

Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE)

FY 2023 Request for Proposals

Georgia Breast Cancer License Tag (BCLT) Grant Program:
Reducing Breast Cancer within Indigent Communities

Release Date: June 17, 2022

Receipt Date: August 15, 2022

Award Date: September 20, 2022

Purpose

The purpose of the Georgia Breast Cancer License Tag (BCLT) Grant Program is to expand breast cancer screening, including education, outreach, and access, as well as treatment services for medically underserved women consistent with clinical standard-of-care recommendations. While Georgia has been successful at increasing breast cancer screening rates, not all women – particularly the medically underserved – receive appropriate screening or treatment services. When identified at an early stage through mammography and clinical breast exams, breast cancers are amenable to more effective treatments and improved mortality rates.

To reduce health disparities for breast cancer in Georgia, the target populations for this grant program are minority, underserved women. For the purposes of this funding opportunity, underserved is defined as individuals who are uninsured, underinsured and not eligible for health care public assistance; minority is defined as those racial and ethnic populations that are underrepresented relative to their numbers in the general population.

The State Office of Rural Health, through the Georgia Department of Community Health, has contracted with the Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE) to develop the process for administration, review and evaluation of applications, and disbursement of awards relative to the revenue received from the sale of Breast Cancer License Tags. Because breast cancer affects a great number of Georgians, it is appropriate that, subject to the provisions of the official Code of Georgia, the proceeds from the sale of the Breast Cancer License Tag shall be used to support breast cancer-related programs for the medically underserved. These programs are to be provided through the Georgia BCLT Grants Program.

All funds will be distributed through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process that is peer reviewed. This process was designed by Georgia CORE in concert with the Georgia Department of Community Health and the State Office of Rural Health.

Background

The process to create the Breast Cancer License Tag began in 2001 after Kaiser Permanente physician Dr. Ernie Bodai successfully advocated for the US Postal Service breast cancer research stamp. Kaiser Permanente obtained support from the Atlanta Postmaster to use the image of the breast cancer research stamp designed by Dr. Bodai. Kaiser Permanente then approached the Governor's office and House of Representatives to request permission to obtain a special license tag for breast cancer. Kaiser Permanente and the Georgia Cancer Coalition worked collaboratively to pass the legislation in the 2002 Georgia General Assembly.

Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, allows for the creation and sale of prestige license plates and for the funds derived from the sale to support an agency, fund, or program that is beneficial to the people of Georgia. The Breast Cancer License Tag with the postage stamp design was discontinued after the General Assembly approved a new design during the 2021 legislative session. The funds derived from the sale of the Breast Cancer License Tag continue to be deposited in the Indigent Care Trust Fund to fund cancer-related programs "for those who are medically indigent and may have breast cancer. Such programs may include education, breast cancer screening, outreach and access, and treatment."

The initial cost to purchase a Breast Cancer License Tag is \$80 plus applicable ad valorem tax. The renewal cost is \$55, \$22 of each purchase or renewal is deposited into the Indigent Care Trust Fund.

Eligibility

Applications will be considered for either (A) an **Education, Prevention and Screening Service Project** grant award or (B) a **Treatment Service Project** grant award, in accordance with the standards delineated below for each project type. Entities are not eligible to apply for both Treatment Service Projects and Education, Prevention and Screening Service Projects. Each entity must meet the minimum eligibility requirements for grant funding for the specific project type for which it is applying. *Entities with outstanding funding or incomplete progress reports from the previous grant period are not eligible to apply for an additional grant during this funding cycle.*

(A) Education, Prevention and Screening Service Projects

Includes a targeted communication strategy to educate underserved communities, promote early education, and provide limited mammography screening services and related clinical examinations.

To qualify for consideration for an Education, Prevention and Screening Service Project, the applicant must:

Be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or public health agency, e.g., a public or private health services entity, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), a Rural Health Clinic, a Volunteer Clinic, a Rural Hospital, or a Critical Access Hospital. Organizations should have a primary care program and any secondary and tertiary care that could be necessary.

Required Commitments for Education, Prevention and Screening Service Projects: To receive consideration for providing educational, prevention and screening service projects, the organization must develop a targeted strategy to ensure the dissemination of information and screening services to reach underserved woman. The organization must have a solid methodology to predict outcomes, delineate a strategy within a monthly project plan, and incorporate key measures to demonstrate success with providing targeted

outreach and educational services, especially for women in underserved communities. Education and Prevention projects *may* partner with Treatment Centers, if the organization elects to do so, but it is not required.

(B) Treatment Service Projects

Provides a process to identify, pre-qualify, and provide treatment services (surgery, chemotherapy, radiation treatment, medications, etc.) to underserved applicants with breast cancer or who have been diagnosed with any type of breast high risk or breast cancer pathology. For the purposes of this RFP, biopsies may be considered treatment.

To qualify for consideration for a Treatment Service Project, the applicant must:

Be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or public health agency, e.g., a public or private health services entity, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), a Rural Health Clinic, a Volunteer Clinic, a Rural Hospital, or a Critical Access Hospital. Organizations should have a primary care program and any secondary and tertiary care that could be necessary.

Each applicant under the Treatment Service Project must propose to: Carry out projects that facilitate the improvement of health outcomes for breast cancer through treatment for indigent, minority women and other underserved populations in Georgia.

