federal impacts

The State of Maryland will similarly not allow grant funds to be used to satisfy debts and liabilities of any kind, including, but not limited to, state or federal tax liabilities, outstanding, past due, or delinquent loan balances, individual, property or employment insurance liabilities, liens, promissory notes, offsets of any kind, or contractual debt.

Applicants are encouraged to vet potential costs with OGM prior to submitting an application to ensure it is eligible.

E. Award Information and Reimbursement

Awards under this Grant Program will have a 12-month term to utilize the funds with extensions possible, if approved by the Grant Monitor. Awards are expected to range between $25,000 and $300,000. OGM anticipates a 100% upfront payout for most awards, with larger awards ($200,000+) receiving semi-annual disbursements. That being said, the goal of this Grant Program is to mitigate Federal impacts and therefore, considerable flexibility will be given to award recipients.

Awardees who later receive their delayed Federal funds may be expected to return some or all of the award funds received from Montgomery County. If an award is provided due to the delay of Federal reimbursements, Montgomery County Government expects the award amount will be returned **MINUS:**

- Costs of administering the Montgomery County grant award;
- Additional, unreimbursed costs resulting from the delayed Federal reimbursement;
- Additional compliance requirements to meet new Federal conditions; and
- Other costs unrelated to delayed Federal reimbursements that still fall under the eligibility criteria for this Grant Program.

The formula and amount to be returned must be reviewed, confirmed, and approved by the Grant Monitor. Returned funds will be recycled to other nonprofits through this Grant Program who are still facing Federal impacts. OGM will consult with award recipients on the

appropriate timing of returning funds given that Federal impacts may persist.

F. Award Reporting Requirements

Award recipients will be required to submit brief quarterly financial and activity reports demonstrating how the funding has been used, how the funding is mitigating Federal impacts, and the evolution of Federal impacts on the organization. Award recipients will also be required to track and report on the metrics detailed in the Goals Tool section of this NOFO.

Programmatic Reports need to address the following requirements:

- **Staffing:** Number of direct employees serving Montgomery County preserved due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Beneficiaries:** Number of residents continuing to be served (directly or indirectly) due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Contractors:** Number of local businesses (including contractors and consultants) maintaining contracts from the recipient due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Sub-recipients:** Number of sub-recipient nonprofits continuing to provide Montgomery County programs or services due to an FY26 NFR award

OGM may also require an informal monthly check-in to touch base on the evolving Federal impacts as felt by the award recipients. Understanding the experiences of the nonprofits receiving these awards will help Montgomery County better support the broader nonprofit community as new forms of Federal disruption are implemented.

G. Application Review & Awards

1. **OGM Administrative (Admin) Review** – OGM will assess all applications for Organization and Montgomery County Eligibility Conditions listed above as well as confirm that the applications submitted are complete and meet minimum standards. If minor errors are found in an application, OGM will give applicants a brief window (usually two business days) to resolve the issue. Applicants generally will not be given the opportunity to resolve any issues with Montgomery County Eligibility Conditions or major issues with their applications. Organizations and applications that do not meet these requirements will be disqualified while those that do will move onto the next stage.

2. **Proposal and Organization Eligibility Review** – OGM will also conduct a second review assessing whether applicants and their proposals address the Funding Priorities cited above to ensure all submitted applications are within the intended scope of this Grant Program. This review will include an assessment of the submitted financial documentation and budget for eligible and ineligible expenses. Organizations and applications that do not meet these requirements will be disqualified while those that do will move on to the next stage.

3. **Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review** – OGM will then establish a Review Committee composed of neutral, qualified individuals from Montgomery County Government selected for their experience in the grant program's subject area, grants

administration, project/financial management, and/or ability to analyze programs from a racial equity and social justice lens. The panel members will review and score applicant proposals based on the criteria outlined in this document and submit recommendations for awards.

Final decisions will be made based on the scores and such other factors and considerations as the County deems relevant at the time of award. These may include, but are not limited to, updated consideration of how well the applicant has performed on other Montgomery County programs, the expert opinion of grant monitors/administrators with prior experience with applicants, updates to priorities, or other factors.

