



INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HYGIENE

EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS PROGRAM

General Statement

Since 1937, the Institute of Mental Hygiene (IMH) has supported a broad range of programs promoting the development of optimal mental health for children and their families in New Orleans, IMH invests in children through its grantmaking programs, active involvement with grantees, and leadership in improving mental health programs and policies.

The Early Childhood Mental Health Grants Program recognizes that healthy and successful children (birth - six years old) need strong family support and guidance and an environment that nurtures each child's social, emotional, cultural and intellectual development. The aim of the Early Childhood Mental Health Program is to strengthen and sustain policies, programs, and providers - focusing on early childhood and families with small children.

The program is intended to achieve the following outcomes:

- § to increase the number of children who are ready for kindergarten in terms of social and behavioral indicators;
- § to increase the social and emotional well-being of children in participating programs;
- § and to assist child-serving institutions to become more competent in working with families to meet the social and emotional needs of young children.

Applying for a Grant

IMH makes grants only to organizations that are tax-exempt and provide services in New Orleans. Capital projects, general fund drives or grants to individuals will not be considered.

IMH encourages phone calls prior to submitting a proposal to explore ideas and clarify procedures. If you decide to apply, you must first submit a two

or three page *Letter of Intent*, describing the need for the project, the project, its principle objectives, proposed interventions and outcomes, timetable and total budget, including amount requested from IMH and other sources of support. *Letters of Intent* should be submitted according to the schedule below. Within two weeks of receiving the *letter of intent*, IMH will notify you if you should submit a full proposal. Proposals must follow the *IMH Proposal Instructions*, which can be downloaded from this website. Multi-year grants will be considered. They must detail annual objectives and outcomes and these must be met prior to the grant being continued each year. Accountability plans are required for all grants. After we receive the proposal, staff may request additional written information and/or may contact persons familiar with your project. A meeting may be held with applicants to discuss the project prior to consideration by the Grants Committee.

Deadlines

Letter of Intent	Proposal (if requested)	Decision
February 1	March 15	June
July 1	August 15	October
October 1	November 15	February

For further information, contact:
Nancy Freeman, Executive Director
Institute of Mental Hygiene
1055 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 350
566-1852; fax 566-1853
email: imhno@imhno.org

3/05