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FY 2021 FGS SCP Expansion Competition Training_2020-10-21_Transcript

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EC

ANNE: Good afternoon and thank you so much for joining us today. Can I do a quick mic check and can you hear me all right? If you can let me know in the chat. Perfect. Thank you. Welcome to the AmeriCorps Seniors Introduction to the 2021 FGP SCP expansion competition.

Quick housekeeping us before we get started.

All lines are on mute and we will keep them on mute throughout the course of the call, which means if you have questions at any time, you can add them to the drop us a note in the Q&A pod. If you have technical issues, just go ahead and drop us a note in the chat box making sure to send it to all panelists and attendees. You can also use the raise your hand feature as well.

Today's audio is being presented online or by phone. I recommend having the system call you, but if one isn't working, you can try the other. If you're having visual problems, go ahead and leave and come back on in. We are recording this because if you do not wish to be recorded, you can disconnect at any time. The slides will be added to the FGP SCP competitions.

I see a comment about the screen being blank. Can it once it housekeeping icons give me one second and let me try to re-share my screen. Could you see the intro slide?

>>: Yes, that is what we see is the intro right now.

ANNE: Give me one second, just troubleshooting really quick.

I'm about to switch lights so give me a yes if you can see it. You have a American Seniors up on the screen? I think we are good.

Hello, everyone, and thank you so much for coming on today and learning with us to Anne Oti and I am an AmeriCorps Senior, Senior Program Officer for training and knowledge management. It is always a pleasure to host webinars like this. I'm joined by my colleagues Debbie Trushan and Courtney Sutton. You will see them in the drop us a, but I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the AmeriCorps seniors team to

welcome you to the fiscal year 2021 AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Senior Companion Program expansion competition.

It is an opportunity available right now and I get excited about these opportunities because it is a great time to welcome you folks come introduce you to the work of our agency AmeriCorps formally known as the Corporation for National and Community Service and AmeriCorps Seniors, formally known as senior court to all of you and to reaffirm some of the fantastic work being done by some of our current and prior grantees all at once.

Welcome.

I want to share some more preliminaries with you. I mention adding questions to the drop us a question in the Q&A pod, but I do want to manage expectations as I want to get all of your questions answered today. If I do not get to your questions this afternoon, you can send it to the e-mail address on the screen of 2021 at FGP SCP at CNS.gov. The website below is the competition website and Jeff put both links in the chat box. Both good places to go.

On this next slide, we see that this is one in a series of four webinars that will be repeated to help you through this process. The second cycle would begin in January. Throughout the next few weeks, we will tell you about our agency, programs, we will provide you with information to understand how to apply for one of these grants are cut they are right for you, we want you to look at the opportunity and take action.

This is just one in a series of four webinars and we will be back next week to talk about the AmeriCorps Seniors foster grandparent and senior grandparent programs. The following week, we will wrap up cycle one with a step-by-step guide to the application process. All of the sessions are being recorded and will be posted on the competition website, the same place we got the information to register for today session.

For our next preliminary, I want to know little bit about who is in the audience today

so I will ask our webinar producer to bring up the first poll. Who has received a federal grant before? Including one from the Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps, go ahead and fill out the poll and we will see, just to get a sense with your familiarity with the federal government. I will give you a couple of seconds to fill that out.

It looks like the majority of you have received a federal grant before. That is great.

Our next question, how well do you know AmeriCorps seniors or Senior Corps? That is the grant program that I work for and for which the foster grandparent and senior companion programs are part of.

It looks like we have a lot at current grantees. We have a few people who are new to all of this and a few that are familiar with our work.

For our next question, how would you describe the primary feel of your organization? AmeriCorps Seniors and AmeriCorps the agency are very diverse, that organizations have different focuses? You probably consider yourself to belong to one or more categories, just pick the one that best describes you.

For our final question for right now, how did you hear about us? This is good for us to know to get a sense of how we can learn alongside one another. I will give you just a few more seconds to get your answers in. Thank you very much.

Here is our agenda for today. I want to just check in quickly to make sure that the slides have been advancing. If you could let me know in the chat, that would be great. I want to make sure everyone can see the agenda on their screens.

Perfect. It is my goal that you will leave this webinar as excited as we are to share it with you. We are going to be talking about this competition, and particular, helping you understand the AmeriCorps Seniors foster grandparent and senior companion programs and whether they could be right for you and point you in the direction of where to start.

