COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SECTION 16.21.(a) Of the funds appropriated in this act from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts, Human Trafficking Commission (Commission), the sum of four million four hundred thousand dollars (\$4,400,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year shall be used 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. The Commission may use up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) of the funds appropriated in this section in each fiscal year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium to establish three time-limited positions to administer the grant program.

SECTION 16.21.(b) The following criteria shall apply to the grant program:

- (1) Grant applicants shall satisfy all of the following:
 - a. Be a nonprofit corporation.
 - b. Provide direct services to victims of human trafficking, which may include case management, client safety, client well-being, and other services, including health, transportation, housing, education, and employment assistance.
 - c. Demonstrate an economic loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - d. Be ineligible for a grant under the provisions of G.S. 50B-9 and G.S. 143B-394.21.
- (2) The Commission shall coordinate outreach efforts with the North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement (Council), State agencies, and local partners to make information regarding the grant funds available to eligible organizations within two weeks after this section becomes law.
- (3) The amount of the grant shall not exceed the organization's economic loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (4) The Commission shall, upon receipt of all applications by the deadline set under grant program deadlines, expeditiously award and disburse grant funds.
- (5) Grant recipients shall comply with all reporting requirements in G.S. 143C-6-23 and the contract between the recipient and the Commission.

SECTION 16.21.(c) If all funds appropriated as provided in subsection (a) of this section are not disbursed in the first round of grants, the Commission shall award a second round of grants to eligible organizations for the purpose of developing, strengthening, or expanding human trafficking victim service programs to help mitigate the increased risk of human trafficking as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The following criteria shall apply to the second any subsequent round of the grant program: program beyond the first round:

(1) Grant applicants shall satisfy all of the following:

- a. Be a nonprofit corporation.
- b. Provide direct services to victims of human trafficking, which may include case management, client safety, client well-being, and other services, including health, transportation, housing, education, and employment assistance.
- c. Be ineligible for a grant under the provisions of G.S. 50B-9 and G.S. 143B-394.21.
- d. Submit a detailed proposal of its human trafficking service program which shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:
 - 1. A description of the geographic area the organization serves and the needs of victims of human trafficking in that area.

2. A plan to address the needs of victims, including the goals and objectives of each proposed initiative.

The timeline for implementing each proposed initiative to achieve the desired objective and the names of any partners with whom the organization will be working and the role of those partners in the proposed initiative.
A list of the specific services each proposed initiative will deliver, which may include case management, client safety, client well-being, and other services, including health, transportation, housing, education, and employment assistance.

5. The anticipated planning and administrative costs for each proposed initiative, sorted by type, including staffing, fixed costs, contracts, and information technology.

6. A description of the organization's capacity to implement its plan to address the needs of victims, including the organization's staffing level, systems, partnerships, existing funding, and existing programs.

7. A description of the applicant's plans and capability to continue each proposed initiative beyond June 30, 2022, if the applicant plans to do so. 8. Any additional information deemed appropriate by the Commission.