



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

For

American Rescue Plan Supplemental Funding for Community-Based Prevention Programs (ARP)

CFDA 93.590

Funding in the amount of \$3,200,000 (through September 30, 2025)

Award range from \$400,000 to \$800,000 Per 36-Month Project

Applicants may only apply for one award

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Funding

There will be no Bidders Conference for this RFP

Questions are due by May 27, 2022

Bids are due: June 20, 2022

Christine Norbut Beyer, MSW
Commissioner

May 10, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section I - General Information

A. Purpose	Page 1
B. Background	Page 2
C. Target Population/Admission Criteria	Page 6
D. Resources	Page 6
E. Activities	Page 7
F. Outputs	Page 7
G. Funding Information	Page 8
H. Applicant Eligibility Requirements	Page 9
I. RFP Schedule	Page 10
J. Administration	Page 10
K. Appeals	Page 14
L. Post Award Review	Page 14
M. Post Award Requirements	Page 14

Section II - Application Instructions

A. Review Criteria	Page 15
B. Supporting Documents	Page 23
C. Requests for Information and Clarification	Page 28

Exhibit A–The State Affirmative Action Policy

Exhibit B–Anti-Discrimination Provisions

Exhibit C–Notice of Standard Contract Requirements, Processes, and Policies

Exhibit D–Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 Attestation Form

Exhibit E–Budget forms for 3 one-year budgets

Exhibit F–Russia Belarus Disclosure Form

Attachment 1–Federal Requirements-Updated Rider for Purchases Funded by Federal Funds of 2CFR 200.317

Funding Agency

State of New Jersey
Department of Children and Families
50 East State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Special Notice:

There will be no Bidders Conference for this RFP. Questions will be accepted in advance of the proposal deadline by providing them via email to DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov until **May 27, 2022, 12PM**. Technical inquiries about forms and other documents may be requested at any time.

All bids must be submitted electronically through our online system. To submit online, applicant must submit an AOR form. The AOR form must be completed and sent to DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov. (See Section I).

Section I – General Information

A. Purpose:

In response to the unprecedented national Coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into law. This economic stimulus bill will assist New Jersey's efforts to prepare, prevent, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the passage of this bill, New Jersey received supplemental ARP federal funding through the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Program.

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families' (DCF) Division of Family and Community Partnerships announces the availability of \$3,200,000 in federal funding for CBCAP programs to enhance community-based, prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Funding is available for each 36-month project ranging from \$400,000 to \$800,000 for community-based child abuse prevention grants to address gaps and support families and communities.

Four (4) to eight (8) awards will be made. **Applicants may only apply for one (1) grant** under this offering and one (1) grant under the related CBCAP ARP funding for Early Childhood Prevention Programs. Applicants that apply for both funding streams cannot apply with the same program offerings. The program offered by the Applicant under each separate proposal must be different.

The 36-month grant period shall begin at the time of the award and may continue through September 30, 2025.

CBCAP was established by Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). CAPTA has been amended several times and was last reauthorized on December 20, 2010, by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320). It was amended in 2015, 2016, and 2018, and most recently, certain provisions of the act were amended on January 7, 2019, by the Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-424).

The purpose of CBCAP is to:

1. Support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and coordinate initiatives, programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect and to support the coordination of resources and activities to strengthen and support families thereby reducing the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and
2. To foster understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of diverse populations in order to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

PLEASE NOTE: ARP funds shall be used to supplement and not supplant other federal, state, and local public funds in accordance with 42 U.S.C § 10406(c)(6).

Exclusions:

Funds for this offering cannot be utilized for domestic violence programs, training, events, and public information campaigns.

Funding to provide early childhood supportive services to be offered in conjunction with newborn home visiting programs including maternal health and wellness program are excluded from this offering as these projects are funded through a separate RFP.

B. Background:

Since its creation in 2006, DCF has designed and managed a strong, state-wide network of core services including child protection and child welfare services, children's behavioral health care, programming to support children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, community-based family strengthening services, specialized educational programming, and services and programming to support women. Over 100,000 New Jersey constituents are impacted by these services each month.

In keeping with Governor Phil Murphy's platform of a stronger, fairer New Jersey, DCF is undergoing an urgent transformation that is informed by evolving national best practice, ongoing self-evaluation of the Department's performance, and advances in science, and staff and consumer voice.

DCF's vision is that all New Jersey residents are safe, healthy, and connected. DCF's values guide the work of the Department, serving as the professional compass for decisions large and small, in all that we do: Collaboration, Equity, Evidence, Family, and Integrity.

The Department has identified a set of core approaches that are not initiatives or programs, but instead are practices that we work to embed in all aspects of our work: Race equity, Healing centered practice, Protective factors framework, Family voice, and Culture of safety.

Lastly, DCF's strategic focus identifies major priorities for the Department as we strive to maintain excellence in core service delivery, while achieving a large-scale, fundamental transformation that includes:

- Primary prevention of maltreatment and maltreatment related fatalities
- Preserving kinship connections
- Staff health and wellness
- A fully integrated and inclusive Children's System of Care (CSOC)

In furtherance of the Department's strategic plan, the Division of Family and Community Partnerships is seeking proposals for programming to support a prevention infrastructure that is designed to reduce rates of child abuse and neglect, and that takes a comprehensive approach to evidence-based prevention services. This offering supports the Department's prioritization of prevention of child maltreatment as a transformational cornerstone for the child welfare system in New Jersey. This RFP provides communities with latitude to determine the specific prevention approach to ensure that community needs are met. Local partnerships are encouraged.