We come AmeriCorps Seniors, are currently accepting applications for the

AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent and senior companion programs. You can go into our system, begin your application or submit an application at any point between now and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on February 3, 2021.

For this competition, we are looking to expand into the geographic service areas listed on a document called Appendix A that you can find on the competition website. On the screen, I have color-coded maps of the open states. In red, you will see states in which there are opportunities for the AmeriCorps Senior Foster Grandparent program. In green, you will see states at which there are open opportunities for the AmeriCorps Seniors companion program. The three blue states are the states in which there is an opportunity in both programs.

Those open opportunities are listed on a table called Appendix A, which shows all of the open funding opportunities. We will talk a lot about Appendix A later on and how to propose what you and your organization would like to start. Just know that for now, Appendix A is an important document and is actually the appendix to the Notice of Funding Opportunity or NOFA.

One of the resources that you will use, I know that a lot of your first questions are along the lines of what you see on the screen, how long is the award, what information should I include in my application, what is the review process? Our matching funds required? What kinds of projects are they hoping to find?

The vast majority of the answers to those questions are actually included in the document. The funding opportunity, I like to call it a gateway to the competition. It is your map to the competition and that means that all of the information you need will either be available in this document or linked in the document. This is a good place for you to start, read it and know it upside down and backward.

On the screen, you can see the screenshot of the competition website. If you navigate there, the first link under both programs is the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

In addition to that NOFO, there are other resources that will be important to you

that I want to share upfront. Their grant application instructions providing a step-by-step guide to navigating your electronic grants management system, which is where you will be submitting the application, Appendix A that I refer to already and their list of available funding opportunities.

We have Appendix B, the National Performance Measure instructions. I encourage you to come back next week when we dive deeper into the two programs because we will talk about that document a lot.

The work plan development worksheets, which allow you to draft those performance measures outside of e-Grants, the electronic grants management system and then we have a list of frequently asked questions that we do update throughout the process based on what you send to 2021FGPSCP@CNS.gov.

All of these resources are available on the competition homepage pickup you don't get the information that you need today, if it is not in one of the resources, feel free to reach out to the 2021FGPSCP@CNS.gov mailbox.

Moving along, I do want to acknowledge. You have heard me say today that AmeriCorps the Agency, formerly Corporation of National and Community Service come AmeriCorps Seniors, formerly Senior Corps as that is probably confusing if you are new to the National Service family, to share on September 29 of this year, our agency, Corporation for National and Community Service rebranded the name. Although CNCS remains the legal name, CNCS, Corporation for National and Community Service, operates under the working name of AmeriCorps. Senior Corps is now referred to as AmeriCorps Seniors. I ask for patience as I may refer to Senior Corps sometimes throughout the presentation. We do have some old resources I will be sharing that have that old branding. I just want you to be aware Senior Corps, AmeriCorps Seniors, the agency Corporation for National and Community Service, and AmeriCorps.

AmeriCorps the agency, formally known as National and Community Service is the federal agency responsible for civic engagement. That leads grantmaking efforts in the

United States. We help millions of Americans improve their lives and the lives of their fellow citizens through service. We do that mostly by working hand-in-hand with local partners to tap the ingenuity and the can-do spirit as the American people to attack our country's most pressing challenges. We are a small and dependent federal agency and civic engagement and volunteerism is at the heart of what we do.

Our mission is to improve lives, shape communities and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. National Service, you can read this along with me on the slide. National Service is an opportunity to volunteer your time and talent to make the difference in people's lives and get things done for America.

Through AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors, individuals of any age can serve their country and their community by putting their valuable skills to use.

We oversee this through two major programs and a handful of smaller programs. For those who are new, you may have heard of programs like AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps NCCC because those programs engage people and service often during a period of time when they have to pick up and leave and go somewhere else to serve in that period of time. People of all ages can serve in different kinds of those AmeriCorps programs, but they do tend to skew a little bit younger than our program.

AmeriCorps Seniors, on the other hand, specifically geared toward volunteers 55 and older. AmeriCorps the Agency, has a number of smaller programs, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of service and the September 11 Day of Service and Remembrance. You may have come across that.

They are all united under the banner of AmeriCorps.

If you want to learn more about the agency generally come he can visit our website linked on the slide and we also have some links you can visit to learn about statistics on National Service in your state, your regional office and social media.

Today, it is about AmeriCorps Seniors, the nation's largest network of older

American volunteers with more than 200,000 volunteers in every state in the country plus Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands serving in 23,000 locations. When you add all of that up, it is a diverse, vibrant and powerful community.

