USDA Workshop

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Tuesday, October 15, 2013

USDA Agency Structure

USDA made up of 26 agencies
- NIFA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture (previously “CSREES” cooperative state research, education and extension service)
- AFRI – Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (research interests descriptions)

You’ve got to serve somebody....

How does your proposed activity help USDA/NIFA/AFRI achieve their Mission?
USDA 5 Priority Areas for Funding

- Global Food Security And Hunger
- Climate Change
- Sustainable Energy
- Childhood Obesity
- Food Safety

AFRI Foundational Program Area Descriptions (N=20)

1. **Plant Health and Production and Plant Products**
   - 5 program priorities
2. **Animal Health and Production and Animal Products**
   - 4 program priorities
3. **Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health**
   - 3 program priorities
4. **Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment (RENRE)**
   - 1 program priority
5. **Agriculture Systems and Technology**
   - 2 program priorities
6. **Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities (AE&RC)**
   - 3 program priorities for "integrated" projects, 2 program priorities for research

Frame your project in terms of a solution to the agency’s problem/mission

- Use their terminology, phrases
- Your research problem is central to their Mission/program
- Your “solution,” using your personnel and in your setting, is the smartest one
Talk to Program Staff

- The 30-second “elevator” talk
- You are establishing a long-term relationship
- Other appropriate programs, agencies?
- It is their job to be encouraging.....

Think broadly. Consider the specifics of your project to identify any particular aspects -- geography?, target demographic? -- that might have resonance with an otherwise unlikely funding agency.

- Talk to us or knowledgeable others! We may see or know of appropriate, novel funding opportunities.

Searching for Funding Opportunities

- Subscribe to have funding opportunities delivered to your email inbox
- www.grants.gov
- “Manage Subscriptions” – upper right corner
- “Notices Based on Advanced Criteria”
- Enter your email and funding criteria
What ORSP Can Do for You

• Develop Proposals
• Develop your Budget
• Give you a Checklist for submission timeline
• Draft and obtain your letters of support
• Routing the Project Information Form (PIF) through Bizflow
• Upload and Submit your Proposal

Bizflow procedure

• Online routing system
• Bizflow workshop dates
  W, Oct. 30, 2-3:30 pm  HML 2127
  F, Nov. 15, 10-11:30 am  HML 2127

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