Every year, over 3,000 New Jersey children are victims of abuse or neglect. The most common forms of child maltreatment in New Jersey are neglect (70.9%) followed by sexual abuse (17.5%) and physical abuse (14.4%).¹ The New Jersey Child Welfare Data Hub identifies children under the age of 1 being most at risk for maltreatment (rate of 4.4 per 1,000), compared to children aged 1 to 5 (rate 1.5), aged 6 to 12 (rate 1.4) or aged 13 to 17 (rate 1.1). Rates of child maltreatment-related fatalities have been fairly consistent since 2015 with deaths in 2019 totaling 19 (1.0 per 100,000). A common factor associated with child fatality is caregiver drug abuse. The perpetrators of child fatalities are most often (more than 80%) caregiver of their victims. Additional data regarding child abuse and neglect in New Jersey can be found at the NJ Child Welfare Data Hub: [Data Hub \(rutgers.edu\)](https://datahub.rutgers.edu)

¹U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, *Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). Child Maltreatment 2020.* Available from <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>.

New Jersey DCF, through partnership with Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and New Jersey's 21 Human Services Advisory Councils, conducted a community needs assessment in each of New Jersey's 21 counties during 2019-21. The Needs Assessment includes community data profiles, as well as the results of community surveys, focus groups and interviews in each County.

Statewide summaries and county reports identified major challenges experienced by families in communities and identified priority areas in which families need support. The Needs Assessments, including data profiles, can be found at:

https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/divisions/opma/hsac_needs_assessment.html

These community-based prevention grants will provide opportunities for communities to:

- Implement evidence-based prevention practices that have demonstrated a high return on investment and/or significant outcomes in the prevention of child maltreatment through either national or local evaluation.
- Implement evidence-based prevention practices (programs, policies and strategies) that also have a positive impact on other health and social outcomes of families and communities with outcomes including but not limited to, improved knowledge of child development, expanded supportive parental social networks, improved parental coping skills, improved access to services, and improved peer relationships. Examples of such practices include parent cafes, improved care coordination, improved awareness of and access to services.
- Implement community level prevention approaches aimed specifically at addressing community concerns leading to improved family well-being through collective impact approaches and the development of community collaboratives.

For the purposes of this CBCAP ARP funding opportunity, evidence-based practice is defined as the integration of the best available research with child abuse prevention program expertise within the context of the child, family, and community characteristics, culture, and preferences. Some form of documented scientific evidence validates these approaches to prevention. This includes findings established through scientific research, such as controlled clinical studies; however, other methods of establishing evidence are also valid. Evidence-based practices may be considered "supported" or "well-supported," depending on the strength of the research design. Evidence-informed practice is similar to evidence-based, but the level of evidence supporting the programs or practices is not as strong. Evidence-informed

practices may be considered "promising" or "emerging," depending on the strength of the existing research or documentation of its evidence. Evidence-informed practice allows for innovation within CBCAP, while still incorporating lessons learned from the existing research literature. Additional information on evidence based and evidence informed programs and practices and distinctions between emerging, promising, supported and well-supported practice can be found at [Evidence-Based Practice in CBCAP | Friends NRC.](#)

In addition:

- Proposals that develop prevention programs in response to family and community needs identified in New Jersey's 2021 Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) Needs Assessments will **automatically be awarded five (5) points in the scoring of the application.**

The Division of Family and Community Partnerships utilizes a Risk and Protective Factors framework in addressing prevention of child abuse and neglect. All proposed programs must demonstrate impact on the protective factors. DCF has structured its practice models and purchased services to assess for and to promote the five (5) protective factors, conditions which - when they are in place within individuals, family systems, and/or communities - reduce risk to health and well-being: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence for children. For more information on Risk and Protective Factors Framework in addressing child abuse and neglect, see the Center for Disease Control and Prevention ([Risk and Protective Factors|Child Abuse and Neglect|Violence Prevention|Injury Center|CDC](#)).

CBCAP funds primary and secondary prevention programs. Primary prevention consists of activities that are targeted toward the community at large. These activities are meant to impact families before any allegations of abuse and neglect. Primary prevention services include public education activities, and family support programs.

Secondary prevention consists of activities targeted to families that have one or more risk factors, including families with substance abuse, teen parents, parents of special needs children, single parents, and low-income families. Secondary prevention services include respite care for parents of a child with a disability, or programs for new parents. Proposals for either Primary or Secondary prevention programming are permitted.

The ARP provides critical and unprecedented support to children, families, and communities in response to the COVID pandemic and resulting economic downturn, which have been exacerbated by historic racial injustices. ARP funding provides a comprehensive approach to support children and families, meet communities where they are and address systemic inequities.

C. Target Population /Admission:

The CBCAP ARP grant is aimed at strengthening the network of primary and secondary prevention programs in communities to further the goal of reducing child abuse and neglect. Specific community need and target population will vary across applications. Eligible Applicants include local units of government and nonprofit organizations like faith-based, charitable, community-based, Tribal, school or voluntary associations. Applicants shall take all community and individual characteristics of the target population into account when overseeing implementation of the program. This includes considering geographic location and transportation, racial and/or ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientation, language, and disability. Programs that receive funding must be accessible and delivered without discrimination based on age, disability, gender, gender-identity, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, or religion. (42 U.S.C. §10406).