Thank you to many of you who have been instrumental in getting us to this point and contributed to these kinds of outcomes. Here are some of our favorites that I like to share, as I mentioned, more than 200,000 volunteers across the country serving 50 million hours. Each year they do things like helping older Americans live independently, mentoring students with exceptional needs, combating elderly abuse and opioid addiction and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are also effects on volunteers themselves. In the top right corner, 84% of our volunteers report stable or improved health as a result of their AmeriCorps Seniors service.

We are now going to give you a little bit of a different perspective on AmeriCorps Seniors and play a video that shows some programs. This video takes place in New York City so I am going to switch out my screen really quick.

If you could let me know if you can see my screen, I feel like that will be my most asked question today is can you see my screen? It should be a YouTube screen. I will start the video.

VIDEO: (Trying to figure out to play video)

ANNE: I see a lot saying they cannot see the video. Jeff, are you able to share the video? Give me one second. I apologize.

VIDEO: We are here to help all veterans from all branches that got chartered.

The veteran component of veterans treatment court is what makes it different from all of my other treatment courts. The veteran mentor steps in and plays a very important role from the first day.

I have been an RSVP veteran mentor here in the veterans court three years now. From the minute you meet the veteran, it is common ground, there is a bond.

We went to North Iraq. And the mentor here is uplifting because you sit and talk to

other vets that have been there with you and you relates, and understand each other and you see that you are not the only one. Discomforting and it is helpful.

They are the heart of our program and we love them so much.

At this location, we serve individuals with development all disabilities. Our Senior Companion Program consists of nine seniors who are working here at the location in the Bronx.

Like being a senior companion more than I like ice cream.

We teach them to be sufficient on their own. They are waiting for someone to pass something onto them to make their lives more enriched.

We provide one-on-one assistance, especially these days when we need to make sure that our individuals have good skill sets and learn to work in the community.

This is PSI 1804 and re-lunch eligibility is 97% last year of the poverty line.

The foster grandparents are a constant and they are here. That is really good for our children because it is something they know is constant.

We give that individual attention. The teacher has so many students they have to concentrate on.

I love school. I love to read. Kiera is able to articulate, she is able to speak and express herself. She was not able to do that when she first came.

The school was a local school. Last year, we were in the first tier academically and this year, we came into the 53rd percentile. We came from a failing school to a progress report of a B.

Children work with the foster grandparents to improve their life.

I'm credibly confident and happy about the impact of the foster care parents we have. This program is amazing. We thank you a lot.

The learning center, they come here mostly to get their GED. They learn the language and social study. Being an RSVP volunteer is to connect with new people, new lives.

It is gratifying to me when my students do well.

I am so grateful because every day I go home and feel smarter.

It is a blessing. There is so much. That I received a couple of cards addressed to me and to the tutors. Thank you so much for all of your help and encouragement in passing my GED. Dreams begin most of the time with teachers. With you all, I can move on to my next dream.

ANNE: Thank you. Look like their time is a charm. That was a little taste of our programs from a different perspective. I wanted to show that particular video because it mentioned are three programs. Even though this competition is for AmeriCorps Seniors FGP and SCP, we would be remiss if we did not mention our third program, AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP.

All of our programs engage individuals 55 and older and service. The AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program was established in 1971 and has volunteers in that program doing a bunch of different things. Anything from tutoring children, providing independent living services, helping out during natural disasters and more.

I see a question and I will make sure that we add those at the end. The first of our programs for the competition this year, the foster grandparent program, American Senior Corps tier program engages older Americans as role models and mentors to help those with special and exceptional needs. It is about building the part of one-on-one relationships between young people and older adults. Also, it has the purpose of engaging older Americans in service or near the poverty level. Anyone can be a volunteer, but adults within 200% of the poverty line may receive a small stipend to defray the cost of their service.

Is very similar to the AmeriCorps Seniors Companion program, which provides assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks such as shopping or paying bills, helping them remain independent in their homes. AmeriCorps Senior and volunteers in the Senior companion program do things like help with daily

chores, drive adults to doctor's appointments, they could provide information to older Americans to help them do things like avoid elder abuse or fraud in the home, really serving to make independence a reality.

In this program, eligible volunteers may receive a small stipend for their service and the stipend is actually \$3 an hour.