H. Submission Guidelines and Support Resources

How to Apply:

1. **Log into the Euna (eCivis) Portal to create an application profile**
   https://portal.ecivis.com/#/login

2. **Access the FY26 NFR Grant Program Solicitation Page and click the "Apply" button to create an application.**

3. **Review the Euna (eCivis) applicant user guides for assistance and other support resources**

   OGM Developed Instructional Videos (Youtube videos):

   1. **How to Create an Euna Application**
   2. **Euna Budget Tool Instructional Video**

   Euna Applicant User Guides (PDF downloads):

   1. **Logging into Your eCivis Portal Account**
   2. **Reviewing and Submitting your application**
   3. **Transfer Application Ownership**
   4. **Guide for Applicants,** including Budget Tool assistance on pages 13 to 20

Applications must be submitted through the Montgomery County Office of Grants

Management - Grants Application Platform through the links posted on the first page of this document. Once the applicant clicks on the link, they will be prompted to create a Euna Grants account, select the FY26 NFR Grant Program page, and then will be able to access the grant application.

After creating an account, an applicant must select the Grants Program from the **OGM homepage**, and then will be able to create an application for this Grant Program within the Euna Grants platform. Applicants requiring an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation should contact the Office of Grants Management (contact listed on the first page of this document) to discuss alternative submission options.

Priority deadline for applications is noon on Monday, December 22, 2025. All applications will be recorded upon receipt. Any additions or deletions to an application, unless requested by OGM will not be accepted after submission. Applications with incomplete, illegible, or corrupted digital materials will not be considered.

Given the expected ongoing nature of federal impact, applications to this Grant Program will continue to be accepted on a rolling basis until available funds are fully committed. Proposals that meet the Priority Deadline will be reviewed first and potentially awarded. Proposals received past the Priority Deadline will be reviewed as a cluster on a bi-weekly basis. The Euna application page for this Grant Program (link above) will be updated once all funds have been committed. If additional funding becomes available, OGM will update the Euna application page and send a notice through the Montgomery County Grant Opportunities Newsletter.

I. Information Session

An Information Session will be held on **Wednesday, December 3, 2025 from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**. The link to participate in the Information Session live or to view an event recording afterwards can be found on the first page of this document or on the solicitation page for this Grant Program.

J. Terms and Conditions

- County reserves the right to accept or deny any or all applications if the County determines it is in the best interest of the County to do so. The County shall notify the applicant if it rejects that applicant's proposal. The County reserves the right to suspend or terminate an outstanding Grant Program.
- The County reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the posting of a Grant Program.
- The County shall not be liable for any costs incurred in the preparation of applications in response to the Grant Program. Applicant agrees that all costs incurred in developing the application are the applicant's sole responsibility.
- The County may conduct pre-award on-site visits or request additional information to verify information submitted in the application and to determine if the applicant's facilities are appropriate for the services proposed.
- The County may enter into negotiations with an applicant and adopt a firm funding amount or other revisions for the applicant's proposal that may result from negotiations.

The County shall provide the citations to the statute and implementing regulations that authorize the grant or sub-grant; all applicable federal, State, and County regulations; payment provisions identifying how the grantee will be paid for performing under the award; reporting requirements, including programmatic, financial and any special reports required by federal, state, or County law and/or the granting department; and compliance conditions that must be met by the grantee. If there are any conflicts between the terms and conditions of the Grant Program and any applicable federal, State, or County law or regulation, or any ambiguity related thereto, then the provisions of the applicable law or regulation shall control and it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance.

SECTION II – APPLICATION TASKS

Applicants are required to follow the content requirements and submission instructions listed within the online application platform and the NOFO document. Please submit your proposal, as broken out by each of the Task, by filling out the data fields or uploading documents where applicable. Uploaded documents should have clearly titled sections and sub-sections. Document uploads should ideally be submitted as PDF documents with budgets provided through the Euna Budget Tool. The application platform cannot read Mac formatted documents (i.e. Pages, Numbers, and Key Note) so these should be submitted as PDFs or converted to MS Office formats. **Applications will be considered incomplete if any part of any section is missing.**

Please note that Review Committees have historically preferred concise narratives focused on the funding priorities, questions asked, and scoring themes rather than long narrative descriptions.

A. Applicant Information Task

Organizations must provide the following information and documents using data entry fields or uploads. The document uploads will be used to assess legal eligibility for the Grant Program and data fields will be used populate any resulting grant agreement. Applicants should fill out this information as if they were drafting a contract using specific and exact information.

