

**State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

RETURN TO:
DHHS - Procurement
301 Centennial Mall South, 5th Floor
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 471-6082
E-mail: dhhs.procurement@nebraska.gov

SOLICITATION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE
RFI In-home Services	August 23, 2018
OPENING DATE AND TIME	PROCUREMENT CONTACT
October 5, 2018 2:00 p.m. Central Time	Michelle Thompson

This form is part of the specification package and must be signed in ink and returned, along with information documents, by the opening date and time specified.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

SCOPE OF SERVICE

The State of Nebraska (State), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) for the purpose of gathering information for In-home Child Welfare services.

Written questions are due no later than September 7, 2018, and should be submitted via e-mail to dhhs.procurement@nebraska.gov.

Bidder should submit one (1) original of the entire RFI response. RFI responses should be submitted by the RFI due date and time to dhhs.procurement@nebraska.gov.

RFI responses should be received in Department of Health and Human Services by the date and time of RFI opening indicated above.

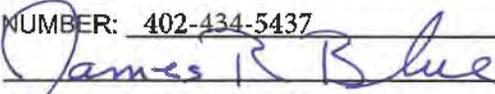
BIDDER MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

By signing this Request For Information form, the bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this Request for Information.

FIRM: CEDARS Youth Services

COMPLETE ADDRESS: 6601 Pioneers Boulevard, Lincoln, NE 68506

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 402-434-5437 FAX NUMBER: 402-437-8833

SIGNATURE:  DATE: October 4, 2018

TYPED NAME & TITLE OF SIGNER: James R. Blue, President and CEO

RFI for In-Home Services Response

CEDARS extensive organizational, programmatic, and fiscal management experience uniquely positions the organization to offer feedback to DCFS on the design of services that will provide safety and stability to children and families and prevent the recurrence of maltreatment in Nebraska as detailed in this Request for Information for In-Home Services.

CEDARS Youth Services currently provides licensed and accredited in-home prevention, family preservation, and crisis stabilization services and parenting education classes (ex. Healthy Families America, Circle of Security, Parents as Teachers, Darkness to Light, Safe with You, and Risking Connection). In addition, CEDARS offers Foster Care, Kinship Care, Family Support, and Family Time/Supervised Visitation. CEDARS continuum of services also includes independent living, street outreach, a youth drop in center, emergency shelter, community learning centers, early childhood development, individual, group and family therapy, tracker, electronic monitoring, and reporting center.

The services and educational curricula offered through In-Home Services should provide safety, stability and permanency to support the well-being of Nebraska children and families. The following areas are recommended for inclusion in future service development:

Staff Training

Preference should be given to organizations that exceed the licensed minimums for pre-service and ongoing training for program staff. Training should be evidence based/informed and trauma responsive.

Caseloads/Ratios

Caseload ratios for in-home service providers should be reflective of best practice research. Flexibility in case planning should allow the staff to respond to changes in intensity of the need for individual families.

Family Choice

Families should have a choice in selecting the provider they work with. Families, in partnership with selected providers, should have input in determining the most appropriate services to meet their goals and achieve identified outcomes.

Reimbursement/Payment Flexibility

The payment structure must support flexibility within the service array to meet needs of individual children and families and to achieve expected outcomes. In recognition of the added cost of purchasing and implementing evidence based practices, funding to support start-up costs and staff training is recommended.

Focus on Quality

A history of quality service provision should be considered in the selection of providers, including national accreditation, compliance and achievement of long term, positive outcomes. Outcome evaluation should include biological parent and child satisfaction. Selected providers should have demonstrated ability to implement and maintain fidelity with evidence based practices.

Form A

Vendor Contact Sheet

Request for Information Number In-home Services

Form A should be completed and submitted with each response to this solicitation document. This is intended to provide the State with information on the vendor's name and address, and the specific persons who are responsible for preparation of the vendor's response.

Preparation of Response Contact Information	
Vendor Name:	CEDARS Youth Services
Vendor Address:	6601 Pioneers Boulevard, Lincoln, NE 68506
Contact Person & Title:	James R. Blue, President and CEO
E-mail Address:	jblue@CEDARS-kids.org
Telephone Number (Office):	402.437.8812
Telephone Number (Cellular):	402.440.5275
Fax Number:	402.437.8833

Each vendor shall also designate a specific contact person who will be responsible for responding to the State if any clarifications of the vendor's response should become necessary. This will also be the person who the State contacts to set up a presentation/demonstration, if required.

Communication with the State Contact Information	
Vendor Name:	CEDARS Youth Services
Vendor Address:	6601 Pioneers Boulevard, Lincoln, NE 68506
Contact Person & Title:	James R. Blue, President and CEO
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