Another we have a picture in our mind of the programs, I want to get a little more technical and we will spend some time working with specific terms. There are two key terms that you need to know to really understand how AmeriCorps Seniors, Foster Good Parent and Senior companion's work. The first is sponsor and we use this for a grantee. An organization that receives an AmeriCorps Seniors funding and is legally responsible for the grant funds.

If you submit an application to the competition, you will need someone to sign and to say that yes, I officially accept responsibility for everything that I see in the organization and an individual that has the authority, that is the sponsoring organization. They are legally responsible.

Is another set of organizations with the stations and the community partner where the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers and the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs would serve.

Volunteer stations are where AmeriCorps senior volunteers and FGP and SCP. They can be nonprofit organizations, they can be proprietary Healthcare facilities or public agencies. Some organizations may choose to operate like a volunteer matchmaker recruiting a diverse group of volunteers and placing them at a wide variety of stations. And others may choose to focus on some specific stations. For example, an organization that provides educational programs may choose to focus their efforts and their AmeriCorps senior volunteers on education within specific schools that serve at the station.

Your sponsoring organization can also serve as an AmeriCorps senior volunteer

station. You have volunteers serving your and programs. If you are the organization, the relationship between sponsors and stations is formalized in a memorandum of understanding.

Here is an image of that. You are the grantee that was receiving the funds and you have stations out there and the community. The grantee provides the management of the grant and the volunteers, the station provides on-site supervision and management & performance data. A goes back to the grantee or sponsor so that you can enter it back to us at AmeriCorps Seniors headquarters that is all formalized in the memorandum of understanding.

Here at AmeriCorps the agency and AmeriCorps Seniors, we provide the funds to that sponsoring organization and the grantee becomes legally responsible for managing the grant. They go out and recruit volunteers in the community and they sit at community stations.

Now that you know more about AmeriCorps Seniors, FGP and SCP, you have probably realized some of the benefits at AmeriCorps Seniors and what they could bring to your -- I am not seeing questions in the Q&A. If you have added a question coming you will see it once it is answered. Stay tuned.

Benefits to the sponsor. AmeriCorps Seniors can bring your organization if you are awarded a grant through this competition. Your volunteers can be used to build the capacity of your organization through the service, your organization will become part of the larger AmeriCorps Seniors and National Service network.

Your AmeriCorps Seniors foster grandparent or senior compared program projects, which strengthen other organizations in your community throughout the service area. Cap finally, your award would demonstrate your applications are strong enough to be awarded through a competitive grant process pickup.

Of course, the benefits to the volunteer are hard to find on the video you heard as they let the program more than they like ice cream because they get to make a tangible

impact on their communities with their friends and connections, enjoy a flexible schedule, flexible opportunities and there is a growing body of research that indicates being involved in something like AmeriCorps Seniors can increase seniors health and happiness as they age.

At AmeriCorps Seniors, we have been here multiple years and saw 88% of volunteers serving in the programs reported fewer feelings of isolation, 84% reported stable or improving health and 78% reported fewer symptoms of depression as a result of their service.

These volunteers are serving the community and making an impact specifically on younger or older individuals who need assistance, but has the second level of effect on the volunteers themselves.

These are federal programs. What that means is that the funds come with a basket of rules and regulations. You will see a few as this is by no means an in-depth description of all of the rules and regulations. It is meant to indicate some things that you will need to familiarize yourself with if you are interested in applying for these programs. I will go over these briefly, but I want to stress that these are not meant to be all-inclusive. If you want to learn more, we will talk more about the specific sessions next week and provide resources for you to look at.

Each program has a specific kind of assignment in mind. Those are one on one supportive relationships. With the foster per grandparent or American seniors should be working with one or two or three specific children in need of some kind of special support. Generally, not doing broad-based teacher's activities of leading a classroom or that sort of thing. That is generally not what America Seniors will be doing.

How volunteers need to go through the specific history check. There is more information and then no folk, but keep that in mind a case that is something you want to include in the budgets.

There are minimum and maximum amounts of service weekly or hourly. All

grantees must measure their performance according to a certain set of performance measures you can find in Appendix B that I mentioned earlier. Because these programs come with a stipend for volunteers, you have to manage this type and expenditures carefully over the course of the year. You have to provide a certain amount of service orientation or training.

Finally, this may be familiar to those who have experience with federal grants, but you must use the funds in a way that is reasonable, allocable, allowable and necessary.

