

AUSTIN PUBLIC HEALTH
AFRICAN AMERICAN MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES
RFGA SOLICITATION NO. AAMHW2019LE
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Posting Date: 3-8-2019

1. Question: What is the funding amount and how long is the award period?

Answer: Page 2 of the Application Scope of Work & Instructions (Section 0500) reads: “\$500,000 in total annual funding is available through this RFGA. Austin Public Health anticipates awarding two to six contracts ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 each. Grant Agreements will have an effective start date of July 1, 2019 for an initial 12-month period. Administrative deliverables will be due during the first three months and program services will begin October 1, 2019 and continue for an initial 9-month period. Two 12-month extension options are available for a total Grant Agreement term of 36 months.”

2. Question: I am seeing that the presentation will be linked by the 8th but I'm wondering what that will include. Will this presentation be recorded and posted or what all will be included in the link?

Answer: The presentation power point, the list of attendees, and the questions and answers will be included in the link. No audio or visual recording of the presentation will be available on the link.

3. Question: Which CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) is referenced?

Answer: The CHIP that was completed in 2018; it can be found here:
[http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Health/CHA-CHIP/2018 Travis County CHIP FINAL 9.12.18.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Health/CHA-CHIP/2018_Travis_County_CHIP_FINAL_9.12.18.pdf)

4. Question: Can non-profits apply that are fiscally sponsored?

Answer: Yes, only the lead agency (Applicant) needs to meet all of the requirements.

5. How do you quantify ROI?

Answer: This question is referencing Question #20 on page 16 of Section 0500. The Return on Investment depends on the services that are being provided. There may be a financial return or return on the quality of life of the clients. It is up to the Applicant to calculate and explain.

6. Question: In this grant opportunity, are non-profit/for-profit partnerships allowed?

Answer: The lead Applicant needs to be a non-profit. (I will look into this more and give a more definitive answer on how a for-profit might collaborate.) **UPDATED ANSWER:** All entities providing services, whether a single agency or a collaboration of agencies, must be non-profit organizations. Social services funding is not intended to be awarded to for-profit organizations.

7. Question: If two agencies are working in collaboration, do you need budgets and minutes from both?

Answer: No, just the lead Applicant must submit the budget and minutes.

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- 8. Question: Who did you give funding to last year? Is there a place to see which organizations received the funding?**

Answer: This funding has not been awarded previously. This is brand new funding for new programs. The funding was approved by City Council through the recommendations of the African American Resource Advisory Commission. We do have and can supply a list of all the agencies and programs that we currently fund.

- 9. Question: Is there a page limit for answering questions?**

Answer: No. There is not a page limit or a character limit.

- 10. Question: The collaboration requires the “lead” to meet all the insurance requirements, etc. Can you apply as a collaborator and independent entity?**

Answer: Yes. If there is a collaboration, the lead Applicant needs to meet all the insurance requirements, all the application threshold checklist requirements, etc. The Grant Agreement will be between the City of Austin (Austin Public Health) and the lead entity. If this question is asking if you can submit two different applications, the answer is yes.

- 11. Question: Do bonus points apply to become a part of a collaboration?**

Answer: No

- 12. Question: Can you talk a little more about the metrics and strategies on page 2 of the Scope of Work? For example, would our program need to have outcomes that align with these in order to apply?**

Answer: Page 2 is referencing the Austin Strategic Direction 2023, which is a City-wide strategic framework. Listed there are the metrics and strategies that we determined most closely align with this funding opportunity. We have also listed the link to Strategic Direction 2023. There needs to be some explanation of some connection with Strategic Direction 2023 – it doesn't have to be the ones listed on page 2. If you go to that full document and you find an area that more closely aligns with your program and services, or vice versa, then that's fine. But yes, there needs to be some connection to that framework. Strategic Direction 2023 is a new thing that happened last year across the City and everything needs to be tied to it.

- 13. Question: Does the program need to exclusively serve African American clients, or does it need to have a significant percentage?**

Answer: Page 1 of the Grant Application Scope of Work Instructions (Section 0500), Background section, Proposal states: “Mental and physical healthcare outreach and services within the African American community and others in Austin.” The primary focus of this funding is for African American/Black population in Austin/Travis County. We would expect that a program would not turn away someone who was seeking services that you were providing, but we want the African American/Black population in Austin/Travis County to be the focus population. That is how it is designated in the City of Austin budget passed by City Council.

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14. Question: Why is there such a short time frame for preparation of the grant?

Answer: Austin Public Health's solicitations are typically open for a month. This one is open for 4 weeks and 2 days. The timing of this solicitation takes into account when the proposal must be completed in order to be sent for approval to Austin City Council to ensure its execution this fiscal year.

15. Question: How should collaborations be listed or identified on the application?

Answer: On page 7 of the Grant Application Scope of Work Instructions (Section 0500), Question 1 requests a brief description of the proposed program and services. That is where all entities collaborating on the proposed program should be described.

16. Question: Are school-based services allowable?

Answer: Yes

17. Question: Is this intended for adults, or are services for youth/students available?

Answer: Yes, youth/students are eligible. There is not a target age.

18. Question: Can we get contact info for interested organizations here today for purposes of collaboration purposes?

Answer: Yes. (Please see posted Interested Community Organizations for Collaboration list)

19. Question: Is there a City standard that's set up for an agency that they would be considered a lead agency?

Answer: Any Applicant needs to meet the Application Threshold Checklist, which is Section 0610.A. That applies to a single agency as an Applicant, or a lead agency of a collaboration as an Applicant.

20. Question: For the application process, the lead is the one who is required to provide all the required information. The only thing the collaborator would be providing is just their information to the lead organization, which they would put on page 7, Question 1. Is that correct?

Answer: Yes

21. Announcement: Children's Haven Association – Announcement. History of partnership with compatible non-profits. Facility available at 1908 Chicon (corner 20th and Chicon).

Answer: Please see posted Community Organizations for Collaboration list.

22. We have great expertise in sexual health and opioid misuse prevention. Looking for partners.

Answer: Announcement made by Vanessa Sarria of Cardea.