All individuals from the target population, regardless of citizenship, legal status, or tribal affiliation, are to have the same access to services without the need to produce documentation of residency/citizenship. Applicants must be able to assist participants with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and Deaf or hard of hearing. Services are provided without charge to the target population.

D. Resources:

Geographic Area to Be Served

Successful Applicants shall clearly define the community to be served (e.g., city, county, school-district, etc.) and location of service delivery.

Staffing

Staffing will be dictated by program activities as described in the proposal narrative and budget. Staff shall possess the requisite knowledge and expertise required for successful project implementation. Staff shall reflect the language, race and cultural backgrounds of the selected communities and target populations.

Continuous Quality Improvement Standards

DCF engages in Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) to identify and analyze strengths and areas needing improvement. DCF is committed to the process of ongoing evaluation as a vehicle to learn and develop solutions to improve the quality of services.

The successful Applicant shall be required to submit quarterly reports that include qualitative and quantitative data as part of the CQI process. The Applicant will be required to collect and report pertinent participant and

program data relative to the project activities and measurable program outcomes.

Voluntary Participation

The Applicant shall operate with the highest level of ethical practice and accountability to the community. All programming must be available on a voluntary basis.

Healing Centered Approach

The Applicant should articulate a trauma-informed, healing centered and culturally relevant approach to its program delivery. This approach acknowledges the needs of the community and target population.

E. Activities:

Awardees shall:

- Partner with families, the community, and persons with relevant lived experience in the planning, implementation, CQI activities and evaluation of the program.
- Implement an evidence-based program that will reduce rates of child maltreatment that can include but not be limited to improved knowledge of child development, expanded supportive parental social networks, improved parental coping skills, improved access to services, and improved peer relationships.
- Collect all relevant data and complete all reports and evaluations as required by DCF.
- Participate in quarterly results and learning meetings and other CQI activities required by DCF.

If the program provides direct services to participants, the Applicant shall clarify how participants are referred into the program and how services are accessed as well as any inclusionary or exclusionary parameters for participation.

F. Outputs:

Measurable outcomes are essential for determining the extent to which implemented approaches and activities achieve their intended effects. Applicants shall identify the specific risk and/or protective factors that the program seeks to influence and identify a related set of milestones and key performance indicators to track progress on outcomes. Applicants must propose measures of success relevant and specific to their proposed

strategies. Depending upon the type of program, measures such as numbers and demographics of program participants shall be provided in addition to metrics that capture changes in behavior or condition are expected.

Awardees shall provide the Division of Family and Community Partnerships with quarterly progress reports that include both qualitative and quantitative data consistent with the goals and objectives of the project, utilizing measurement tools aligned with project outcomes.

Up to 15% of the award may be directed at measurement and evaluation activities.

G. Funding Information:

CBCAP ARP supplemental funding is subject to appropriation. Funding for this offering is available up to \$3,200,000 of federal CBCAP ARP funds (CFDA 93.590).

The Department will make available a minimum of four (4) and up to eight (8) awards.

DCF reserves the right to award all or a portion of the requested amount.

Each award will be between \$400,000 and \$800,000 for the 36-month project. The Department will make available \$1,000,000 in FY 2023 of federal CBCAP ARP funds (CFDA 93.590). It is anticipated that the resulting contract will total between \$400,000 to \$800,000 over the 36-month time frame. Funding will be renewed in each of the three years contingent on availability of federal funds and programmatic progress. Grant funds will not be available after September 30, 2025. Continuation funding is contingent upon the availability of funds in future fiscal years. Universities are reminded that this is a competitive process and on notice that no annual increases will be considered as part of this contract to salaries, fringe or benefits for future negotiations or contracts, unless approved by the State legislature for all contracting entities.

Additional funds are not available, so any proposed one-time expenses must be funded with **anticipated** contract accruals. Applicants must provide a justification and detailed summary of anticipated start-up costs, and the source of anticipated contract accruals, in order to begin program operations.

The CBCAP ARP funding period for this program is anticipated from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025, with the ability to carry over unspent funds, with DCF approval, through September 30, 2025.

Matching Funds: No match is required for the CBCAP ARP grant awards.

Operational start-up costs are permitted. Applicants must provide a justification and detailed summary of all expenses that must be met in order to begin program operations.

Proposals that demonstrate the leveraging of other financial resources are encouraged.

Funds awarded under this program may not be used to supplant or duplicate existing funding.

Any expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the contract will not be reimbursed by DCF.

H. Applicant Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicants must be for profit or non-profit corporations and/or Universities that are duly registered to conduct business within the State of New Jersey.
2. Applicants must be in good standing with all State and Federal agencies with which they have an existing grant or contractual relationship.
3. If Applicant is **under a corrective action plan with DCF (inclusive of its Divisions and Offices) or any other New Jersey State agency or authority, the Applicant may not submit a proposal for this RFP if written notice of such limitation has been provided to the Agency or authority.** Responses shall not be reviewed and considered by DCF until all deficiencies listed in the corrective action plan have been eliminated and progress maintained to the satisfaction of DCF for the period of time as required by the written notice.
4. Applicants shall not be suspended, terminated or barred for deficiencies in performance of any award, and if applicable, all past issues must be resolved as demonstrated by written documentation.
5. Applicants that are presently under contract with DCF must be in compliance with the terms and conditions of their contract.
6. Where required, all applicants must hold current State licenses.
7. Applicants that are not governmental entities must have a governing body that provides oversight as is legally required.
8. Applicants must have the capability to uphold all administrative and operating standards as outlined in this document.
9. Applicants must have the ability to achieve full operational census within 60 days of contract execution. Further, where appropriate, applicants must execute sub-contracts with partnering entities within 60 days of contract execution.
10. All applicants must have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. To acquire a DUNS number, contact the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or inquire on-line at: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

11. Any fiscally viable entity that meets the eligibility requirements, terms and conditions of the RFP, and the contracting rules and regulations set forth in the DCF Contract Policy and Information Manual may submit an application.