Required Partnerships for Treatment Service Projects: To receive consideration for providing treatment services, the prime organization *must* already have or must enter into partnership agreements with at minimum, a primary care provider and secondary or tertiary care providers within the targeted region for services. Awardees must be able to describe their methodology for referrals, validation, and verification of need and eligibility in addition to providing follow-up regarding the level of treatment received and the results towards addressing the breast cancer.

Funds Available

Funding for this project will be utilized to support programs and initiatives in areas of the state where high incidence of disease and health disparities are evident. It is necessary to provide funding in these areas to ensure that the resources are made available to these unique populations that would otherwise not be able to secure such life changing services.

Providing grant opportunities to communities to address the local needs has been recognized at the state and federal levels as the most cost-effective means of managing health care and improving health status. Further, providing primary and preventive care, disease management, and education and wellness programs greatly improves health and is the most cost-efficient means of addressing health disparities. Successful grant applications will demonstrate that the funding will increase access to these vital services to enhance the health status of Georgians and improve the economic viability of our communities and state.

Funds generated from the sale and renewal of the Breast Cancer License Tag will be distributed via a competitive RFP process. Awards from \$20,000-\$25,000 will be made for Education, Prevention and Screening Services Projects or Treatment Service Projects. Applicants can request up to **10.0% in indirect costs**. Grants will be paid in two installments: 50% at the time the contract is executed and 50% with the submission and satisfactory review of a 6-month progress report. Closing progress reports (due 30 days after the contract end date) are required.

Organizational Responsibilities

A successful applicant institution is expected to provide **matching** funds or in-kind support that **equals or exceeds** the amount of the grant request (**≥1:1**).

Matching funds may be defined as any in cash or in-kind resource relevant and available to the project. The costs of salary and benefits, space and physical facilities, furnishings, supplies, consulting costs, equipment or shared services qualify as matching funds. Grant funding (direct costs), institutional support, and philanthropy are also appropriate sources of matching funds if the funds are directly related to the purpose of the award. Indirect cost recovery is not considered as matching support for the BCLT program.

Successful applicants will demonstrate effective collaborative relationships with Georgia CORE's statewide cancer programs and partners, e.g., Regional Cancer Coalitions of Georgia, Department of Community Health, State Office of Rural Health, Department of Public Health, American Cancer Society, and/or other breast cancer organizations in the state.

Upon acceptance of a grant award, the applicant organization assumes legal and financial responsibility for awarded funds and the conduct of supported activities. It is the responsibility of the organization to assure the appropriateness and quality of clinical services and programs and the accuracy and validity of all fiscal, programmatic, and administrative information pertaining to the awarded grant.

Deliverables

Awardee deliverables must be specific to the BCLT program under which the applicant is applying and are developed in accordance with the proposal narrative. For either initiative (treatment or prevention/education) the deliverables include but are not limited to the following:

1. In the grant proposal, provide documentation of the need for (economically and physically), a system of referral that coordinates the required service providers, and specific quantifiable outcomes. Awardees will be measured by both the quantity of service and the quality of service.
2. In the grant proposal, provide evidence of Return on Investment (ROI) through but not limited to a one (1) year strategic plan which evaluates the programs implementation, details the program's effectiveness, and identifies a plan for sustainability.
3. In the grant proposal, provide documentation of sources of matching funds or in-kind support.
4. During the grant period, provide invoices that include copies of receipts and expense reports, proof of use, and any other documentation in accordance with the grant agreement for payment of services rendered.
5. During the grant period, provide a quarterly statistical report, a six-month progress report, and a closing progress report due 30 days after the contract end date. *Templates for all reports will be provided.*

Promotion and Acknowledgement of Support

All recipients are requested to promote sales of the Breast Cancer License Tag and distribute information on GeorgiaCancerInfo.org and required to acknowledge support from Georgia CORE and the Department of Community Health - State Office of Rural Health in presentations and publications. Recipients are expected to participate in sponsored/supported meetings and symposia if conducted.

Review Process

Georgia CORE will establish an objective review committee including representatives from the Georgia CORE Board of Directors, staff members, members of Georgia CORE's collaborative organizations (American Cancer Society and GASCO). Georgia CORE staff will be available to provide feedback on results of the review process to unfunded applicants.

Contract Term and Award

The contract term will begin upon execution of the contract and will continue for 12 months unless extended as provided in the contract. It is anticipated that awards will be announced September 2022.

RFP Amendments/Cancellation

Georgia CORE reserves the right to amend this RFP prior to the date of application submission. Any addenda to the RFP will be posted in the same manner as this RFP.

Submission Process

Complete applications with required attachments must be **emailed both as individual MS Word documents and as one single PDF document** to sgabram@georgiacore.org **no later than 5 pm EST on Monday August 15, 2022.**

To be considered for funding, the application must be complete with all requested information.

Incomplete, faxed, hand-delivered, mailed, or late applications will not be accepted. Please read the entire document to ensure you submit all required documents. Even if you are a previous Awardee, please read the entire document as some requirements have changed.

If you have any questions regarding the application or submission process, please contact Georgia CORE:

Sheryl Gabram MD MBA
Chief Scientific Officer
Phone: 404-523-8735
Email: sgabram@georgiacore.org
