

Request for Proposals: ECICOG RURAL RECOVERY CHALLENGE



Request for Proposal: East Central Iowa Council of Governments Rural Recovery Challenge (RRC)

Background: In 2020, the East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) received funds from the Economic Development Administration via Cares Act legislation to assist communities with economic recovery due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ECICOG is soliciting project proposals associated with building resilience or aiding in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The maximum contract award per project is \$5,000; a total of \$25,000 is available.

Eligibility: Proposals must come from a community, county or non-profit economic development organization located within the ECICOG region, which includes the counties of Linn, Johnson, Benton, Jones, Iowa, and Washington.

Examples of Potential Projects (not all inclusive):

- Business or economic development needs assessments
- Economic development or downtown planning activities
- Marketing activities
- Programming efforts related to economic recovery
- Training related to economic recovery and resiliency

Project Evaluation: Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The potential impact the project will have on economic recovery and resiliency,
- The potential impact the project will have in our rural communities, and
- How the awarded funds will be used to support the project

To Submit A Proposal: Provide a brief summary (no more than three pages) of the following information to Adam Bentley at adam.bentley@ecicog.org by Friday, November 13, 2020:

- Organization profile
- Overview of the project (including estimated timeline)
- Goals of the project
- How the project positively impacts rural areas of the region
- How the project connects to economic recovery and/or resiliency
- Estimated budget and how the awarded funds will be used

Proposals will be evaluated in November with contracts made soon after. Should funds remain after the first-round of awarded contracts, proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted.

Questions can be directed to Adam Bentley at adam.bentley@ecicog.org or (319) 365-9941 ext. 127.