I. RFP Schedule:

May 27, 2022	Deadline for Email Questions sent to DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov
June 20, 2022	Deadline for Receipt of Proposals by 12:00PM

Proposals received after **12:00PM on June 20, 2022**, will **not** be considered.

All proposals must be delivered ONLINE

To submit online, Applicant must submit an AOR form. The AOR form must be completed and sent to DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) Form:
<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/AOR.doc>

Once the AOR is submitted and the Applicant is granted permission to proceed, instructions will be provided for submission of the proposal.

Only a registered Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) or the designated alternate is eligible to send in a submission by submitting an AOR form.

Registered AOR forms should be received five (5) business days prior to the date the bid is due.

We recommend not waiting until the due date to submit your proposal in case there are technical difficulties during your submission.

Submission Requirement:

It is required that you submit your proposal as one PDF document. If the Appendix file is too large, it can be separated into more pdf parts, such as Part 3, Part 4, etc. Please do not upload separate documents.

J. Administration:

- 1. Screening for Eligibility, Conformity and Completeness**

DCF will screen proposals for eligibility and conformity with the specifications set forth in this RFP. A preliminary review will be conducted to determine whether the application is eligible for evaluation or immediate rejection.

The following criteria will be considered, where applicable, as part of the preliminary screening process:

- a) The application was received prior to the stated deadline.
- b) The application is signed and authorized by the Applicant's Chief Executive Officer or equivalent.
- c) The Applicant attended the Bidders Conference (if required).
- d) The Application is complete in its entirety, including all required attachments and appendices.
- e) The application conforms to the specifications set forth in the RFP.

Failure to meet the criteria outlined above, or the submission of incomplete or non-responsive applications may result in rejection of the proposal.

For a bid to be considered for award, at least one representative of the Applicant must have been present at the Bidders Conference, if required. Failure to attend the Bidders Conference will result in automatic bid rejection.

Upon completion of the initial screening, proposals meeting the requirements of the RFP will be distributed to the Proposal Evaluation Committee for its review and recommendations.

2. Proposal Review Process

DCF will convene a Proposal Evaluation Committee in accordance with DCF Policy P.104 located at <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/manuals/>. The Committee will review each application in accordance with the established criteria outlined in Section II of this document. All reviewers, voting and advisory, will complete a conflict-of-interest form. Those individuals with conflicts or the appearance of a conflict will be disqualified from participation in the review process. The voting members of the Proposal Evaluation Committee will review proposals, deliberate as a group, and then independently score applications to determine the final funding decisions.

The Department reserves the right to request that Applicants present their proposal in person for final scoring. In the event of a tie in the scoring by the Committee, the Applicants that are the subject of the tie will provide a presentation of their proposal to the evaluation committee. The evaluation committee will request specific information and/or specific questions to be answered during a presentation by the provider and a brief time-constrained presentation. The presentation will be scored out of 100 possible points, based on the following criteria and the highest score will be recommended for approval as the winning Applicant.

Abstract	0 Points
I. Organizational Community & Fit	
A. Expertise of the Applicant Agency	10 Points
B. Project Description: Need <u>HSAC</u>	15 Points
C. Program Approach <u>Youth/Family Involvement</u>	25 Points
II. Organizational Capacity	15 Points
III. Organizational Support	10 Points
IV. Outcomes and Evaluation	15 Points
V. Budget Narrative	10 Points

The Department also reserves the right to reject any and all proposals when circumstances indicate that it is in its best interest to do so. The Department's best interests in this context include but are not limited to: State loss of funding for the contract; the inability of the Applicant to provide adequate services; the Applicant's lack of good standing with the Department, and any indication, including solely an allegation, of misrepresentation of information and/or non-compliance with any State of New Jersey contracts, policies and procedures, or State and/or Federal laws and regulations.

All Applicants will be notified in writing of the Department's intent to award a contract.

3. Special Requirements

The successful Applicant shall maintain all documentation related to proof of services, products, transactions and payments under this contract for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment. Such records shall be made available to the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller upon request.

WARRANTY OF NO SOLICITATION ON COMMISSION OR CONTINGENT FEE BASIS. The Applicant warrants by submission of the proposal that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure the contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the contractor for the purpose of securing business. If a breach or violation of this section occurs, the State shall have the right to terminate the contract without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

All Applicants must comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27, the State Affirmative Action policy as attached as **Exhibit A**.

All Applicants must comply with laws relating to Anti-Discrimination as attached as **Exhibit B**.

All Applicants must submit a signed Notice of Standard Contract Requirements, Processes, and Policies as attached as **Exhibit C**.