- Legal Name of Applying Organization as registered with the Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT)
- Organization's Maryland SDAT Department ID Number
- Organization's Federal Tax Identification Number
- Montgomery County Supplier Number, if known (optional)
- Contact Information for the organization's proposal primary point-of-contact (POC)
- Contact Information for the organization's proposal secondary point-of-contact (POC)
- Upload of Most recent IRS 990 Form for Nonprofit Organizations or an explanation why your organization is exempt from filing 990s
- Type in board chair (or equivalent position) names, organization title, email, and phone number

The County is required to check applicants' status of Good Standing (or equivalent status) with the Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT) at the time of application review, finalization of grant agreements, and for payments during the life of a grant agreement. Although proof of Good Standing is not required as a component of the application, it is critical that Lead and Support organization applicants remain registered and in Good Standing with SDAT as applicants will be disqualified from a grant competition, delay or even lose a grant award, and/or face delays in grant payments if they are not in Good Standing.

Applicants can verify their status with SDAT via this link: **https://egov.maryland.gov/BusinessExpress/EntitySearch**

B. Applicant Background Task

The Office of Grants Management collects data through this Task for post-award analysis to understand application and award trends as well as how to support the diverse communities in

Montgomery County. Data collected through this Task will **not** be visible to Review Committees and will **not** be used in evaluation and scoring of applications.

In line with Montgomery County's Racial Equity & Social Justice goals, the Office of Grants Management is collecting the racial and ethnic information on the leadership of nonprofit organizations. The structure of this portion of the survey is based on the new **federal standards for collecting this data**. Note that the information entered should be based on how the person identifies themselves.

- Lead Organization estimated staffing size serving Montgomery County in a given year
- Lead Organization estimated budget, including by funding source, for Montgomery County programs, services, and other initiatives in a given year
- Lead Organizational leadership, including CEO or Executive Director and Board Members (if applicable), race and ethnic information

If choosing to provide race and ethnicity information for their board, applicants must use the **OGM Board Race-Ethnicity Reporting Template a**nd upload it into application. Responding to these questions is optional and will have no impact on application reviews.

C. Proposal Scope of Work Task (Data fields and PDF uploads)
Please address the following requirements as data fields and with supporting uploads of PDF documents.

- **Proposal Title –** If awarded, the Project Title will become the name of the Grant Agreement (100 characters maximum).
- **Proposal Overview –** Provide a brief description of the Federal impacts your organization is experiencing and how the funding requested will help mitigate these impacts. This description of the project will also be directly integrated into the Grant Agreement (600 characters maximum).
- **FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience Grant Program Funding Request -** Enter the total amount requested through this grant proposal ($25,000 minimum and $300,000 maximum).
- **Montgomery County Location:** Organizations and their staff based in Montgomery County, MD will also be prioritized over organizations and their staff based in other jurisdictions. Describe how you think the proposal meets this priority criteria by outlining service delivery locations, office locations, and staff based in Montgomery County (1,000 characters maximum).
- **Reduced Funding Impact** – Please specify how the project would be affected if total funding awarded were less than the amount requested. State whether your project could be completed with a smaller amount, and how a funding reduction would change implementation (1,200 characters maximum).

Narrative Questions
Answer the following questions within the character limits provided. Applicants are welcome to include hyperlinks as part of their responses to make their narratives more efficient.

It is contingent upon applicants to clearly indicate in their narrative how the proposal meets the eligibility and priority criteria outlined in this NOFO.

The goal of the application structure is to rely more on providing existing materials to

demonstrate their case instead of developing volumes of new narrative text. Applicants can, and in some cases are required to, compliment their responses with a PDF upload of related documentation. Due to the wide range of kinds of FAA, OGM is not providing a prescriptive list. The types of supporting documents will be specific to your situation. Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements can be added to the PDF upload to better explain their situation and justify their request. Applicants should ensure that the uploads are clearly titled for ease of reviewer reference and that any sensitive information is redacted. **Required supporting uploads are highlighted as bolded text.**

1. **Program and Service Background (1,000 character maximum):** Briefly describe the Federally funded Program or Service that your organization implements in Montgomery County. Include populations served, key outcomes, a history of its performance, and other key information describing the program or service. Note that your proposal will NOT be scored or prioritized based on the kind of program or service that you provide.

2. **Program and Service Background Uploads (illustrative examples):**
   - Annual reports or programmatic reports showing outcomes and beneficiaries (optional)
   - Complimentary charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)
   - Success stories from press outlets highlighting the program's impacts (optional)

3. **Federal Funding History and Amount (1,000 character maximum):** Summarize the history of the Federal funding used to support this program or service in Montgomery County through your organization up to the last 5 years. Include funding agency and amount, length of time receiving the funding, notable increases or decreases, or any other disruptions to funding amount prior to this administration.

