Summary of Results of Applicant Survey
SFY16-17 Request for Applications Process

Number of Respondents	52
Number That Applied For Funds	41
Hunger One-Stop Shop	7
Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect	20
Services for Persons w/Disabilities and their Caregivers	14
Problem Gambling	2
Number of Respondents Funded	28
Number of Respondents Not Funded	11

	Answer Options	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
Overall, the timeline was reasonable.		11	20	3	3	0	
Sufficient time was allowed between the release of the RFA and the orientations.		11	22	2	1	1	
Sufficient time was allowed for the question/answer period.		12	21	2	2	0	
Sufficient time was allowed to complete and submit the application.		9	23	2	3	0	
Shortening the time allowed to complete and submit the application by one week would be acceptable.		1	5	7	18	5	
The webinar provided information that was helpful in preparing the application.		8	20	5	3	0	
The space allowance for responses was about right.		3	22	3	6	1	
Overall, the online process was user friendly.		7	23	4	0	1	
If there is a specific question (or questions) in the application that you think could be worded more clearly, use the space below to identify the question(s) and make suggestions for improvement. (It's OK to leave the space blank if you don't have anything to share.)	For Comments Related to Question 21, Please See Page 2.						
If you experienced any challenges with the online application, system, check the troublesome areas below. Check all that apply.	For Responses to Question 22, Please See Page 4.						

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SFY16-17 Request for Applications Process

	Answer Options	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable
The scoring matrix was easy to understand and was clearly linked to the key elements of the application.		7	13	8	4	0	
Evaluators followed the matrix when assigning scores.		4	11	10	4	1	
Comments provided by evaluators about application strengths and weaknesses were helpful in understanding the outcome. (If you did not request a copy of this information after the process was complete, choose "Not Applicable."		2	4	4	1	3	17
The possible funding options (e.g., full funding of top scoring proposals, reduced funding based on scores) provided to the advisory committees by GMU staff were reasonable and helpful.		4	12	8	6	2	
Award recommendations adopted by the advisory committee were fair and based on the quality of the applications.		3	11	9	8	1	
Final funding decisions made by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services were respectful of the competitive process.		5	15	6	5	1	
The pass/fail screening to ensure that only the best applications were passed on to the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) was a fair and useful tool.		5	13	5	6	1	
The requirement that proposals stand on their own merit contributed to a fair and equitable outcome.		6	15	6	1	1	
The next application process should include a way for evaluator questions to be answered before award recommendations are made.		5	15	8	1	1	
Do you have any specific comments or suggestions you would like to provide about the SFY16-17 Request for Applications process?	For Comments Related to Question 32, Please See Page 3.						

Comments Related to Question 21

1 Ask for more details on expertise and experience to demonstrate capabilities.

2 Instructions about establishing outcomes need to be more clear -- both standardized and voluntary.

3 Evaluators did not have the same understanding about how to interpret outcomes; clarification needed.

4 Questions were too restrictive; did not encourage comprehensive projects that combine services and funding streams..

Comments Related to Question 32

1 Evaluators did not spend enough time considering proposals or vetting funding scenarios provided by staff.

2 Large awards to a few organizations (some untested) and no funds to some smaller organizations.

3 Need to ensure evaluators understand process and thoroughly read proposals, and that staff or applicants are able to address misunderstandings.

4 Funding was not equitablly distributed based on proposal merit and scores.

5 Process was worth using again.

6 Cancellation of mandatory meeting caused hardships. *(Staff note: no meetings were cancelled but the mandatory orientation was via webinar instead of in-person as in prior years.)*

7 Established agencies with prior funding that have achieved goals should receive more weight than new applicants.

8 Large organizations with grant writing teams had an advantage over smaller organizations and received more funding.

9 Staff was helpful, professional and respectful of the process. Funding amounts were not necessarily fair. Larger requests resulted in larger awards without enough consideration. Suggest a cap on requests or set a maximum cost per unit served in each program category.

10 Too much funding was awarded to State agencies.

11 Process does not encourage systemic change; just isolated services. No one project should have its own funding category. State and local governments are already funded for the services proposed; limits should be placed on these awards. New programs should be given more weight. No funding should be directed to 2-1-1; not a useful service.

12 Some high-scoring proposals received less funding than in prior years so lower-scoring proposals could be funded.

13 Multiple programs offered by the same agency should not be combined on one application. Scoring should be consistent from process to process so applicants can apply lessons learned.

Q22 If you experienced any challenges with the online application, system, check the troublesome areas below. Check all that apply.

Answered: 25   Skipped: 0
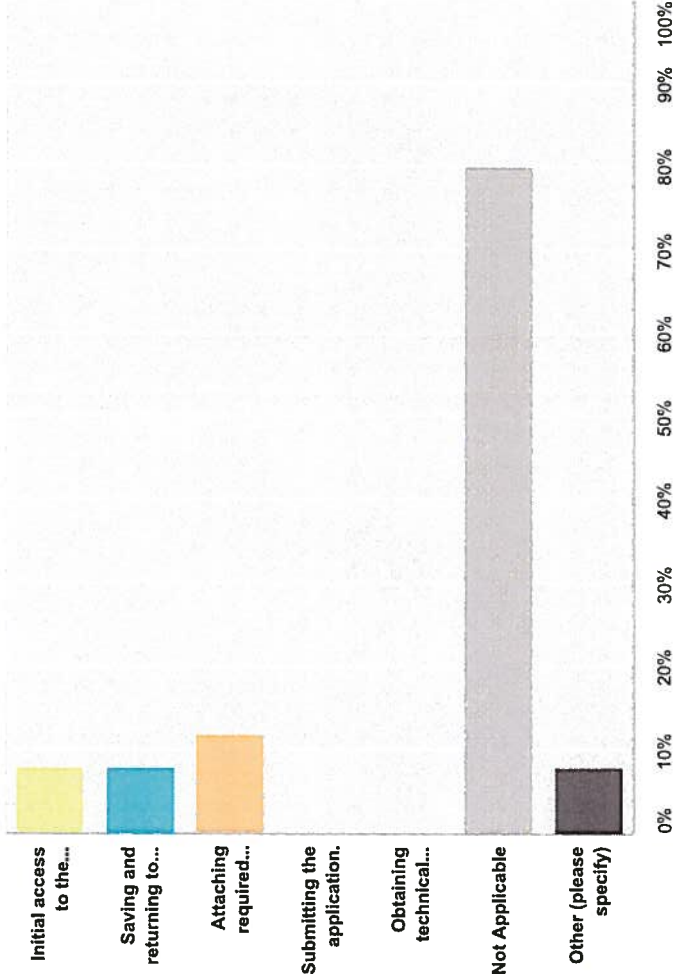
Answer Choices	Responses	
Initial access to the application.	8.00%	2
Saving and returning to the application.	8.00%	2
Attaching required documents.	12.00%	3
Submitting the application.	0.00%	0
Obtaining technical assistance in a timely and helpful manner.	0.00%	0
Not Applicable	80.00%	20
Other (please specify)	8.00%	2
Total Respondents: 25		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	back arrows for moving from page to page need to be clearer	8/10/2015 2:50 PM
2	Question by question format is restrictive and does not allow ease of use for multiple writers.	8/10/2015 2:23 PM