All Applicants must submit a signed Attestation-Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 Attestation Form for Providers with DCF Contracts as attached as **Exhibit D**.

Applicants must comply with the federal requirements of 2CFR 200.317. See **Attachment 1**. See **Attachment posting on DCF website**.

Applicants must comply with confidentiality rules and regulations related to the participants in this program including but not limited to:

1. Applicants must comply with 42 CFR Part 2 Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records.
2. Keep client specific and patient personal health information (“PHI”) and other sensitive and confidential information confidential in accordance with all applicable New Jersey and federal laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”).
3. Recognize and understand that case information as mandated by N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10a is to be kept confidential and the release of any such information may be in violation of state law.

All Applicants are advised that any software purchased in connection with the proposed project must receive prior approval by the New Jersey Office of Information Technology.

Applicants are also advised that any data collected or maintained through the implementation of the proposed program shall remain the property of DCF.

Organ and Tissue Donation: As defined in section 2 of P.L. 2012, c. 4 (N.J.S.A.52:32-33), contractors are encouraged to notify their employees, through information and materials or through an organ and tissue awareness program, of organ donation options. The information provided to employees shall be prepared in collaboration with the organ procurement organizations designated pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1320b-8 to serve in this State.

K. Appeals:

An appeal of the selection process will be heard only if it is alleged that the Department has violated a statutory or regulatory provision in awarding the grant. An appeal will not be heard based upon a challenge to the evaluation of a proposal. Applicants may appeal by submitting a written request to:

Office of Legal Affairs
Contract Appeals
50 East State Street 4th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08625

no later than ten (10) business days following receipt of the notification or by the deadline posted in this announcement.

L. Post Award Review:

As a courtesy, DCF may offer unsuccessful Applicants an opportunity to review the Evaluation Committee's rating of their individual proposals. All Post Award Reviews will be conducted by appointment.

Applicants may request a Post Award Review by contacting:
DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov.

Post Award Reviews will not be conducted after six (6) months from the date of issuance of this RFP.

M. Post Award Requirements:

Selected Applicants will be required to comply with the terms and conditions of the Department of Children and Families' contracting rules and regulations as set forth in the Standard Language Document, the Contract Reimbursement Manual and the Contract Policy and Information Manual.

Applicants may review these items via the Internet at:
www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/manuals.

Selected Applicants will also be required to comply with all applicable State and Federal laws and statutes, assurances, certifications and regulations regarding funding.

Upon receipt of the award announcement, and where appropriate, selected Applicants will be minimally required to submit one (1) copy of the following documents:

1. A copy of the Acknowledgement of Receipt of the NJ State Policy and Procedures returned to the DCF Office of the EEO/AA

2. Proof of Insurance naming DCF as additionally insured from agencies
3. Bonding Certificate
4. Notification of Licensed Public Accountant (NLPA) with a copy of Accountant's Certification
5. ACH-Credit Authorization for automatic deposit (for new agencies only)

The actual award of funds is contingent upon a successful Contract negotiation. If, during the negotiations, it is found that the selected Applicant is incapable of providing the services or has misrepresented any material fact or its ability to manage the program, the notice of intent to award may be rescinded.

Section II – Application Instructions

A. Proposal Requirements and Review Criteria:

Applicants must submit a Narrative that addresses the following criteria below.

In conjunction with DCF's review of the narrative descriptions you insert under each numbered subsection below, DCF will assess the documents you submitted with your response to this opportunity. DCF will determine the score for each section based on the quality, completeness, and accuracy of both the narrative descriptions and the documents it deems to be relevant.

The narrative portion of the proposal should be double-spaced with margins of one (1) inch on the top and bottom and one (1) inch on the left and right. There is a twenty-five (**25**) page limitation for the narrative portion of the grant application. The font shall be no smaller than twelve (12) points in Arial or Times New Roman. A one (1) point reduction per page will be administered to proposals exceeding the page limit requirements.

If documents are missing from the proposal, DCF may provide an email notice to the Applicant after the bid is submitted. Applicants will have up to five (5) business days after notice from DCF to provide any potentially missing documentation without penalty. If the deductions total twenty (20) points or more, the proposal shall be rejected as non-responsive. A penalty of five (5) points will be deducted for each missing document if not provided in five (5) days after requested by DCF.

The narrative must be organized appropriately and address the key concepts outlined in the RFP. Annex B budget pages, and attachments do not count towards the narrative page limit.

Each proposal narrative must contain the following items organized by heading in the same order as presented below:

Project Abstract (not part of narrative) (no points)

Provide a one (1) Page Maximum Abstract

The abstract should present a concise summary of the well-supported, promising or evidenced-based prevention practice (program, policy, strategy) and include information regarding the need, the target population (including number to be served), a brief description of the EBP practice, why it was selected, cost benefit of implementing the selected EBP, what the expected accomplishments will be as well as the total amount of funding being sought.

I. Community and Organizational Fit

Community and Organizational fit refers to respondent's alignment with the specified community and state priorities, family and community values, culture and history, and other interventions and initiatives.

A. Expertise of the Applicant Agency-(10 Points)

- 1) Describe how this initiative is consistent with your mission and vision, and priorities.
- 2) Describe how this initiative fits with existing initiatives/programming in your organization.
- 3) Describe any services and programs that that your Agency provides that are categorized as well as emerging, promising, supported or well-supported practice (see Evidence-Based Practice in CBCAP Friends NRC).
- 4) Describe how this initiative is consistent with your organization's experience working with the target (or similar) populations required to be served by this initiative.