4. **Federal Funding History and Amount Uploads (Required Uploads):**
   - **Annual 2024 financial statements to include an income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement. Financials can be audited, reviewed or management prepared. Reserves should be noted as restricted vs unrestricted (Required)**
   - **2025 Year-to-date financial statements to include an income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement. Financials can be audited, reviewed or management prepared. Reserves should be noted as restricted vs unrestricted (Required)**
   - Copies of PAST Federal grants, sub-recipient agreements, or other proof of FFA (optional)
   - Past programmatic reports showing outcomes and beneficiaries (optional)
   - Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)

5. **Federal Funding Mechanism (1,000 character maximum):** Describe the nature of the Federal funding (i.e. direct grant award vs. other form of FFA) that you receive which serves Montgomery County. If you are receiving pass-through Federal funding describe your sub-recipient relationship with the primary recipient. Note any special terms or conditions required as part of the award that are important to the context of your application.

6. **Federal Funding Mechanism Uploads (Required Uploads):**
   - **Copies of Federal grants, sub-recipient agreements, or other proof of FFA (Required)**
   - Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)

7. **Federal Impact (2,000 character maximum):** Outline the Federal impacts your organization is experiencing with this program or service in Montgomery County. This could include, but is not limited to, enhanced oversight, new compliance requirements, delayed reimbursements, delayed signing of grant agreements, cancellation of grant awards, and/or termination of grant agreements.

8. **Federal Impact Uploads (Required Uploads):**
   - **Your organization's approved budget for the current fiscal year (however your organization defines fiscal year) (Required)**
   - **Correspondence with Grantors on delays, modifications, terminations, payments, compliance, and other relevant topics to this application (Required if applicable)**
   - **Copies of new compliance, reporting, and other requirements (Required if applicable)**
   - **Copies of stop-work or suspension orders, termination or cancellations notices, or mandated modifications (Required if applicable)**
   - Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)

9. **Organization Impacts (3,000 character maximum):** Outline how these disruptions are impacting your organization in terms of its ability to sustain itself, maintain core operations, staffing impacts, ability to continue programs or services, and impacts to other operations, programs, or services outside of those supported by Federal funds. Your response should focus on Montgomery County impacts to the extent possible. Illustrating staffing impacts such as ability to pay salaries/benefits, furloughs, and/or attrition is also helpful.

10. **Organization Impacts Uploads (Illustrative Examples):**
    - Copies of subcontracts or sub-recipient agreements showing commitments made to local businesses or organizations. (optional)
    - Organizational charts and/or staffing lists (optional)
    - Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)

11. **FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience (NFR) Mitigation (4,000 character maximum):** This question will be the crux of your application. Explain how your funding request will help your organization mitigate the impacts detailed above and build resiliency to future Federal impacts. Do not use this space to detail specific line-items (you will have 8,000 characters to provide that in the Budget Narrative). Instead focus on how this funding is part of the organization's resiliency plan to withstand future impacts.

12. **FY26 Nonprofit Federal Resilience (NFR) Mitigation Uploads (illustrative examples):**
    - Charts, graphs, tables, graphics, and other non-narrative elements (optional)

D. Budget Tool (Data Fields)

The proposal's budget should include a detailed listing of expenses and justification for each expense. Detail your budget request by clicking on the Euna Grants Budget Tool in the application platform to open a new browser tab.

BUDGET SUPPORT RESOURCES: The Euna Grants **Guide for Applicants** includes detailed guidance on pages 13-20 on how to fill out the Budget Tool. In addition, OGM has developed a **Euna Budget Instructional Video** posted on YoutTube to demonstrate and guide applicants through the Budget Tool functions.

Enter your budget request using the federal object class categories listed below add as many additional line-items underneath each category as required:

- **Personnel –** Staff salaries;
- **Fringe Benefits –** Health insurance and other staff benefits;
- **Travel –** Transportation stipends, vehicle operation, or public transportation vouchers;
- **Equipment –** Items individually worth less than $5,000 but more than $200;
- **Supplies –** Items individually worth less than $200;
- **Contractual –** Contractors for services or training as well as licenses;
- **Construction –** Renovation or other construction related expenses;
- **Other –** Any other project related costs that do not fit into the categories above; and
- **Indirect Costs –** Applicants may not request direct funding for any activities that are typically included in the organization's indirect cost pool/indirect rate. The CHRC will accept an indirect rate of up to 15% (unless the applicant qualifies for a higher indirect rate pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement § 2-208(c)), while also requiring applicants to describe activities to be covered within their indirect rate.

