Utilizing federal COVID-19 Relief Funding, the State of Nebraska has established a program to provide financial assistance to eligible entities that sustained a loss of income/revenue and/or an increase of expenses due to COVID-19 impacts on their operations and communities. The intent of Nebraska Stabilization Grants is to help return entities that serve children, families or communities in support of the DHHS mission – “to help people live better lives” – to their pre-pandemic level.

The Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) will provide application materials to enable eligible entities to apply for funding under the Nebraska Stabilization Grant Program for Charitable Organizations and Providers. Eligibility forms and applications will be accepted from June 29, 2020 – July 6, 2020.

**Eligible Entities**

Three types of entities, and those who have sustained a loss of income/revenue and/or an increase of expenses since March 13, 2020, due to COVID-19, are eligible to apply.

1. Nebraska-based charitable organizations, tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code,
2. State of Nebraska-licensed health facilities or services providers included in the categories below, with an active license issued by the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services:
   a. Adult Day Services
   b. Assisted-Living Facilities
   c. Centers for the Developmentally Disabled
   d. Child Placing Agencies
   e. Children's Day Health Services
   f. Health Clinics
   g. Hospice Services
   h. Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
   i. Mental Health Substance Abuse Treatment Centers
   j. Residential Child-Caring Agencies
   k. Rural Health Clinics
   l. Respite Care Services
3. Community-Based Developmental Disability Agencies, certified by the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services.

Ineligible organizations:
- Units of local government and tribal governments
- Hospitals
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Regional Behavioral Health Authorities
- Child care providers

**Eligible Uses of Funding**

Charitable organizations and providers can use the Community CARES Stabilization Grant as working capital to pay for operational expenses related to COVID-19 impacts, with the purpose of helping sustain operations and continue to serve Nebraskans.
Funds Distribution
DHHS expects to award grants of $12,000 or more per entity, for a total of approximately $40,000,000. DHHS reserves the right to re-allocate funds to other Nebraska CARES programs should the total amount available under this funding opportunity not be sought through approved applications.

Application Requirements
Information is available by accessing the application here: http://dhhs.ne.gov/CommunityCares

Project Selection
DHHS is committed to prioritizing available funds to underserved communities. DHHS reserves the right to evaluate applications and award funds in a manner utilizing criteria selected at DHHS’ discretion and in the best interest of meeting the objectives of the funding involved. If total requests for the Stabilization Grant for Charitable Organizations and Providers exceed funds available, criteria such as proximity of an organization/provider to areas of high poverty and/or disproportionately high impacts of COVID-19 may be used to award funds.

Application Timing and Process
Applications will be accepted from June 29, 2020 – July 6, 2020. Applications that do not include all specified documentation or attachments, or those that have not been fully completed, will not be considered. At its discretion, DHHS may request supplemental materials from applicants.

Information on the Nebraska Stabilization Grant for Charitable Organizations and Providers, and information on how to apply, can be found here: http://dhhs.ne.gov/CommunityCares.