



December 13, 2019

Dear State Government Affairs Professionals, JCRC Directors, Security Directors, and Other Communal Partners,

The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) first proposed to Congress the establishment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) in 2004, and countering anti-Semitism and physical threats remain two of our most pressing concerns.

Towards this end, we have been working all year to protect and maximize Federal funding appropriated for nonprofit security investments in Fiscal Year FY 2020. As we approach year's end, the leadership of the House and Senate Appropriations Committee announced last night a breakthrough in negotiations on the delayed spending bills for FY 2020. It is said that an agreement in principle has been achieved with a target date of next Tuesday (December 17<sup>th</sup>) to begin taking up bills in two or more packages. The bills must be signed into law by midnight December 20<sup>th</sup>. Over the weekend, appropriations staff will draft the final legislation.

One essential accomplishment embodied in the reported agreement is the appropriation recommendation of \$1.375 billion for border barrier construction, identical to fiscal 2019 approved levels, but less than the \$5 billion the White House sought. This is the issue that needs to be resolved for the Homeland Security bill to be completed. This is the bill that will include the funding for NSGP. With this said, the President will need to agree to accept less border wall funding.

In this environment, I am preparing for the launch of the next (FY 2020) NSGP grant opportunity. Once the Homeland Security bill is completed (assuming it secures the President's approval), I will be updating the field (through my accumulated list-serve) on both process and substance relative to the program, as I do every year.

**To begin: I need to clean-up the list-serve of interested parties. If you would like to remain on the list-serve as is, you need not respond or take further action. However, if you want to add or delete people on the list-serve your response is required. To add or delete subscribers to the list-serve, please send me an email that: Identifies your Federation Community, the name of your organization, and the email address for each individual to add or delete from the list-serve.**

Thank you for your attention and cooperation. I will update again next week as more details on the appropriations surface.

Best,

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