

NC Human Trafficking Commission: Appropriation Committee Meeting

January 24, 2022



Committee was originally formed on June, 24 2018

- In response to the 2018-2019 FY State Budget, which appropriated 1.5 million in direct service grants.
- The HTC was moving to NC AOC and this was a new process for both entities.
- Membership was kept to the Chairs of other commission committees.
- The Committee had to put together a process in a short amount of time and it was kept as simple as possible for that reason.
- Created funding priorities in 8 top areas.
- RFP, Internal Review, eligible applications were scored, vote on awards, contract, reporting, visit programs.
- 13 Awards given in 2 rounds of RFPs

Lessons Learned

- Desire to formalize the cover sheet, application, and reporting for efficiency and accuracy.
- Commissioners scored all grant proposals.
- Receiving these funds helped us keep a thumbprint on what is happening across the state and build great relationships with programs.
- Becoming a funding source greatly increased our visibility across the state and helped us grow our listserv and resource directory.
- Issuing grants, with the proper internal capacity building, is a strong way to implement agency regulations and standards.
- The committee was made inactive in February 2020.

Where are we now? Re-Activating the Committee...

Appropriation Committee Members

- Committee Chair and Commissioner, Angelica Wind from the NCCAHT
- Commission Chair, Jennifer Haigwood from the NC Department of Labor
- Caitlin Brooks, Commissioner and Legislative Committee Chair
- Marc Nichols, Commissioner and Public Safety Committee Chair
- Deana Joy, Commissioner and Executive Director of NCCAC
- Jasmine McGhee, Commissioner from the NC Department of Justice
- Joseph Kyzer, NC Administrative Office of the Courts (designee of Commissioner Amy Auth)
- Danielle Carmen, Executive Director of the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement
- Nancy Hagan, HTC Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator

Where are we now? Re-Activating the Committee...

Committee Members will:

- Commit to this process through centering survivors and supporting equitable practices throughout.
- Meet as often as needed to assist with speedy and efficient distribution of funds.
- Help inform some decisions regarding the process and awards.
- Where possible, and applicable, the committee will score and make final recommendations for whom shall receive awards.
- Items Commission Chair Haigwood or Committee Chair Wind feel should go forward to the full commission for vote will be moved to those general meetings for discussion and votes.

Review: State Budget FY 2021-2023



16.20A - \$3,260,000:

“Grants for nonprofit organizations providing services to victims of human trafficking.”

- 23 named agencies through an application process.
- Develop grant program and establish program guidelines.
- Agencies submit a detailed proposal including 7 items, and any other deemed appropriate.
- Establish matching requirement, as it deems appropriate.
- There are reporting requirements for agencies and for the commission.
- Funds issued in 2021-2022 are 1 lump sum and funds issued in 2022-2023 are quarterly.

\$220,000 can be used by HTC for administrative expenses related to this and the next section.

Review: State Budget FY 2021-2023

16.20B – \$1,400,000

“Grants to develop, strengthen, or expand human trafficking victim services programs”



- Pass through grants to two named agencies after proposal process to include 7 items and any additional the commission deems appropriate.
- Compassion to Act Incorporated \$250,000
- North Carolina Institute Against Human Trafficking \$320,000
- There are reporting requirements for agencies and for the commission.
- Funds issued in 2021-2022 are 1 lump sum and funds issued in 2022-2023 are quarterly.

Review: State Budget FY 2021-2023



16.21 - \$4,400,000

“Competitive Grants for nonprofit organizations providing services to victims of human trafficking”

- to develop and implement a grant program to provide funds to eligible organizations for economic assistance and to enhance services to victims of human trafficking.
- Criteria for eligibility, to include demonstrating an economic loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Award cannot exceed the economic loss value.
- Reporting required of both agency and commission.
- A second round of grants can be issued, if needed and has different stipulations. Commission shall set a maximum award amount for second round.

\$300,000 per year can be used by HTC for administrative expenses.

