

## ADDENDUM TWO QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Date: July 22, 2019

To: All Bidders

From: Nancy Storant/Annette Walton, Buyers  
AS Materiel State Purchasing Bureau

RE: Addendum for Request for Proposal Number RFP 6115 Z1 to be opened July 31, 2019, at 2:00 P.M. Central Time

### Questions and Answers

Following are the questions submitted and answers provided for the above mentioned Request for Proposal. The questions and answers are to be considered as part of the Request for Proposal. It is the Bidder's responsibility to check the State Purchasing Bureau website for all addenda or amendments.

| <u>Question Number</u> | <u>RFP Section Reference</u> | <u>RFP Page Number</u> | <u>Question</u>   | <u>State Response</u>   |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
| 1.                     |                              |                        | What is the maximum budget for this project?  | Bidders should provide a response that best meets the requirements of the RFP.  |
| 2.                     |                              |                        | Is the timeline flexible? Similar projects usually take more time to develop and vet the survey with stakeholders.                  | The bidders are encouraged to offer a proposal consistent with the requested timeframes. However, if the bidder has concerns with the timeframes it should be noted in the bidder's response and may be considered during the negotiation process.  |
| 3.                     |                              |                        | Are there requirements for the Cost Proposal?   | Please see Attachment One – Cost Proposal at <a href="http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing/6115/6115.html">http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing/6115/6115.html</a>  |
| 4.                     |                              |                        | Does DHHS expect all project requirements to be completed remotely? Or should the contractor budget travel for certain engagements? | No, DHHS does not require the project requirements to be completed remotely. If the bidder requires travel to complete the project, the bidder must take into account costs related to travel and distance in furtherance of the service. The cost must be included in the price provided on the Cost Proposal. |
| 5.                     |                              |                        | How is the steering committee   | DCFS will provide the contractor with assistance in the development of the steering committee.  |

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|    |  |        | assembled?   |   |
| 6. |  |        | Is there a survey currently in place? Can you share it?  | Currently there is no survey in place.  |
| 7. | <p><b>A. PURPOSE</b><br/>The purpose of this RFP is to conduct a study of market rate prices for current service models and evidence-based Child Welfare services in the State of Nebraska, referred to as the Market Rate Survey (MRS), in order to develop rates that adequately support the needs of children and youth in in-home and out-of-home settings, consistent with program goals and departmental rules and policies.</p> | pdf 35 | <p>Who will participate in the survey? Is it for foster families or just providers?</p> <p>What evidence-based models are used by providers and/or recommended by the state?</p> | <p>Providers and foster parents may participate in this survey.</p> <p>Current evidence based models used in Nebraska within Child Welfare include: Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, Multi-Systematic Therapy, Healthy Families America, Family Centered Treatment, Parents as Teachers, Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Child Parent Psychotherapy, Circle of Security, and Motivational Interviewing. At this time, CFS is currently reviewing RFQ's for additional EBP models to be used within Child Welfare. The aforementioned list of services is incomplete, until evaluation and scoring is completed on the RFQ's</p> |
| 8. | <p><b>B. PROJECT ENVIRONMENT</b><br/>The CFS continuum of services includes prevention activities and coordination, child protective services that focus on the safety, health</p>   | pdf 35 | <p>How many providers does DHHS currently contract with? Can you share a list of all providers?</p>  | Please see Attachment Sixteen   |

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|    | <p>and wellbeing of the child, parental and sibling engagement, family voice and choice in service provision, respite, resource families and independent living, adoption, domestic violence, safety, mental health, substance abuse and treatment services, as well as educational initiatives. These services are provided by CFS personnel or through contractors.</p> |        |  |   |
| 9. | <p><b>B. PROJECT ENVIRONMENT</b><br/>CFS currently has a fee for service system with Child Welfare contractors across the state. Rates for this system have been set by CFS leadership and due to budget constraints, CFS has not had the opportunity to explore a true rate study for many years.</p>  | pdf 35 | <p>What are the services and current payment rates for child welfare contractors across the state?</p> | <p>Please see Attachments Two through Fifteen</p> |

