

SERVE WASHINGTON

State Solicitation Number: 21-400

State Entity: Serve Washington

Federal Agency: AmeriCorps (formerly Corporation for National and Community Service)

Federal Funding Opportunity: Volunteer Generation Fund Get Connected Volunteer Connector Project

Announcement Type: Request for Proposals

CFDA Number: 94.021

Volunteer Generation Fund Get Connected Volunteer Connector Project

Serve Washington pleased to announce a Request for Proposals for the *Get Connected Volunteer Connector Project* to support the development of volunteer resources in underserved regions of Washington State. Successful proposals will develop or sustain a local volunteer engagement website using the Galaxy Digital platform and engage local nonprofit and community organizations to populate the site with volunteer opportunities. All volunteer opportunities will feed up to the statewide [Serve Washington Get Connected platform](#).

General Information

Serve Washington seeks to award contracts up to \$10,000 to organizations who will launch a local [Get Connected Volunteer platform](#), partner with nonprofit, community, and faith-based partners to populate the site with local volunteer opportunities, and conduct outreach and marketing in the community to encourage residents to use the site to find volunteer opportunities. Preference will be given to organizations that take a regional approach and serve multiple counties and/or rural areas with no current volunteer center resources.

Organizations that currently utilize Get Connected may apply for up to \$5,000 to help sustain or expand their platform. The platform must be public facing with community volunteer opportunities from local organizations. Organizations must share their volunteer opportunities with Serve Washington's Get Connected platform through a data sharing agreement.

Organizations will also be asked to develop a strategy for engaging volunteers in emergencies.

Funds will be provided on a cost reimbursement basis upon completion of deliverables.

Awarded projects are expected to invest resources to sustain the site once the project period has ended.

Project Period

June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022

Project Activities

For NEW Galaxy Digital Customers:

June 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021 (4 months)

- Purchase Galaxy Digital license
- Attend all trainings and onboarding meetings from Galaxy Digital to develop the site
- Complete development of the site

- Share data with Serve Washington for opportunities to feed into the statewide site
- Develop strategy for site roll out to community partners and volunteers
- Train and assist partners in creating agency profiles and volunteer opportunities
- Conduct outreach to promote the site to the general community

October 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022

- Conduct outreach and marketing in the community to encourage community members to use to site to find volunteer opportunities
- Continue training and outreach with community partners to ensure agency information is accurate
- Develop a strategy for engaging volunteers in emergencies

For CURRENT Galaxy Digital Customers:

- Renew Galaxy Digital license (if applicable)
- Share data with Serve Washington for opportunities to feed into the statewide site
- Conduct outreach to community organizations to increase the number of both agency partners and volunteer opportunities posted
- Conduct outreach and marketing in the community to encourage community members to use to site to find volunteer opportunities
- Develop a strategy for engaging volunteers in emergencies

Budget Requirements

\$30,000 in funding is currently available to organizations in the state of Washington. Applicants may request up to **\$5,000 (current Galaxy Digital customers)** or **\$10,000 (new Galaxy Digital customers)**. Funds requested should be commensurate with the scope of the project. Consistent with the approved project budget, funds may be used for:

- Galaxy Digital license
- Supplies/materials
- Promotion and marketing
- Staff time to support the project

Project Timeline

RFP Release: April 1, 2021

Q and A Session: April 23, 2021 – 11:00am-12:00pm (Pre-register for this session here: [Serve Washington Get Connected RFP Q and A](#))

RFP Deadline: May 6, 2021 (open for 5 weeks)

Notifications Out: May 14, 2021

Project Period: June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022

Progress Report 1: October 15, 2021

Progress Report 2: June 15, 2022

Reporting

Organizations will submit two progress reports due on the following dates:

Progress Report 1 (covering June 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021) – Due October 15, 2021

- Link to Get Connected site

- Number of partner organizations expected to utilize the site
- Narrative report on strategy for site roll out

Progress Report 2 (covering October 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022) – Due June 15, 2022

- Number of new organizations using Get Connected during the project period
- Number of new volunteer registrations using Get Connected during the project period
- Narrative report on site roll out and emergency volunteer strategy development

Reporting forms will be provided electronically to awarded partners.

Eligibility

The following non-federal entities (as defined in 2 CFR §200.69) that have DUNS numbers and are registered in System for Award Management (SAM) are eligible to apply:

- State, municipal, and county governments, including departments and agencies therein
- Tribes
- Nonprofit organizations
- Institutions of higher education

Successful applicants must register as a [Washington State Vendor](#) through OFM to receive reimbursement.

Application Process

Non-profit organizations, public organizations, and local governments in Washington are eligible to submit a proposal. Applications must be submitted online via our [Get Connected Volunteer Connector Project](#) form. Applications must include a budget with an amount by category (staff, supplies, etc.) and a general description of anticipated costs.

Preference will be given to organizations that take a regional approach and serve multiple counties and/or rural areas with no current volunteer center resources. All applicants will be notified of funding decisions by May 14, 2021.

Serve Washington staff will review applications. Staff will evaluate applications based on:

- **Community need**
- **Geographic area served**
- **Utilization of community partnerships to ensure success**
- **Organizational plan/investment to sustain the site once funding has ended**

Any questions about Galaxy Digital, Get Connected, or this RFP can be sent to Katharine Swilley, Community Engagement Manager at Katharine.Swilley@ofm.wa.gov.