At the **bottom** of the Budget Tool, applicants will have the opportunity to enter their Budget Narrative (8,000 characters max). **It is contingent upon the applicant to clearly articulate why each line-item meets this Grant Program's eligibility criteria "to offset cancelled or delayed Federal funds due to the Federal Government shutdown or other adverse administration actions to supplement core operating and salary costs required to sustain the organization in the absence of federal funds."** Do not assume that each cost will be intuitive to reviewers during their evaluation and scoring of your proposal.

The Budget Narrative should be entered as a bulleted description of each line item entered in the Budget Tool above. The descriptions should explain at minimum:

- A brief description of the line-item itself;
- Why the cost is necessary for the proposal;
- How it meets eligibility standards; and
- How the figure was calculated.

Three to four sentences per line-item is generally sufficient, but applicants may exceed that amount if necessary to fully explain a line-item. Note: In past grant programs, applicants have frequently received low scores on their budgets for not fully explaining why each line item was necessary for the proposed project, especially positions.

E. Goals Tool

Applicants will be required to enter targets for the following metrics in their proposal. Award winners will be required to report on these metrics during implementation and final figures at close out. Applicants may enter Zero (0) for any metric they deem inapplicable. Award winners will also have the option of revising these targets before a grant agreement is signed if their final award is less than their requested amount.

- **Staffing:** Number of direct employees serving Montgomery County preserved due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Beneficiaries:** Number of residents continuing to be served (directly or indirectly) due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Contractors:** Number of local businesses (including contractors and consultants) maintaining contracts from the recipient due to an FY26 NFR award
- **Sub-recipients:** Number of sub-recipient nonprofits continuing to provide Montgomery County programs or services due to an FY26 NFR award

SECTION III – SCORING OF APPLICATIONS

Applicant's proposal submissions will be evaluated using the following confidence ratings based on the below weighted criteria. Confidence ratings are another form of objective rating that allow evaluators to assign ratings more holistically. **Confidence ratings** provide evaluators the ability to look more holistically at the strongpoints and weak points of a proposal to capture raters' overall confidence in the applicant's likelihood of succeeding, helping smaller organizations who may be stronger overall than some more seasoned larger organizations. Confidence ratings are identified by the federal government as an innovative practice that may help with reducing the lead time from solicitation to award.

3 – Confident	The Reviewers are confident that the applicant understands the requirements, proposes a sound and relevant project, and will be successful in implementing the proposed project.
2 – Somewhat Confident	The Reviewers are somewhat confident that the applicant understands the requirements, proposes a sound and relevant project, and will be successful in implementing the proposed project.
1 – Not confident	The Reviewers are not confident that the applicant understands the requirements, proposes a sound and relevant project, and will be successful in implementing the proposed project.

Depending on the volume of applications, number of Review Committee members, and whether they all review each application, OGM may employ a **statistical rescaling** of scores to put applications on a more level playing field.

Each criterion is attributed to a specific weight out of a total of 100 points.

Comparative Criteria (scored in relation to other applications)	Max Score
History: The applicant demonstrates that they have established programs and services in Montgomery County and has experience operating Federal awards in this jurisdiction.	**10**
Financial and Activity Reporting Management: The applicant has the capacity to use, track, and provide financial reports on grant funds as well as track activity, metrics, and outcomes through the activity reporting requirements outlined in this NOFO.	**10**
Organization Impact: *As a result of Federal impacts, the applicant is facing difficulties in terms of:* • *Remaining open, in business, and operational* • *Paying all or some of its Staff on time and at expected levels, including benefits (number of direct employees)* • *Serving Beneficiaries (number of residents directly or indirectly served)* • *Fulfilling commitments to Contractors or sub-recipients (number of local businesses with contracts using Federal funds)* • *Meeting other core operating costs*	**30**
Nonprofit Federal Mitigation and Resilience: The proposal, if funded, would help the organization mitigate the short-term impacts detailed above AND build resiliency to future Federal impacts.	**40**

Reimbursement Capacity: If cancelled or delayed Federal funds are reinstated, the applicant will be able to calculate an appropriate amount and pay back the County within a reasonable timeframe so that funds may be quickly recycled to other impacted nonprofits.	**10**
TOTAL	**100**
Bonus Points for Location: Applicant has demonstrated that they have impacted service locations, office space, and staff based in Montgomery County, MD.	**15**