Review: State Budget FY 2021-2023



16.22 – \$4,800,000

“Facility Improvement grants for organizations that provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.”

- DV/SA agencies eligible through NCCWYI.
- \$45k cap on 1st round grants – 1 x facility upgrades.
- Allocated in FY 2022-2023.
- Establish matching requirements, policy and procedures.
- Reporting requirements only for commission.

This is the only section of the 5 that is NOT American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Review: State Budget FY 2021-2023

16.23 – \$15,000,000

“Economic Assistance Funds for organizations that provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault”



- To be used to reduce the negative economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic on organizations.
- Goes through June 30, 2023.
- \$7,500,000 to domestic violence organizations eligible to receive grants pursuant to G.S. 50B-9(b). Equal amounts.
- \$7,500,000 to sexual assault organizations eligible to receive grants pursuant to G.S. 143B-394.21. Amount based on formula.
- No other information on this section.

Where are we now?

- Getting clarification on intent of a few areas within the sections in order to make sure we appropriation in the correct manner.
- State Fiscal Recovery Funding is through the NC Pandemic Relief Office
 - We have submitted a template to them on each section and are waiting further instruction. We understand that this template was to help them prioritize urgency of the funding to each state entity, as well as amounts needed by certain dates.
 - Template did ask certain questions about our intended use of the money and goals.
 - Template told us certain items to plan for in the proposals / application process (civil rights agreement; evidenced based solutions, when able; considerations of equity and targeting economically disadvantaged / underserved clients)
 - We do not know when funds, or how much funds, will be given to AOC for our grants.
 - We do know that these funds will require close monitoring and will have more requirements coming that we will be responsible for.
- Office of State Budget and Management has issued some guidance about disbursing process, required forms, contract provision, and reporting.
 - Started collecting required forms that AOC approved and can begin getting those from the named agencies.

Where are we now?

- Created a budget for the administrative funds and we have creating charge codes for each section of the full award.
- Created a temporary position for an Administrative Secretary for the Commission (not from this funding, but will be helpful)
- Creating Job Descriptions for use with administrative funds
 - 2 Temporary Grant Manager Positions
 - 2 Time-Limited Grant Manager Positions
 - 1 Temporary Data / Report position
- Sent a bulk email through NCCWYI to all eligible DV/SA organizations
- Have reached out to all 25 named agencies in Section 16.20
 - 1 Agency has declined to participate (Ministry Seven with the Hendersonville Rescue Mission)
 - 1 Agency would be interested, but no longer provides direct services (AbolitionNC)

Decisions for Committee:

1. Requiring a match for sections 16.20a and 16.22.
2. Should organizations in 16.20a be awarded equal amounts of funding once they complete the process or would the committee like to apply structural limits?
3. Process for determining if proposals collected in sections 16.20a and 16.20b meet the requirements lined out for them.
4. Extra proposal requirements for 16.20a; and 16.20b.
5. Extra reporting requirements for 16.20a; 16.20b; and 16.21.
6. How to determine economic loss for section 16.21 and how to review / approve those situations.

Food for thought: Extra Requirements

- Standards for Direct Service Providers – agency self-assessment
- Shelter and Housing Certification
- Vetting Process (how we determine endorsements, etc.)

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- Copy of 501c3 status; Federal Tax ID number; Charitable Solicitation License; most recent 990 form
 - Staff roster
 - Job descriptions
 - Board of director roster
 - Non-discrimination policy
 - Confidentiality policy
 - MOUs

(many of these items are part of the vetting process also)

Next: HTC Staff will be working to.....

- Schedule next committee meeting for 2 weeks.
- Continue work to complete job descriptions and fill positions.
- Draft what is needed in proposals for sections 16.20a and 16.20b and can begin gathering required forms from those entities.
- Draft Request for Proposals for sections 16.21 and 16.22.
- Draft scoring and report templates for all projects that grantees will need to complete.
- In consultation with AOC, draft contracts for each section.
- Set up website page specific to this information for agencies to follow and learn more.