B. Project Description: Need-(15 Points)

Note: The 2021 Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) Needs Assessments Synthesis Report for New Jersey's 21 Counties identified 6 basic needs areas and 7 specialized service needs areas along with barriers and impacted sub-populations. While not limited to this source for the identification of community need, it is highly encouraged that applicants consider county and statewide needs identified in the state and county reports which can be found at:

https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/divisions/opma/hsac_needs_assessment.html

Proposals that develop prevention programs in response to family and community needs identified in New Jersey's 2021 Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) Needs Assessment reports will **automatically be awarded five (5) points.**

- 1) Describe the need, service gap, barrier or challenge that the initiative will address.
- 2) Describe how the proposed initiative will address the identified gaps or needs
- 3) Discuss the target population to be served. The applicant should include population size and demographics as well as any relevant statistics to link the need for this project. This includes a description of disparities impacting target populations historically underserved, marginalized and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality
- 4) Describe how the program contributes to the prevention of child maltreatment. Include a description of other outcomes as described above in the Background section or outcomes that are consistent with the relevant protective factor(s) the program is designed to address. If applicable, how does the program contribute to reduction in infant mortality.
- 5) Include a summary of existing services and community supports in the geographic area, including barriers and gaps. Describe how your program will (i) be different from rather than duplicate existing community services and resources; and (ii) bridge identified gaps and overcome barriers to build relationships that will reach the target population.

C. Program Approach-(25 Points)

- Describe the proposed program model and all strategies and key activities of the project. Describe how this model meets the stated purpose of the grant.
- Describe how the strategies will keep fidelity to an evidence-based, evidence-supported, or evidence-informed model. If the project includes innovative models or strategies, please provide a clear description of the evidence to support your model/strategy selection.
- Describe the population to be impacted by the project. Include basic demographic information of the community and/or children and families to be served and identify the geographic reach of the project. Include numbers of children, families, or others to be served by each component of the project.
- Describe outreach strategies to special populations of underserved or underrepresented groups unique to the identified service area.

- Describe any potential barriers to implementation of the proposal and strategies to overcome them.

Note:

Address the following three cross-cutting priorities of the NJTFCAN Prevention Plan for 2022- 2025. For reference, the NJTFCAN Prevention Plan can be found at:

[2022-2025.NJ.Statewide.Prevention.Plan.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/2022-2025.NJ.Statewide.Prevention.Plan.pdf)

- ***Priority 1: Promote racial equity/racial justice and reduce disparities across populations in service access, service provision, and retention.***

What strategies will be utilized to ensure that every family, regardless of race, has the same opportunities and access to culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention services.

- ***Priority 2: Increase opportunities for effective youth and family participation and partnership in policy and program planning, implementation, continuous quality improvement (CQI), evaluation, and outcomes.***

What strategies will the program adopt to enhance opportunities for diverse persons including those with lived experience (e.g., persons or families who have sought support) to partner, collaborate, and provide insight into programs and policies related to this initiative. **DCF places a premium on the meaningful involvement of youth/family and persons with lived experience in the planning, implementation, continuous quality improvement, evaluation and outcomes of programs and services.**

The response for Priority 2 will be awarded up to five (5) points.

- ***Priority 3: Promote developmentally based trauma-Informed and healing-centered prevention practices.***

Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your policies implementing trauma informed practices.

- **Include written policies implementing trauma informed practices, if available.**

II. Organizational Capacity-(15 Points)

Organizational Capacity refers to the Respondent's ability to financially and structurally meet and sustain the specified minimum requirements.

- 1) Describe how the organization's leadership is knowledgeable about and in support of this initiative. Include how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your governance and management structure, including the roles of senior executives and governing body (Board of Directors, Managing Partners, Board of County Commissioners. Do leaders have the diverse skills and perspectives representative of the community being served?
 - **Include a Governing Body List. (A "governing body" is any of the following: Board or Directors -or- Managing Partners, if LLC/Partnership, -or- Board of County Commissioners of Responsible Governing Body. List must be dated and include the following: names, titles, emails, phone numbers, addresses, and terms for all members of Governing Body.) as part of the appendix.**
 - **Include a current Agency-Wide Organizational Chart.**
- 2) Does the organization currently employ or have access to staff that meet the staffing requirements for this initiative as described in the Resources section of this RFP? If so, describe.
- 3) Does the staff have a cultural and language match with the population they serve, as well as relationships in the community? If so, describe.
- 4) Describe how your Agency plans to fulfill staffing requirements not currently in place by hiring staff, consultants, sub-grantees and/or volunteers who will perform the proposed service activities.
 - Indicate the number, qualifications and skills of all staff, consultants, sub-grantees and/or volunteers who will perform the proposed service activities. Describe the management and supervision methods that will be utilized.
 - **Include an organizational chart for the proposed program operation as part of the appendix.**
 - **Include job descriptions that include all educational and experiential requirements as part of the appendix.**
 - **Include professional licenses related to job responsibilities, if applicable.**
 - **Include resumes of any existing staff who will perform the proposed services as part of the appendix.**
 - **Include a brief narrative on staffing patterns as part of the appendix.**

- 5) Are there designated staff with capacity to collect and use data to inform ongoing monitoring and improvement of the program or practice? If so, describe.
- 6) What administrative practices must be developed and/or refined to support the initiative/program/practice? What administrative policies and procedures must be adjusted to support the work of the staff and others to implement the program or practice?
- 7) Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your existing collaborations, partnerships and collaborative efforts with other communities and systems.
- 8) Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your membership in professional advisory boards.
- 9) Briefly describe the ways in which your Agency's operations (policies and/or practices) mirror the Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey's Safe Child standards.

