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October 15, 2020

Dear State Government Affairs Professionals, JCRC Director, Community Security Directors, Regional Security Advisors, Agency Heads, and Other Interested Parties:

With this notice, I am rolling out preliminary guidance in support of the FY 2021 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) Funding Opportunity.

While Congress is months away from completing the FY 2021 Federal Appropriations, including funding for the NSGP program, it is advantageous for interested communities/organizations to commence organizing themselves, planning projects, and drafting applications now, especially for first-time applicants.

Recent increased funding levels and expanded jurisdictional eligibility are expected to continue this year. Once Congress finalizes the spending bills (as early as December 12th and possibly later into the next Congress), FEMA could announce the next grant funding opportunity as early as February and possibly into the spring, with an application period/window relatively short (perhaps between 2 to 6 weeks). Therefore, preliminary preparations are highly recommended, especially getting the required **Vulnerability/Risk Assessment completed or updated and requested investments costed out.**

Over the past 15 years, JFNAs Washington Office has provided significant grant guidance and technical assistance to interested parties, through dissemination of materials and as a technical assistant to answer questions and concerns related to the grant application and process. This will continue this year.

Any interested party, who would like to receive our materials, notifications and updates, should email me (Rob Goldberg) their contact information, identifying the community and organization they represent, to Rob.Goldberg@jewishfederations.org. I will then add them to my **Email Distribution List. If you are already on my distribution list, please do not resend your contact information. Interested parties may also address **technical assistance questions** and requests to me by email as well, making sure to identify their community or organization in the subject line of the email.**

[Note: Before proceeding further, if you are a **New York-based community/organization, please contact David Pollock, Associate Executive Director, and Director of Public Policy & Security, JCRC of New York, on all matters pertaining to the NSGP application process at: pollockd@jrcny.org <http://www.jrcny.org/security>. New York State has very particular requirements for which David is expert. He and I otherwise collaborate, and he incorporates my guidance into his own, as applicable.]**

To Begin the process, attached please find two documents: **A preliminary Overview** and a **sample Investment Justification (IJ)** (application form). **DO NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM**, it is not official. Its purpose is to only familiarize new applicants with the form and to share same with vulnerability/risk assessors as instructed in the guidance.

Next week, I plan to disseminate preliminary guidance on how to understand and complete the IJ. Shortly, I will also archive materials we distribute to a dedicated NSGP webpage for easy access.

Once Congress finalizes funding decisions and DHS/FEMA formally announces the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the FY 2021 NSGP program, we will identify and share key program changes, dates and any other relevant new information with interested parties through the distribution list. At that time, we will also **co-host a webinar with our partners at the Secure Community Network (SCN)**, to review key elements of the program and application and answer frequently asked questions.

Best,

Rob Goldberg
Senior Director, Legislative Affairs