DHHS Division/Office issuing this notice:
Division of Social Services/Child Welfare Services/Community Based Programs

Date of this notice: February 2, 2018

Working Title of the funding program: Respite Services Request for Application

Purpose- description of function of the program and reason why it was created:
The purpose of the RFA for services is to award grant funds through contract with outside sources to provide respite services. Respite agencies, with a community collaboration of agencies and organizations, will provide services to prevent child abuse and neglect while improving the quality of life for children and their families. These services will promote strong families, healthy and safe children, and a safe and supportive community environment. If the contract is not executed, families and caregivers will be at risk of abuse and/or neglect of children.

The Division of Social Services will award a maximum of $1,200,000 in grant funds over a three-year grant cycle from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021 to community-based organizations that provide proposals with programs, services and activities focusing on family support and respite support services to children and their families. The RFA process is needed as an essential competitive bid process for ensuring that the most comprehensive services are selected. Without it, the Division is without a competitive process by which to select qualified person(s)/agencies and services.

Description- Brief statement of nature and scope of the program:
North Carolina Respite Services will support community-based programs to provide outreach, support and services to individuals and families identified as being at-risk of compromised health and safety to eliminate or reduce those risks by promoting protective factors that strengthen and support families. Grants will be awarded throughout the state. Funding will be awarded to agencies that meet all of the following requirements:

2. Demonstrate a commitment to meaningful parent engagement and leadership opportunities.
3. Provide preventive service that targets populations most at risk of child abuse of neglect.
4. Promote the five protective factors linked to lower incidence of child maltreatment.
5. Provide a service that demonstrates an acceptable level of emerging evidence.
6. Achieve positive outcomes for children and families through the use of outcome accountability and evaluation tools.
Eligibility:

Any tribal government, community–based, public or private nonprofit, tax-exempt organization (including faith-based), school system or local government agency that is duly incorporated and registered under North Carolina Statutes is eligible to apply provided they meet the following requirements:

- Applicants have completed registration with the Secretary of State. For more information, visit: https://www.secretary.state.nc.us/corporations/feepnc.aspx.
- Applicants and subcontractors must follow E-Verify requirements found in HB786 (http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/BillLookUp/BillLookUp.pl?Session=2013&BillID=hb+786). This requires contractors and the contractor’s subcontractors to comply with the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 64 of the General Statutes (http://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter_64/Article_2.html).
- Applicants’ Internal Revenue Service (IRS) exemption letter must be current within five years.
- Applicants’ Employer Identification Number (EIN), IRS tax exemption status documents, and registration with the Secretary of State must be consistent with both the name of agency and the EIN provided.

How to Apply: Visit http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/pubnotice/index.htm to download the application.

Webinar: NC DSS will sponsor a technical assistance webinar to discuss the application in greater detail on February 12, 2018 from 1 pm to 2:30 pm. Registration for the webinar can be accessed through the following link: https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/7841708521706558722

Letter of Intent Due: February 16, 2018

Optional Questions Due: February 16, 2018

Deadline for Submission: March 5, 2018

How to Obtain Further Information:

Melanie Meeks
Program Consultant
Office (919) 527-6437
melanie.meeks@dhhs.nc.gov