The Standards are available at:

<https://nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/nonprofit/>

- **Include a brief (no more than 2 pages double spaced) Safe-Child Standards Description demonstrating ways in which your Agency's operations mirror the Standards as part of the appendix.**
- 10) Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your plans for program accessibility that include, at a minimum, the following details: site description, safety considerations, and transportation options for clients served.
 - **Submit a description/floor plan of program space as part of the appendix (include address).**
 - **Additional photos and/or floor plans are also welcomed, if available-attach as part of the appendix.**
 - 11) Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be met through your strategies for identifying and engaging the target population and for maintaining their participation in services in accordance with service recipients' need(s).
 - 12) Describe how the requirements of this initiative will be implemented through the community partners listed and attested to in the resources

section of this RFP and the collaborative activities listed and attested to in the activities section of this RFP.

- **Include a letter of commitment** specific to a service **or MOU** to demonstrate commitment to the program **as part of the appendix (if relevant to your program)**. **If not applicable, include a written statement stating it is “NOT APPLICABLE.”**
- **Include no more than (8) professional letter(s) of support** from community organizations that you already partner with **as part of the appendix**. Letters from any New Jersey State employees are prohibited.

13) Describe your plans to ensure the needs of the target community will be met in a manner consistent with your commitment to cultural competency and diversity and the Law Against Discrimination (NJSA 10:51 seq.).

14) Provide a Proposed Program Implementation Schedule (attached as appendix item 20) including a detailed timeline for implementing the proposed services or some other detailed weekly description of your action steps in preparing to provide the services of the RFP and to become fully operational within the time specified.

- **Include a Program Implementation Schedule attached as part of the appendix.**

III. Organizational Supports-(10 Points)

Organizational Supports refers to the respondent’s access to Expert Assistance, Staffing, Training, Coaching & Supervision.

1) Describe how your organization will support this initiative with required/necessary training, coaching, supervision. Describe your organization’s process to evaluate staff performance.

- **Include a Curricula Table of Contents for current and proposed training as part of the appendix.**

2) Describe how your organization will support the staff implementing this initiative by leveraging the resources of providers; communities; and other stake holders.

IV. Outcomes and Evaluation-(15 Points)

1) Describe how your organization will support the requirements of this initiative for collection, maintenance, and analysis of data. Will this require use of or changes to existing monitoring and reporting systems?

- 2) Describe how this initiative will be supported by your use of the data after it is analyzed and reported to evaluate program performance.
 - **Include a summary of evaluation tools that will be used to determine the effectiveness of the program services (Summary should be no more than 5 pages) as part of the appendix.**
- 3) Describe procedures that will be used for data collection, management and timely reporting. Provide a description of data to be recorded, the intended use of that data and the means of maintaining confidentiality of respondents.
- 4) Submit a **signed Notice** of Standard Contract Requirements, Processes, and Policies as attached as **Exhibit C, as an appendix.**
- 5) Submit a **signed Attestation (Exhibit D)**-Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 Attestation Form for Providers with DCF Contracts, **as an appendix.**
- 6) Describe how this initiative will be supported by your quality assurance and performance improvement processes, including the meaningful role of those to be served.
- 7) Describe how this initiative will be supported by your willingness to engage in participatory, collaborative evaluation planning with DCF to improve and finalize outcome indicators.

V. Budget-(10 Points)

The Department will consider the cost efficiency of the proposed budget as it relates to the anticipated level of services (LOS). Therefore, applicants must clearly indicate how this funding will be used to meet the project goals and/or requirements. Provide a line item budget and narrative for the proposed project/program. The narrative must be part of the proposal.

- **The Budget forms are to be attached as an appendix.**

The Applicant shall submit 3 12 month budgets:

Year 1 from 7/1/22 to 6/30/23;

Year 2 from 7/1/23 to 6/30/24; and

Year 3 from 7/1/24 to 6/30/25.

The Applicant shall use the form attached as Exhibit E and provide three 12 month budgets.

The budget shall be reasonable and reflect the scope of responsibilities required to accomplish the goals of this project. The budget shall also reflect a twelve (12) month operating schedule and must include, in

separate columns, total funds needed for each line item, the funds requested in this grant, and funds secured from other sources. All costs associated with the completion of the project must be clearly delineated and the budget narrative must clearly articulate budget items, including a description of miscellaneous expenses or “other” items. The completed budget proposal must also include a detailed summary of and justification for any one-time operational start-up costs.

The grantee is expected to adhere to all applicable State cost principles.

A description of General and Administrative Costs are available at <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/manuals/#1> under the Contract Reimbursement Manual, Section 4 . See *Standard Documents for RFPs* for forms.

B. Supporting Documents:

Applicants must submit a complete proposal signed and dated by the Chief Executive Officer or equivalent. There is a twenty-five (25) page limitation for the narrative portion of the grant application. A one (1) point reduction per page will be administered to proposals exceeding the page limit requirements.

