

Puerto Rico to prepare for and develop processes and procedures to implement the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program, as authorized by § 102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. No match is required for these one-time grants. The ultimate goal of this grant is to ensure that States have a process in place to implement the new PDM program when funds become available, and to ensure that implementation is coordinated with other mitigation programs and activities at the State level.

DATES: Grant applications should be submitted to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office by January 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: FEMA Regional Offices: *Serving the State of Maine, State of New Hampshire, State of Vermont, State of Rhode Island, State of Connecticut, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:*

FEMA Region I

442 J.W. McCormack POCH, Boston, MA 02109-4595.

Serving the State of New York, State of New Jersey, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands:

FEMA Region II

26 Federal Plaza, Rm. 1337, New York, NY 10278-0002.

Serving the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Commonwealth of Virginia, and West Virginia:

FEMA Region III

1 Independence Mall, 6th Floor, 615 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404.

Serving the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee:

FEMA Region IV

3003 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, GA 30341.

Serving the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin:

FEMA Region V

536 S. Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605.

Serving the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas:

FEMA Region VI

FRC 800 North Loop 288, Denton, TX 76201-3698.

Serving Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska:

FEMA Region VII

2323 Grand Avenue, Suite 900, Kansas City, MO 64108.

Serving Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming:

FEMA Region VIII

Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, CO 80225-0267.

Serving the States of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada; and the Territory of American Samoa, the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau:

FEMA Region IX

Building 105, Presidio of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94129-1250.

Serving the States of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington:

FEMA Region X

Federal Regional Center, 130 228th Street, SW, Bothell, WA 98021-9796.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Margaret Lawless, Program Planning and Delivery Division, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Room 401, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3027 or E-mail: Margaret.Lawless@fema.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Appropriations

Under Public Law 106-377, 114 Stat. 1441, Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 2001, we are issuing a Request for Application (RFA) to implement the PDM Program.

Applicant Eligibility

Each of the fifty States is eligible, including the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and Washington, DC.

Grant Application Process

To apply for this grant, States must complete and submit to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office the standard grant application forms in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 13.10, which can be obtained from the Regional Office. The grant application should include:

- Application for Federal Assistance, Standard Form 424;

- Budget Information “Non-Construction Program, FEMA Form 20-20;
- Summary Sheet for Assurances and Certification, FEMA Form 20-16;
- Assurances “Non-Construction Program, FEMA Form 20-16A;
- Certification Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsible Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements, FEMA Form 20-16C;
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, Standard Form LLL; and,
- Program Narrative describing staffing, activities, and timeframes to complete the activities.

Eligible Activities

- Developing a State-wide strategy for PDM program implementation, including a process for soliciting community applications, and criteria prioritizing applications that is consistent with the State mitigation plan;
- Providing technical assistance to sub-grantees in completing the application process;
- Conducting workshops for local officials on the development of local mitigation plans;
- Developing an Enhanced State Mitigation Plan based on the new DMA 2000 planning criteria; and,
- Obtaining contractor support to assist the States in the accomplishment of any of these eligible items.

Reporting Requirements

The States shall submit a final financial report and a final performance report to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office 90 days after the close of the grant.

Robert F. Shea,

Acting Administrator, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-31635 Filed 12-21-01; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Domestic Policy Directive of November 6, 2001

In accordance with § 271.25 of its rules regarding availability of information (12 CFR part 271), there is set forth below the domestic policy directive issued by the Federal Open Market Committee at its meeting held on November 6, 2001.¹

¹ Copies of the Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting on November 6, 2001, which includes the domestic policy directive issued

The Federal Open Market Committee seeks monetary and financial conditions that will foster price stability and promote sustainable growth in output. To further its long-run objectives, the Committee in the immediate future seeks conditions in reserve markets consistent with reducing the federal funds rate to an average of around 2 percent.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, December 17, 2001.

