

## GRANTS 101: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO FINDING FUNDING AND GOING AFTER IT

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### **TOPICS**

- Grant life-cycle & award stages
- Assessing viability & fit
- Best practices for proposal development
- Case studies on Somerville grants
- Post-award responsibilities
- Grant resources for municipalities





## BIG-PICTURE PRINCIPLES

Replicate what you can

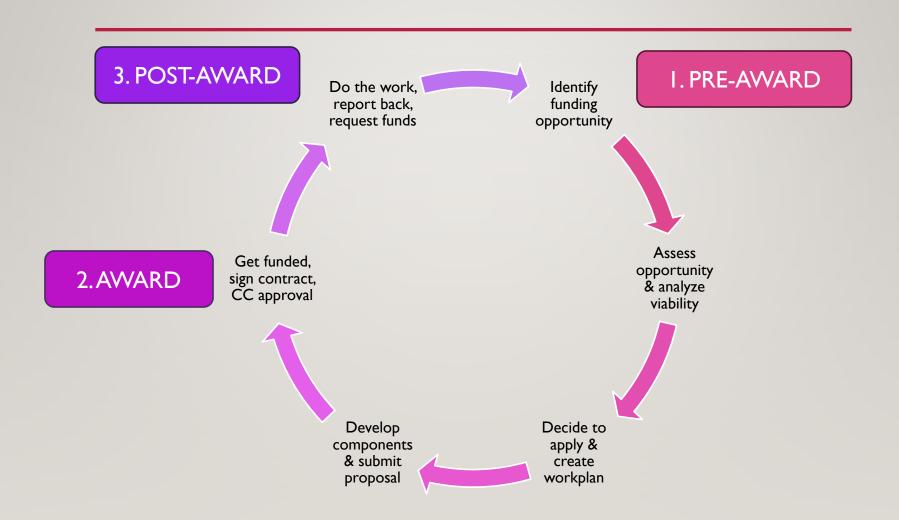
**Embrace creativity** 



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Look for longterm benefits Use your resources

### **GRANT LIFE-CYCLE & AWARD STAGES**



## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Project fit with the grant program priorities and eligibility requirements
- Departmental / planned / capital project
- Funding period
- Grant competitiveness
- Award amount
- Cost-sharing requirement
- Procurement requirements
- Proposal development capacity

# BEST PRACTICES FOR PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

- Read to write
- Designate a point person
- Work from the outside in
- Answer the questions
- Engage your stakeholders
- Drive your argument with data
- Demonstrate your successes

SOMERVILLE POLICE

DEPT OF MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

- Purpose of project was to educate LEA & regional LEA's
- Project activities included trainings from variety of community partners, mental health agencies
- Clear & concise monthly timeline for start-up & implementation
- Project was response to incident in community
- Dept had data points to support need for training

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MASS DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Visual presentation of program resources, activities, outputs & outcomes
- Specific, measurable results
  - # of individuals reached
  - # of training attendees
  - # and type of surveys completed
- Cited existing studies, counts, percentages and established goals
- Outcomes can be phased, not just immediate

SOMERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL

MASS DEV
COLLABORATIVE
WORKSPACE
GRANT

- Proposal highlighted facility needs so immigrant entrepreneurs could launch businesses
- Local & regional appeal utilized & enhanced existing geographic assets
- Incorporated related businesses as both supporters AND beneficiaries
- Leveraged investments by the State to develop area

#### ARPA

- Consider sustainability when designing project
- Align program end with potential for alternative funding
- Public statements of support can lead to future commitment if change in administration
- Projects worthwhile even if desired outcomes or objectives not achieved!

#### POST-AWARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Implement the project you sold

Submit required reporting

Submit reimbursement requests

Request amendments as needed

Verify funds are received & posted

Submit close-out reports

## **GRANT RESOURCES**FOR MUNI'S

#### Grant guidance & management

- DOJ-FMT
- Mass. Office of the Inspector General
- NGMA
- Thompson Grants



#### Local funding

- Philanthropy News Digest
- Foundation Directory
- GuideStar
- Philanthropy Massachusetts



#### Municipal focus

- Bloomberg Cities Network
- ICMA
- MMA
- NLC
- Route Fifty



Connecting state and local government leaders

## THANK YOU!

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