

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Mediation Programs
FROM: Joanne Galindo, Associate Director & Minigrants Working Committee
RE: **Minigrants for Community Mediation Programs**
DATE: January 30, 2004

Funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, NAFCM's Minigrant Program continues to support community mediation centers. The application deadline for the next grant cycle is **May 3, 2004**, followed by September 1, 2004.

Through this program, NAFCM will provide grants of up to \$5,000 in the following eight categories: New Center Start Up; Statewide Collaborations; Program Development; Professional Development and Organizational Effectiveness; Quality Assurance; Promote Diversity and Social Justice; Technology; and Other. Applicants may apply in more than one category; however, there is a **\$5,000 maximum** for each applicant. Please consider that other centers have needs and funds are limited.

The Statewide Collaboration proposals require some different attachments than the standard categories, and the Start Up proposals require a separate application based on NAFCM's Characteristics of Community Mediation.** (See next page and enclosed application forms.)

Eligible applicants are community mediation programs, coalitions of community mediation programs and state mediation associations that primarily serve community mediation programs. All organizations interested in applying must be NAFCM program members or state mediation association members. Centers that are not currently members will be eligible if they join before the application deadline.

Please carefully review the application guidelines and requirements. Respond to all the requested items and include all attachments. The Minigrants Committee may request additional information regarding your proposal, or suggest changes before it is funded.

Please note: In this round, centers that have already received \$5,000 or more are not eligible to apply. In the September round, application will be open to all community mediation centers, whether or not they received money previously.

Proposals are due in the NAFCM office on **May 3, 2004**. If you have any questions, contact Joanne Galindo at 202-667-9700 or e-mail jgalindo@nafcm.org. The grant application is also available on our website: <http://www.nafcm.org>.

Community Mediation Centers are Characterized by, and/or Committed to:

- ◆ A private non-profit or public agency or program thereof, with mediators, staff and governing/advisory board representative of the diversity of the community served.
- ◆ The use of trained community volunteers as providers of mediation services; the practice of mediation is open to all persons.
- ◆ Providing direct access to the public through self-referral and striving to reduce barriers to service including physical, linguistic, cultural, programmatic and economic.
- ◆ Providing service to clients regardless of their ability to pay.
- ◆ Providing service and hiring without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, disabilities, national origin, marital status, personal appearance, gender orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income.
- ◆ Providing a forum for dispute resolution at the earliest stage of conflict.
- ◆ Providing an alternative to the judicial system at any stage of a conflict.
- ◆ Initiating, facilitating and educating for collaborative community relationships to effect positive systemic change.
- ◆ Engaging in public awareness and educational activities about the values and practices of mediation.