There is also a match associated with these grants. Match, nonfederal share, not CNCS is 10% of the total project cost. To find that's coming you take the federal share that you are requesting, the amount you are requesting for, divide by 0.9 and subtract the federal share from that. If the Department of Aging wanted to request \$260,000 on this application, they would take the 260,000 divided by 0.9 and subtract \$260,000 and get there required nonfederal share would be \$288,809. Again, in terms of rules and regulations, this is not all of the homework that you need to do, but a gentle reminder that says before you apply to the programs, read through the regulations and make sure that it makes sense with you and aligns with your organization's vision.

A couple more things to share. The project, for grants, for the performance. For grants for this competition is three years. The agency generally funds the first year and then organizations are eligible to apply for continuation funding for years two and three pending on congressional appropriations and satisfactory performance. Are you in compliance with grant requirements including terms and conditions, reporting requirements, security nonfederal share et cetera.

After those initial three years, the grant can be renewed through a noncompetitive process pending appropriation and satisfactory performance for another three years.

Here is what it looks like graphically. You would get awarded this in 2021. The grants that are awarded in this competition begin on July 1, 2021. You have a pending appropriations and satisfactory performance, you could get 22, 23 and read renew in

24. So on and so forth.

For more information, the AmeriCorps Seniors impact videos has a collection of videos like the one that we showed from New York and just showing the program from multiple perspectives. I really like looking there to watch videos about what is going on. You can see the programs in a rural setting, you can see them in a city setting. We have the AmeriCorps senior stories, which are a collection of volunteer experiences.

They provide a state-by-state guide to all National Service in a single state and you can choose a state and view the year and review the full report for information by County. We have CFR.gov and that is the Code of Federal Regulations and where you want to find the official regulations governing FGP and SCP programs.

Specifically for the programs, I will type this in the chat. 45 CFR 2551 is for SCP that is the Senior Corps Companion Program. 45 CFR 2552 is for FGP, AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent program. I saw a question and the chat about match or in the Q&A about match for the AmeriCorps senior foster grandparent and senior companion programs is 10 percent throughout the entirety of the grand.

Those who may be familiar with the other program come AmeriCorps Seniors, that program has a scale match. In AmeriCorps Seniors FGP and SCP, it remains at 10%.

We have another poll. Which of these reasons for applying for an AmeriCorps Seniors grant is more important to you? You should be able to select all that apply. I will give you a couple more seconds to decide. I will share this. It looks like a little bit of everything but helping older Americans in my community stay active and engaged is my winter.

For the next question, if I am awarded an AmeriCorps Seniors foster grandparent or senior companion program grant, I am likely to what? Volunteers primarily serve in programs managed by sponsors so having them serve at your organization, you have service opportunities and other organizations for the volunteer matchmaker have an equal mix of the two options.

It looks like the majority is going to place AmeriCorps senior volunteers at their organization. Thank you for participating in our poll.

Moving on to the next part of our presentation, I want to talk about how you can actually get started with your applications. We are going to go through a checklist about what to do.

The first thing is to find the geographic service area that you are interested in serving on Appendix A. I will show you a screenshot at the beginning of the session of Appendix A for the AmeriCorps Seniors foster grandparent program. You will look at Appendix A and think about the capacity of your organization and what you can do.

Think about a term I am about to use VSY, Volunteer Service Year. What is unique about this particular competition, which I don't think the AmeriCorps Seniors program has this, but you get to design and propose to us what do you wish to start. You propose to us what you want to serve within the confines of our rules and regulations.

We will start by talking about what a VSY is. A VSY is a volunteer service and is a way to count volunteer hours, particularly stipend volunteer hours. One VSY is equal to 1044 stipend hours. There are 1044 hours in a VSY. Volunteer service year and that numbers come from the estimate of what a volunteer would serve if they served 20 hours per week every week at the year for 52.2 weeks. A quick example, those who have come to the trainees before already know the answer, using the formula of 52.2 weeks at 20 hours a week equals 1044 hours so how many hours would 10 VSY equal? One VSY equals 1044 hours so 10 VSY would equal what? That is correct, it is 10,440 hours.

Take a look at Appendix A. All of the open counties in your state, applications must propose to serve one or more open geographic service area in the application. For example, you could come if you are in the fictional State of Corona, you could serve Montague County or Montague and Capulet counties. You just need to propose to

serve at least one.

You get to propose the funding amount that will best allow you to meet the needs of your perspective geographic service area. Regardless of the funding amount, all applicants are required to follow the calculation of one VSY, a volunteer service year for every \$6500 in their funding request.

