DHSES Announces $390,000 in Grants for Volunteer Firefighter and Emergency Services Personnel Recruitment and Retention

Public safety competitive grant program funded by NYS residents who make voluntary contribution on NYS income tax form

The NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) today announced $390,000 in grants to promote the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency services personnel across New York State. The competitive grant program, which will award up to $25,000 to twenty-one volunteer first response organizations through the DHSES Office of Fire Prevention & Control, supports the efforts of local volunteer first response agencies to overcome the increasing challenges of maintaining the staffing necessary to protect their communities.

Funding for the program is provided by New York State residents who have designated on their NYS income tax form that a voluntary contribution be made on their behalf for this purpose.

“This recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency services personnel is critical to protecting public safety in the State of New York,” said DHSES Commissioner Jerome Hauer. “These volunteers, in many instances, are the first to respond to any emergency in communities throughout our state, providing essential services to their fellow New Yorkers. And, most importantly, this is program where state residents generously volunteer to fund these organizations who daily make a difference in their communities.”

This program is limited to volunteer firefighting and emergency service organizations and to local, regional and statewide organizations that represent the interests of volunteer firefighting and emergency service personnel.

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The funding awarded promotes the recruitment and retention of volunteer fire and emergency services personnel by supporting:

- Organizational leadership development through education and training; and
- Development and implementation of recruitment and retention programs and materials.

The following twenty applicants have been recommended for awards at the funding levels indicated:

- Round Lake Hose Company/Malta Ridge Vol. Fire Co. (Saratoga County): $24,500.00
- Erie County Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Organization (Erie County): $25,000.00
- Duanesburg Volunteer Ambulance Corp/Delanson Vol. Fire Dept. (Schenectady County): $15,585.00
- Roosevelt Fire District (Dutchess County): $13,330.00
- Sand Lake Ambulance/Nassau Ambulance (Rensselaer County): $24,292.00
- New York State Association of Fire Chiefs: $22,300.00
- Jonesville Fire Department (Saratoga County): $25,000.00
- Whitesboro Volunteer Fire Department (Oneida County): $21,160.00
- Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corp. (Putnam County): $17,600.00
- Cortlandville Fire Department (Cortland County): $14,000.00
- Albrighton Fire District/South Hempstead F.D./Bellerose Terrace F.D. (Nassau County): $25,000.00
- The Terry Farrell Fund/Nassau County Junior Firefighters Association: $25,000.00
- Floyd Volunteer Fire Department: $11,330.00
- Mountain Lakes Regional EMS Council: $15,100.00
- Arlington Fire District: $20,500.00.
- Upper Jay Volunteer Fire Department: $8,651.00.
- Town of Cheektowaga Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Association: $4,400.00.
- Greece Volunteer Ambulance Service: $25,000.00
- LaGrange Fire District: $13,000.00
- Newark-Arcadia Volunteer Ambulance: $25,000.00
- Wright Fire District: $13,550.00

For more information on the Recruitment and Retention Grant Program go to: http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/ofPC/services/grants/index.cfm

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