

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES**

#### **Notice of Availability of Grant Funds to Provide Provider Pre-Certification for Disaster Behavioral Health Care Services**

**Take notice** that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4 and 34.6, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) hereby announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

#### **Name of Program:**

#### **Provider Pre-Certification for Disaster Behavioral Health Care Services**

#### **Purpose:**

This current RFP focuses on pre-certification of currently contracted Behavioral Health Providers to support and staff behavioral health services in the aftermath of presidentially declared disasters. A Presidentially-declared disaster provides the opportunity for a program funded under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) known as Individual Assistance (IA). Under this program, the State Mental Health Authority - DMHAS - develops a grant application for an Immediate Services Program (ISP) to provide crisis counseling for the first 60 days following a disaster and for a Regular Services Program (RSP), if needed, for an additional nine months. The crisis counseling program is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in coordination with the State Mental Health Authority.

The requirements of participation by states in the FEMA-funded Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) includes an immediate response in the aftermath of the disaster pending approval of grant funds. There are typically long learning curves for Providers who do not have previous experience with these programs. The State's readiness for a disaster would be highly enhanced with a pool of pre-qualified Providers willing to accept the FEMA rate of reimbursement and who are knowledgeable about the FEMA/SAMHSA grant application and crisis counseling program requirements in advance of a disaster event. This pre-qualified cadre of providers would be pre-trained as a condition of participation in the response process, and would therefore be ready to provide an immediate, effective and efficient response. This would also minimize the need to provide the education and orientation necessary for the response process while simultaneously trying to manage the response. The pre-qualification process for Providers is a complement to the existing process for certifying crisis counselors.

**Amount of funding available:** No funding is available for this solicitation. Funding is subject to declaration of disaster and subsequent grant award to New Jersey of FEMA funds.

**Organizations that may apply:** In order to be eligible for consideration for this Request for Proposal, an applicant must be a fiscally viable corporation duly registered to conduct business within the State of New Jersey.

The applicant must demonstrate the ability to comply with all rules and regulations for any DMHAS program element of service proposed by the applicant.

The applicant must comply with the terms and conditions of the Department of Human Services' contracting rules and regulations as set forth in the DHS Standard Language Document, the Contract Reimbursement Manual (CRM), and the Contract Policy and Information Manual (CPIM).

Any fiscally viable corporation, as noted above, which meets the qualifications of the Department of Human Services' Contract Policy and Information Manual, N.J.A.C. 10:3, may apply. A copy of this manual can be accessed from the webpage of the Office of Contract Policy and Management webpage at: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ocpm/home/resources/manuals/>.

Applicants may contact the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Contract Unit at 609-777-0628 with general questions about the requirements in these manuals.

**Procedure to apply:** Effective June 23, 2014, eligible and interested organizations may obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal at: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhs/info/notices/> or by contacting Alicia Meyer, Coordinator, at (609) 777-0069 or at [alicia.meyer@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:alicia.meyer@dhs.state.nj.us) Proposals must be submitted in accordance with requirements stipulated in the Request for Proposal.

**Bidders' Conference:** A Bidders' Conference will be conducted for interested applicants. All applicants intending to submit a proposal in response to this request are strongly recommended to attend the Bidders' Conference on July 1, 2014. Information regarding the time and location of the bidder's conference may be found in the Request for Proposal.

**Deadline by which all applications must be submitted:** Applications must be received by 4:00 P.M., July 29, 2014. Respondents must submit proposals electronically in PDF format to [RFP.submissions@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:RFP.submissions@dhs.state.nj.us). Additionally, one hard copy of the proposal with an original signature and six additional hard copies must be submitted. No format other than the PDF and one original signed hard copy and six additional hard copies will be accepted for this RFP.

**Date by which applicants will be notified of preliminary decision to accept or reject proposal:**

Applicants will be notified no later than September 2, 2014.

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Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

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Date