He will hear me talk about the \$6500 and what that means for performance measures and work plans and volunteers that you actually recruit in sections two and three next week. Know that for now, \$6500 per volunteer service year. I know that some people like to start with the total federal funding that they want to request to trickle down to the VSY. I like to think in the opposite manner. Back to the proposed geographic service area of Montague and Capulet counties. In order to meet the community needs, we will use 40 VSY. I will take the 40 VSY, multiplied by the \$6500 and that it gives me the maximum amount you can request, which is 260,000 dollars.

I see a question here, as a sponsor budget \$6500 for every volunteer? I will switch the language and say you should budget \$6500 for every VSY. For the foster grandparent and senior companion programs we think in terms of hours. A VSY can equal a person, but in this case, we say VSY stipend hours.

We talked about determining the geographic service area using Appendix A. Next, review the notice of the opportunity and depth. The blueprint to the competition. When you are putting your application together, we recommend using a word processing program by Microsoft Word or Google docs. The application has to be submitted into a system called EE grants. It is kind of clunky and not friendly for making drafts pick a draft outside of the system and copy and paste it in.

Speaking of e-Grants, you want to create an account for e-Grants. That is super important. The authorized Representative for individuals at your organization who is legally authorized to bind your organization to this agreement is also going to need to make an account. There are a couple of administrative steps you need to take

registering in SAM and requesting a number.

They are easy to miss and you don't want to wait until the end of the process to do that.

That brings us to the last recommendation. Please plan to submit your application early. Would like to recommend 10 days, but if that is not realistic, do what you can. You do not want to be sitting on e-Grants on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 4:57 p.m. trying to submit the application. Try to get it in early.

Seeing where we are and times, I see some of the questions that came in, I am going to move ahead to the questions. This concludes our prepared content for today so I want to make sure that we get to everything that has come in. I will keep this up here so you can see the training schedule for the rest of the week. I will ask Jeff to share the link of the last video that we did not get to. I will filter through to see if there are any questions.

Does one VSY equal 40 hours? One VSY equals 1044 hours.

You can add your questions to the Q&A pod. I saw a couple of questions about Appendix A so I will go back a couple of slides just to talk through Appendix A. Give me one second.

On Appendix A you can apply for this competition coming must apply for at least one of the open counties that are available to serve. As long as you are applying to at least one of the open counties, you are good. You can propose to serve as many counties as you would like. You also get to tell us how much money you need to serve that county effectively. Keeping in mind that you need to consider the VSY rules. One VSY for \$6500, what that means is if you were going to request 40 VSY, you would need to multiply that by \$6500 and for 40 VSYs, you cannot request more than \$260,000.

For folks -- I don't know if I have seen this in the open questions here, but I do know that we get asked a couple of times if you are allowed to apply to an area that is

not listed on Appendix A? You cannot apply to an area not listed on Appendix A.

Any other questions? Feel free to add those to the Q&A pod. If a County is not on Appendix A, that most likely means that it is currently being served by an organization?

I do not see any other questions. Courtney, I don't want to put you on the spot, but is there anything that you got that I should go over based on the themes of the questions that came in?

While we look for any last questions, I will ask Jeff to launch our satisfaction pose.

COURTNEY: In terms of questions, I think you covered most of them. Just going back over at Appendix A, than that I think we are good.

ANNE: Thank you to answering questions throughout the session. I will mention the upcoming trainings next week, we will definitely go more into this VSY and how to allocate those to work plans. We will talk more about rules and regulations so if you are looking for more of those nuances, we will try to cover this and next week sessions as well.

I see the question about senior companions and South Dakota. Are you saying where you want to serve is not a senior companion program? Are you just trying to figure out if there is currently a senior companion program?

Most likely, if the county is available for you to compete and, then there is not a current grantee in that area. If it is not listed on Appendix A, most likely there is a senior companion project there.

Hopefully that helps.

All right. Thank you for participating in our poll. If you have future questions, you can contact 2021FGPSCP@CNS.gov. I show we are at the top of the hour so we are reaching the end of our time together. I am not seeing any other questions so I will just stress again how excited we are to offer this opportunity. It has been a while since we have been able to expand these two programs. I'm excited to see some applications command. I'm excited to know that there are folks who are current grantees come apart

at the AmeriCorps family who are interested in expanding their work. It is exciting to see new folks as well.

If there are no other questions, we will go ahead and sign off now. This session was recorded and we will have that up on the website by the close of business Friday. Have a great Wednesday evening and good luck.