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| 10. | <p><b>E. SCOPE OF WORK</b><br/> Create a cost analysis/rate setting plan for educational and skill levels for current service models used in the State of Nebraska and evidence-based models used in Child Welfare services in the region. The analysis should include comparable States, and the plan must be submitted to DHHS for review. For the peer state analysis.</p> | pdf 36 | <p>For the comparable state analysis, how many states would DHHS like the contractor to research? Does DHHS have specific states in mind?</p>                   | <p>The bidder should provide research on at least four states that are similar to Nebraska population size, and urban/rural/frontier areas as part of its comparative analysis of states.</p> |
| 11. | <p><b>F. DATA COLLECTING</b><br/> The data will include providers that work with families whose children have been removed from their care, and families whose children remain in the home.</p>   | pdf 36 | <p>Roughly how many children/families receive child welfare services currently? How many children remain at home, and how many have been removed from home?</p> | <p><u>Below is number of children that receive child welfare services statewide as of 7-1-2019:</u></p> <p>Out of home – 3,039</p> <p>In home – 1,791</p>                                     |
| 12. | <p><b>G. TRAVEL</b><br/> Travel must be included in the rate charged for the Rate Survey.</p>   | pdf 37 | <p>In this section, are you referring to transportation costs related to child welfare service provision in NE, or transportation costs associated</p>          | <p>This section refers to the travel costs associated with the contractor's responsibilities for the project.</p>   |

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|     |     |    | with contractor responsibilities for the project?   |  |
| 13. | V.B | 27 | The RFP notes that CFS currently employs a fee-for-service system for child welfare services; can the State provide a copy of the fee schedule for the services covered by this scope of work?  | Please see response to question #10.   |
| 14. | V.D | 27 | <p>There are several references to a 'Steering Committee' that will serve as an advisory body for the project; does this committee already exist?</p> <p>Who are the members or who is expected to be part of the group in terms of role (e.g., provider, former recipient of services)?</p> <p>If the group has already been convened, what has their role been to this point?</p> | <p>The steering committee does not currently exist. It will be the responsibility of the bidder to develop a Steering Committee for this project. DCFS will assist the contractor in formulating the Steering Committee.</p> <p>See response to Question #6.</p> <p>NA</p> |

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| 15. | V.F | 28 | For the listed service array, can the State provide current service requirements (e.g., regulations or contracts), the number of providers of each service, and spending on each service?                                   | Please see Response to Question #10.<br><br>See Attachment Seventeen  |
| 16. | V.H | 29 | Does DHHS currently have a “quality rating and improvement system or other system of quality indicators” with defined levels of quality?  | DHHS currently has a Provider Performance Improvement system that is used to measure improvement among child welfare providers. |
| 17. | V.H | 29 | What level of public engagement is expected after the planning phase? For example, is the State interested in seeking public comment on recommended rates prior to the recommendations being submitted in the final report? | DHHS would consider public comments on recommended rates prior to the recommendations being submitted in the final report.      |
| 18. | V.I | 29 | The RFP states that the project will involve a single payment upon completion   | A one-time payment will be made upon approval by DHHS.  |

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|     |          |    | of the entire project. Given that the project is expected to last more than six months and that staff hours are expected to be tracked, will the State consider another payment option, such as monthly invoicing for hours worked (up to a capped budget) or payments based on interim deliverables? |   |
| 19. | VI.A.1   | 30 | What document includes the referenced Sections II through VII that must be completed and returned?  | <p>The last paragraph of VI.A.1 is deleted and replaced with</p> <p>Further: Sections II through VI must be completed and returned with the proposed response.</p> <p>This is referring to the Sections of the RFP II through VI.</p> |
| 20. | VI.A.2.h | 31 | The RFP request a summary matrix of previous projects and then notes that only three narrative project descriptions will be considered. Should bidders provide a general summary of their experience and then offer a detailed  | The bidder is to submit three narratives that best demonstrate their experience and skills that are required for this project.  |

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|     |                             |   | discussion of three representative projects?  |   |
| 21. | Attachment 1: Cost Proposal | - | <p>What work would be included in the first optional renewal period?</p> <p>What is the level of effort expected of bidders so that a cost estimate can be developed?</p> | <p>The first optional renewal year provides flexibility in case there is any work that was not completed during the initial contract period.</p> <p>It is expected that the bidder provide a high amount of effort to complete the project within the given timeframes.</p> |

This addendum will become part of the proposal and should be acknowledged with the Request for Proposal response.