MISCELLANEOUS

- Those persons scoring the proposals on the Review Committee will confirm that they have no conflicts of interest.
- Neither the County Executive nor any elected official will be involved in the scoring of grants or determining winners and amounts of awards.
- Scores and award amounts are non-appealable.
- Scorers' comments and the scores themselves are deliberative and privileged and will not be released. However, applicants may request a feedback report from the Office of Grants Management summarizing the Review Committees feedback. Winners will be announced publicly, and successful grant applications and award letters may be subject to release (with redactions as allowed by law).
- County officials may decline to debrief with unsuccessful applicants why their proposal was not granted, or their funding request was not granted in full

SECTION IV – CERTIFICATIONS, ACKNOWLEGMENTS, AND ASSURANCES

The applicant shall complete and return the Certifications, Acknowledgements, and Assurances listed with the application submission provided in the Application Certification section of the application in the online grant application portal.

Montgomery County Ethics Questions

Note that individuals employed by partner agencies such as Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and WorkSource Montgomery do not count as Montgomery County Government employees for the purpose of this Grant Program. If you are unsure if a position applies, please contact the Office of Grants Management for clarification.

Does your organization employ current employees or contractors of the Montgomery County Government? This applies for employees that are paid by your organization but are also paid by Montgomery County Government.

Does your organization's Board of Directors include current employees or contractors of the Montgomery County Government? This applies to volunteer board of director positions.

If you answered yes to either question, please describe the employee(s) role and function as it applies to your nonprofit organization. Answering "yes" to either question does **not** exclude your organization from being eligible to apply. Instead, we would like to receive this information upfront so that we can allow adequate time for the Ethics Commission to review.

Acknowledgements Agreed to by All Applicants

✓ Applicant acknowledges that this grant application may not be revised or altered after submission.
✓ Applicant acknowledges that if funding is awarded, the organization will enter into a non-competitive contract or grant with the County.
✓ Applicant acknowledges that awards may not be distributed as a lump sum, but may be reimbursed or provided on a fixed schedule after sufficient documentation is submitted to the administering County agency.
✓ Applicant acknowledges that any funds submitted for reimbursement must be spent AFTER the contract is finalized and a Notice to Proceed is secured.
✓ Applicant has cited in this application all individuals affiliated with the organization and this program who are employed by Montgomery County.

Assurances Agreed to by All Applicants

If the grant is awarded, the applicant assures that:

✓ The applicant will administer all awarded funds through this Grant Program.
✓ Funds received will be used solely for the documented activities within the submitted proposal.
✓ The applicant has read and will conform to the program guidelines and any other conditions imposed by the County in connection with the grant.
✓ The applicant organization intends to comply with the Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of

1964, indicating that no person will be excluded from participation or be denied the benefits of any program, activity or service on the basis of race, sex, sexual preference, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, or handicap. The applicant further agrees to make every attempt to ensure that the program is accessible to persons with disabilities.

✓ Please note that applications are subject to the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) (found at Md. Code Ann., State Gov't., §10-611 through -628 (MPIA) and the County must comply with the disclosure requirements of the MPIA when a request for documents is received.

✓ The applicant understands that all grantees that receive awards under this Grant Program must show proof of insurance prior to receiving the funds, and when requested, must be able to show proof of all insurance coverage required by law.

✓ The applicant agrees that any time before final payment and three (3) years thereafter, the County may have the grantee's expenditure statements and source documentation audited.

✓ If there are any changes that need to be made to the grant application after submittal or if the organization ceases operations or becomes a subsidiary of another organization, you have the responsibility of notifying the appropriate County administrator.

✓ The filing of this application is made by the undersigned individual, officially authorized to represent the applicant organization by its governing board.

✓ I hereby certify that information submitted in the grant application is a true and correct statement of facts. I, as a designated legal representative of the Organization, further certify that this Organization shall abide by and be subject to all applicable Federal, State and Local laws and regulations pertaining to any subsequent grant that may be issued.

✓ Any individual who has contact with children, adolescents and students under the execution of this grant will be required to obtain a Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) State and federal criminal background check, including fingerprinting. Criminal background checks must be completed prior to commencing any work under this grant. Applicants may request grant funds for this purpose. Criminal background checks must be completed prior to commencing any work under this grant. All grantees, including subgrantees and subcontractors, are required to report to law enforcement and school leadership any threats of harm to self or others. Grantees, subgrantees, and subcontractors may be required to participate in training related to school safety and sign a form acknowledging they will follow existing law and current policies and procedures for their jurisdiction, school, and the state of Maryland.