Overview of Montgomery County Office of Grants Management

September 21, 2022

*Prepared by Montgomery County **Office of Grants Management***
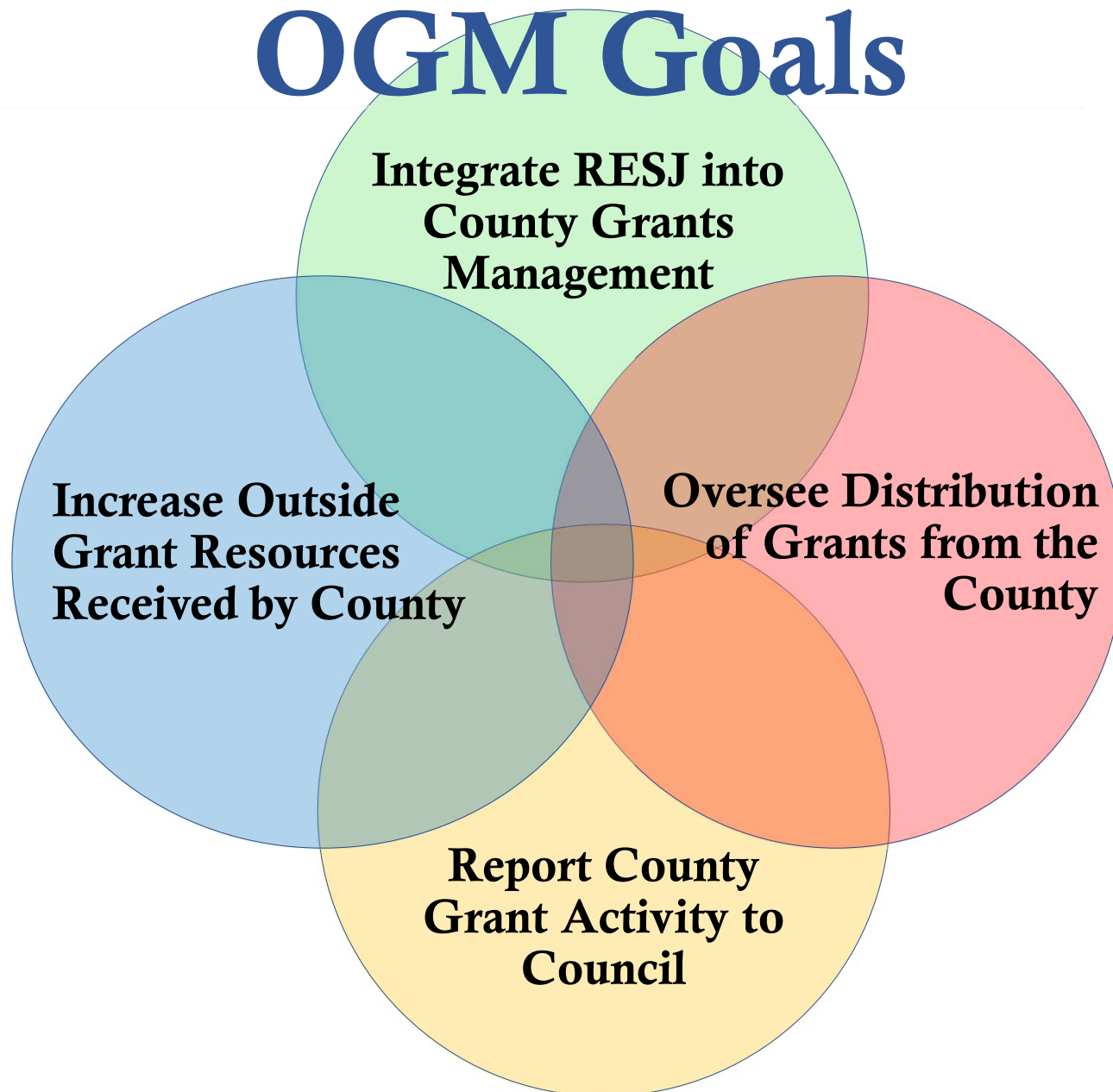
Office of Grants Management

- **Bill 36-19 Contracts and Procurement – Office of Grants Management – Established passed by Council on July 13, 2021 and signed by County Executive on July 19, 2021**
- **Creates an Office of Grants Management within the Executive branch of County Government starting July 1, 2022 (FY23)**
- **County Executive's FY23 Approved budget includes $341,309 for a new Office of Grants Management**
  - **Director**
  - **Outgoing Grants Program Manger II (IRC55550)**
  - **Grant Seeking Program Manger II (IRC55591)**
  - **Operating expenses**

