

NONPROFIT Organizations Article

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Federal Stimulus Bill Provides Opportunities for Nonprofits

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)—the \$787 billion federal stimulus legislation that President Obama signed in February 2009—provides a number of opportunities for nonprofits. Not only are stimulus funds being invested into the communities that nonprofits serve, but the ARRA also authorizes new federal grant programs that may be of interest to your organization.

Federal recovery grants are now available across a wide range of issue areas, including the arts and humanities, education, housing and community development, and human and social services.

Below is a list of resources your organization should consult to determine whether it might be eligible to receive a federal recovery grant.

- Federal and State Government Resources:
 - <u>Recovery.gov</u> is the central website for the ARRA.
 - <u>Grants.gov</u> contains information on federal recovery grants, including a searchable database of grant opportunities.
 - <u>NCRecovery.gov</u>, which is maintained by the North Carolina Office of Economic Recovery and Investment, contains information about how the State of North Carolina is spending its share of the funds allocated by the ARRA.
 - Senator Kay Hagan has also posted to her website a <u>Resource Guide to the ARRA</u>, outlining recovery package opportunities for North Carolinians.

• The <u>National Council of Nonprofits</u> has also posted to its website a series of <u>Special Reports on Economic</u> <u>Stimulus and Recovery</u>.

• A summary of provisions of the ARRA that may be of interest to nonprofit organizations, including some federal recovery grant opportunities, is found <u>here</u>.

- Tips on applying for federal stimulus grants are found here.
- A report on an April 2009 White House briefing on ARRA opportunities for nonprofit organizations is found <u>here</u>.

• The <u>North Carolina Center for Nonprofits</u> also has posted a page on <u>Stimulus Opportunities for N.C.</u> <u>Nonprofits</u>, which contains tips for organizations seeking federal recovery grants, as well as links to resources on the ARRA.

If your organization has questions about the opportunities created by the ARRA, please do not hesitate to contact either Dianne Chipps Bailey (<u>dbailey@rbh.com</u> or 704.377-8323) or Ty E. Shaffer (<u>tshaffer@rbh.com</u> or (704.377.8142).

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