

Cumberland County Council for Young Children

Questions and Answers

Questions? Email us anytime at dcfaskrfp@dcf.state.nj.us

Phone number and contact person for date of delivery:

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Deliver proposal to:

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1. As a part of this proposal, are MOUs with early childhood organizations required as part of proposal submission?

MOUs are not required by the RFP, but it is strongly recommended that applicants include MOUs or Letters of Commitment to demonstrate strong relationships with other organizations. You may want to include these in your proposal.

Please note that Exhibit 2 also asks for this information as a way of showing that you have well-established relationships with partners.

2. If we are partnering with other organizations in recruiting parents and other stakeholders, is the proposed lead organization expected to allocate funds for that formal partnership to provide access to their services, can the other organizations' services be provided in-kind?

No. There is no expectation that the lead agency will allocate funds for formal partnerships; but you are permitted to include such funds for partners if this is in keeping with your project design.

Yes, we encourage you to identify other organizations that will provide services in-kind.

- 3. With respect to the needs assessment portion of the proposal, is the proposing organization expected to have already (prior to proposal submission) undertaken a community needs assessment involving parents and stakeholders?**

No. There is no expectation that the organization should have the needs assessment completed prior to submission.

- **Or will the organization's current understanding of community needs, based on experience, suffice as a starting point for beginning a more formal needs assessment process with identified partners and the community at large upon grant award?**

Community needs should be fact-based and relevant and focus on the county and local municipalities. Your proposal should include verified data sources, e.g. census data, MCH birth data, and/or other local data sources (municipal or county needs assessments). You could also include information from focus groups or feedback from parents/residents.

The applicant must also demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of available community resources to build effective countywide partnerships—using Exhibit 2 as a template.

- 4. With regard to the purpose and purview of the CCCYC: Is the CCCYC expected to undertake needs assessments regarding the access to and coordination among, and policies governing access and coordination among, early childhood serving organizations and agencies? Or is the CCCYC expected to provide a parent/guardian's perspective on their own needs as parents/guardians with regard to accessing services? Or is the CCCYC expected to develop and disseminate a plan for how families themselves should be approaching their child's development (such as monitoring TV access, reading to children, providing nutritional meals) rather than relying on services available? Or are all three of these within the purview of the CCCYC?**

Yes, these are three examples that could be within the purview of the CCCYC.

5. Is there a target demographic?

No. We want you to tell us about the population(s) you plan to serve.

6. Is there a specific type of Logic Model you want us to use?

We will post a sample of a logic model on our website for your reference.

7. How do you envision an early childhood plan?

One of the functions of the lead agency will be to facilitate development of an *Early Childhood Plan* (identified in the Exhibit 1 – Job Description) that will support and strengthen Cumberland County families with infants and young children. We will expect the applicant to work closely with the CCCYC to identify what some of the key aspects and important elements of a plan for families in Cumberland County might be. An example could be to address identified barriers to needed services and supports, such as, access to health care or social services.

Detail of the plan is not needed for the application, rather, focus on the general concepts or elements of planning, and describe the process for leading and working with the Council in putting this plan together, setting priorities, and establishing a process and timeline for implementing key aspects of the plan.

8. Is the start-up budget separate or part of the \$65,000 available?

No. They are separate.

9. Are we expected to have a CCCYC Project Coordinator hired by June 1, 2013?

No, your timeline will indicate when you anticipate hiring the Project Coordinator.

10. What should the parent/community membership ratio for the CCCYC Council?

The Council should have a majority representation (at least 51%) of parents, families and residents of Cumberland County.