

April 24, 2014

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Sharon Mar, Policy Analyst
OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service
725 17th Street, N.W. Room10102
Washington, D.C.20503

RE: Request for OMB Approval for Emergency Processing

Dear Ms. Mar:

Thank you for taking the time to review the Social Innovation Fund Pay for Success Pilot Application Instructions and this emergency request on such short notice. We appreciate your time and attention to expediting the clearance of the application instructions no later than COB May 30, 2014.

The Social Innovation Fund Pay for Success Pilot grant program was created as a result of the FY 2014 Omnibus Appropriations Act. This pilot responds to the need in the social sector for new ways of funding in a time that resources are declining as demands are increasing. It offers the opportunity to support innovation in the social sector while driving better results and conserving government resources.

If normal clearance procedures are followed, CNCS will lose the opportunity to conduct this pilot, as funds must be obligated by September 30, 2014. There will not be sufficient time to complete this grant competition this fiscal year if we were to follow the standard OIRA clearance procedure.

To that end, we are requesting an expedited clearance process to accommodate the time necessary for a fair and competitive grant process to be conducted. Without expedited clearance of this information collection, we will not be able to meet the expectations of Congress and other stakeholders to start this pilot grant program by the end of the fiscal year. Additionally, we will not be able to meet the need of the social sector for new funding mechanisms to meet critical and increasing community challenges.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Borgstrom at 202-606-6930 or aborgstrom@cns.gov. We thank you for your consideration of this request and your willingness to work with us to fully comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois Nembhard, Deputy Director
Social Innovation Fund
Corporation for National and Community Service
Enclosures