OGM Goals

Integrate RESJ into County Grants Management

Oversee Distribution of Grants from the County

Increase Outside Grant Resources Received by County

Report County Grant Activity to Council

Partnering Subject-Matter Experts (SMEs) in the County

OGM Grants Management SMEs

Effective Grants Management

- Competitive and realistic County grant applications
- Rigorous and informed compliance
- Equitable, inclusive, and efficient competitive grants programs
- Flexible, accessible, and effective grant agreements
- Streamlined reporting

Departments/ Offices Sector SMEs

OGM Services to MCG Stakeholders

Grant Seeking

- Integrates Racial Equity and Social Justice considerations

- Develops and enforces County policies, regulations, and legislation

- Provides oversight, compliance, and coordination of **grant applications and awards**

- Primary Point-of-Contact for the County for all **outside grant awards** (legislated requirement)

- Provides technical assistance, guidance, mentorship, coordination, and other support

- Develops training resources for the County

- Develops processes, tracking work-flows, and reporting mechanisms

- **Liaises with outside funders**

Grant Distribution

- Integrates Racial Equity and Social Justice considerations

- Develops and enforces County policies, regulations, and legislation

- Provides oversight, guidance, and support to on **competitive grant programs & grant agreements**

- Primary Point-of-Contact for the County for all **grant programs** (legislated requirement)

- Provides technical assistance, guidance, mentorship, coordination, and other support

- Develops training resources for the County

- Develops processes, tracking work-flows, and reporting mechanisms

- **Manage online grants application platform, OGM intranet, and internet sites**

OGM Services to Outside Stakeholders

Grant Seeking

- Coordinates County joint applications with outside partners
- Provides documentation support for outside partner applications
- Liaises with and advocates for the County's nonprofit communities

Grant Distribution

- POC for the County on all competitive grant programs
- Develop training resources for County grant applicants
- Provides tech support for the online grants application platform and the OGM internet site
- Liaises with and advocates for the County's nonprofit communities

Difference between Contracts and Grants

Difference between Contracts and Grants

Contracts
(Office of Procurement)

Benefits from established…

- Legislation and regulations
- Set policies and procedures
- Experience in implementation
- Use in different contexts
- Institutional knowledge
- Training materials

Grants
(Office of Grants Management)

OGM is working with stakeholders across County government to develop parallel policies, processes, and services for grants.

Misconceptions of OGM

- **OGM will oversee all nonprofit funding.**
  - *The vast majority of nonprofit funding will likely remain in department and NDA budgets. OGM will oversee grants competitions and grants agreements.*
- **Grant funding will only be for nonprofits.**
  - *Depending on the program, grant funds can, have been, and will likely continue to be awarded to nonprofit, private companies, and/or individuals.*
- **All nonprofit contracts will shift to grants.**
  - *Nonprofit funding will be a mix of contracts and grants depending on the nature of the program or service provided.*
- **OGM will decide priorities and funding levels for grants programs; as well as which organizations receive funding.**
  - *The CE and the County Council determine priorities and funding levels for grant programs. OGM will be the neutral arbiter overseeing and ensuring equity in competitive grants programs, not the decision-maker on who wins awards.*

What to expect…

- Multiple smaller, targeted competitive grants programs throughout the year, instead of just two broad programs
- A single website and grants application platform for all County grant opportunities to increase access and transparency
- A more standardized grant application format across all County grants programs with a focus on accessibility and inclusion
- Grant awards given out as real grants, like other jurisdictions, with a focus outcomes and impacts of programs over receipts
- Training and support resources for outside stakeholders on County grants competitions and grant agreements
- An inclusive process to collect nonprofit feedback from across the County on reforms to the Community Grants and Capital Cost Sharing Grants programs for FY24 and going forward

Current OGM Workplan

Immediate Priority ("Building a Plane while Flying It")
- Establishing the Office with hiring and logistics
- Piloting a Grant Agreement funding mechanism
- Launching County competitive grant programs
- Supporting departments in applying for outside funding
- Developing a policy framework for grants management (Grant Seeking, Competitions, and Agreements)
- Developing a Nonprofit Advisory Council

Medium Term Priority (3-6 months)
- Reforming the County Community Grants program
- Developing non-procurement solicitation mechanism for grant funded programs

Questions?

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OGM County Grant Application Platform
https://mcmdgrants.fluidreview.com/

Open Positions
Outgoing Grants Program Manger II ([IRC55550](IRC55550))
Incoming Grants Program Manger II ([IRC55591](IRC55591))