

## **Albany County Non-Profit Recovery Grant Proposed Use of Funds Form**

The purpose of this form is to provide a detailed overview of how to plan to utilize potential ARPA Recovery Grant Funding. This is not a binding proposal but will help ensure that planned uses are consistent with ARPA eligibility guidelines and County priorities.

Please describe specifically how you plan to invest your proposed \$25,000 Recovery Grant in Albany County:

VetConnect is a program of the Stakeholders Foundation, Inc. that provides direct grant support to Veterans, Active-Duty Military Personnel, and Military Families in the Capital Region. In 2024 through 2025, we will kick-off OPERATION HOMEFRONT, which seeks to raise funds to provide:

- Direct Emergency Grants to Veterans, Active-Duty Military Personnel, and Military Families in need
- Care Package Programs for Active-Duty Troops (including local students attending military academies), and Military Families During Times of Deployment
- Annual Homefront send-off event for local high school students attending USMA at West Point, The United States Naval Academy, The United States Airforce Academy and the United States Coast Guard Academy.
- Governance Training Grants to Veterans, Active-Duty Military, and Military Families Organizations and their Boards to build organizational capacity to carry out their mission.

In order to develop the program, fundraise and direct programs, we need staff. We intend to raise an additional \$25K in matching funds. We already have commitments from donor if we receive this money. In addition, we are also raising funds through an annual VetConnect Golf tournament.

**SEE Additional Narrative Attached.**

Below is a list of ARPA eligible uses, please select all uses that you plan to allocate ARPA funds toward:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personnel | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Rent or Utilities                         |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment            | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred Maintenance                      |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Supplies             | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Programmatic                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Training             | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (If selected, please specify below) |



**July 27, 2024**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature (Authorized Representative)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**Catherine M. Hedgeman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print Name*

## ***About Stakeholders***

*Stakeholders was founded in 2008 by area young professionals who wanted to promote a legacy of community service in the Capital Region. In 2010, Stakeholders became one of 10 Regional Volunteer Centers in New York State and received a grant from the State of New York to support the Center. Also in 2010, Stakeholders became a member of the Points of Light Network, a national volunteer organization. In 2012, Stakeholders launched its disaster recovery and veteran's programs with a grant from the State of New York.*

*Since its founding, Stakeholders has developed signature programs such as:*

- the nonprofit board institute that trains people what they need to know to serve on nonprofit boards and matches volunteers with nonprofit boards.*
- Employee volunteer programs where companies contract with Stakeholders to design and support company volunteer programs. The most notable contracts were Regeneron \$125k and Vicarious Visions/Activision \$25k. Both programs supported Veteran organizations as part of their corporate days of service.*
- Veterans and military families task force that works to make community connections for veteran's organizations and develops and runs programs that serve active-duty military, military families and veterans.*

*Prior to the pandemic, Stakeholders had been hosting nonprofit board training, employee volunteer days and task force meetings on a monthly basis. After the shutdown it was impossible to conduct any in person activity and we pivoted to offer the board training online. As such, Regeneron and Activision had not renewed their contracts on an annual basis for 2021, 2022 or 2023. Accordingly, Stakeholders was forced to lay off staff and shut down eighty percent of its programming. Because of the nature of what we do, donations and sponsorships also dried up. 2024 has been a "reboot" year for Stakeholders.*

*A grant from the County of Albany through this program would have a tremendous impact on the organization because it would allow us to hire staff to recover our original programming. We have begun actively fundraising again so that we can match the funds and sustain the programs for years to come. We predominantly serve and operate in Albany County.*