Donald L. Kohn,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. 01-31606 Filed 12-21-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Findings of Scientific Misconduct

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) and the Assistant Secretary for Health have taken final action in the following case:

Ms. Vilma Valentin, Boston University School of Medicine: Based on the report of an investigation conducted by the Boston University (BU) School of Medicine (BU Report) as well as additional analysis conducted by ORI in its oversight review, the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) found that Ms. Vilma Valentin, a former counselor and interventionist on the BU Inner City Asthma Study at the BU School of Medicine, engaged in scientific misconduct by fabricating records in research funded by two National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), cooperative agreements: U01 AI39776, "Data Coordinating Center for NCICAS II," and U01 AI39769, "Trial of Interventions to Reduce Asthma Morbidity."

Specifically, PHS found that Ms. Valentin fabricated: (1) The data on three environmental intervention forms for visits that she allegedly made to two patients' homes in early and late August 1999; these visits did not take place; and (2) the reports of two telephone calls that she allegedly made to the two patients' families during the same

period; these calls were not made. The study intervention included home visits, telephone calls, and advocacy letters, all of which were central to the research, which sought to evaluate the effectiveness of two interventions to reduce asthma severity. Thus, the data and reports could have had a substantive effect on the outcome of the research had the institution not corrected the research record.

While acknowledging the findings of scientific misconduct as set forth above and in the BU Report but without admitting liability or wrongdoing, Ms. Valentin has entered into a Voluntary Exclusion Agreement in which she has voluntarily agreed for a period of three (3) years, beginning on December 5, 2001:

(1) To exclude herself from serving in any advisory capacity to PHS, including but not limited to service on any PHS advisory committee, board, and/or peer review committee, or as a consultant; and

(2) That any institution that submits an application for PHS support for a research project on which Ms. Valentin's participation is proposed, that uses her in any capacity on PHS-supported research, or that submits a report of PHS-funded research in which she is involved, must concurrently submit a plan for supervision of her duties to the funding agency for approval. The supervisory plan must be designed to ensure the scientific integrity of Ms. Valentin's research contribution.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Director, Division of Investigative Oversight, Office of Research Integrity
5515 Security Lane, Suite 700,
Rockville, MD 20852, (301) 443-5330.

Chris B. Pascal,

Director, Office of Research Integrity.

[FR Doc. 01-31579 Filed 12-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Notice of Meetings

In accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act as amended (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) announces meetings of scientific peer review groups. The peer review groups listed below are subcommittees of the Agency's Health Services Research Initial Review Group Committee.

The subcommittee meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, section 10(d) of 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2 and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6). Grant applications are to be reviewed and discussed at these meetings. These discussions are likely to reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications. This information is exempt from mandatory disclosure under the above-cited statutes.

1. *Name of Subcommittee:* Health Care Research Training.

Date: January 24-25, 2002 (Open from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and closed for remainder of the meeting).

Place: AHRQ 6010 Executive Boulevard, 4th Floor Conference Center, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

2. *Name of Subcommittee:* Health Care Technology and Decision Sciences.

Date: February 21-22, 2002 (Open from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and closed for remainder of the meeting).

Place: AHRQ 6010 Executive Boulevard, 4th Floor Conference Center, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

3. *Name of Subcommittee:* Health Systems Research.

Date: February 28-March 1, 2002 (Open from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and closed for remainder of the meeting).

Place: AHRQ 6010 Executive Boulevard, 4th Floor Conference Center, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

4. *Name of Subcommittee:* Health Research Dissemination and Implementation.

Date: February 28-March 1, 2002 (Open from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and closed for remainder of the meeting).

Place: AHRQ 6010 Executive Boulevard, 4th Floor Conference Center, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

5. *Name of Subcommittee:* Health Care Quality and Effectiveness Research.

Date: March 7-8, 2002 (Open from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and closed for remainder of the meeting).

Place: AHRQ 6010 Executive Boulevard, 4th Floor Conference Center, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Contact Person: Anyone wishing to obtain a roster of members, agenda or minutes of the nonconfidential portions of the meetings should contact Mrs. Bonnie Campbell, Committee Management Officer, Office of Research Review, Education and Policy, AHRQ, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Telephone (301) 594-1846.

Agenda items for these meetings are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Dated: December 18, 2001.

John M. Eisenberg,

Director.

[FR Doc. 01-31617 Filed 12-21-01; 8:45 am]

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at the meeting, are available upon request to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C. 20551. The minutes are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin and in the Board's annual report.