Applicants will have up to five (5) business days after notice from DCF to provide any potentially missing documentation without penalty. If the deductions total twenty (20) points or more, the proposal shall be rejected as non-responsive. A penalty of five (5) points will be deducted for each missing document if not provided in five (5) business days after requested by DCF.

The narrative must be organized appropriately and address the key concepts outlined in the RFP. Attachments do not count towards the narrative page limit.

All supporting documents submitted in response to this RFP must be organized in the following manner:

Part I: Proposal							
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal Cover Sheet – (signed and dated) Website: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/requests/#2 Form: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/Proposal.Cover.Sheet.doc						
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Table of Contents – Please number and label with page numbers, if possible, in the order as stated in Part I & Part II Appendices.						
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal Narrative in following order <table style="float: right; margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>25 Page Limitation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 Points</td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">I. Organizational Community & Fit</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">A Expertise of the Applicant Agency</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10 Points</td> </tr> </table>	25 Page Limitation	0 Points	I. Organizational Community & Fit		A Expertise of the Applicant Agency	10 Points
25 Page Limitation							
0 Points							
I. Organizational Community & Fit							
A Expertise of the Applicant Agency	10 Points						

		B Project Description: Need <u>HSAC</u>	15 Point
		C Program Approach <u>Family Involvement</u>	25 Points
		II. Organizational Capacity	15 Points
		III. Organizational Support	10 Points
		IV. Outcomes and Evaluation	15 Points
		V. Budget Narrative	10 Points
Part II: Appendix			
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Written policies implementing trauma informed practices, if available. If not applicable, include a written statement.	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Governing Body List. (A “governing body” is any of the following: Board or Directors -or- Managing Partners, if LLC/Partnership, -or- Board of County Commissioners of Responsible Governing Body). List must be Dated and include the following: a. Names b. Titles c. Emails d. Phone Numbers e. Address and f. Terms	
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Current Agency-Wide Organization Chart	
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed Organizational Chart for services required by this response - include Agency name and date created	
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Licenses related to job responsibilities for this response If not applicable, include a signed/dated written statement on Agency letterhead	
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Job Descriptions that include all educational and experiential requirements	
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Resumes of any existing staff who will perform the proposed services (please <u>do not</u> provide home addresses or personal phone numbers)	
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brief narrative on Staffing Patterns	
12	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe-Child Standards Description of your Agency’s implementation of the standards (no more than 2 pages)	
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	Description/floor plan of program space-Include Address	
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional photos and/or floor plans, if available are also welcomed	

15	<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter of Commitment specific to a service or MOU to demonstrate commitment to the program (if relevant to your program). If not applicable, include a written statement.
16	<input type="checkbox"/>	No more than 8 Professional Letters of Support from community organizations that you already partner with. Letters from any New Jersey State employees are prohibited.
17	<input type="checkbox"/>	Curricula Table of Contents for current and proposed training
18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Summary of evaluation tools that will be used to determine the effectiveness of the program services (no more than 5 pages)
19	<input type="checkbox"/>	All Applicants must submit a signed Notice of Standard Contract Requirements, Processes, and Policies as attached as Exhibit C . All Applicants must submit a signed Attestation -Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 Attestation Form for Providers with DCF Contracts as attached as Exhibit D .
20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed Program Implementation Schedule or some other detailed weekly description of your action steps in preparing to provide the services of the RFP and to become fully operational within the time specified.
21	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed Exhibit Budget Form(s) documenting anticipated budget The Applicant shall submit 3 12 month budgets on the form provided as Exhibit E: Year 1 from 7/1/22 to 6/30/23; Year 2 from 7/1/23 to 6/30/24; and Year 3 from 7/1/24 to 6/30/25.
22	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agency's Conflict of Interest policy
23	<input type="checkbox"/>	Copies of any audits (not financial audit) or reviews (including corrective action plans) completed or in process by DCF (inclusive of DCF Licensing, Divisions and Offices) or other State entities within the last 2 years. If available, a corrective action plan should be provided and any other pertinent information that will explain or clarify the applicant's position. If not applicable, include a written statement. Applicants are on notice that DCF may consider all materials in our records concerning audits, reviews or corrective active plans as part of the review process.
24	<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard Language Document (SLD) (signed/dated) [Version: Rev. 7-2-19] Form: https://www.nj.gov/DCF/documents/contract/forms/StandardLanguage.doc
25	<input type="checkbox"/>	Document showing Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number [2006 Federal Accountability & Transparency Act (FFATA) Website: https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform Helpline: 1-866-705-5711

26	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>System for Award Management (SAM) printout showing "active" status (free of charge) Website: Go to SAM by typing www.sam.gov in your Internet browser address bar Helpline: 1-866-606-8220</p>
27	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Applicable Consulting Contracts, Affiliation Agreements related to this RFP. If not applicable, include a written statement</p>
28	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Business Associate Agreement/HIPAA (signed/dated under Business Associate) [Version: Rev. 8-2019] Form: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/forms/HIPAA.docx</p>
29	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Affirmative Action Certificate --or-- Renewal Application [AA302] sent to Treasury Note: The AA302 is only applicable to new startup agencies and may only be submitted during Year 1. Any agency previously contracted through DCF is required to submit an Affirmative Action Certificate. Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml Form: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/AA_%20Supplement.pdf</p>
30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Certificate of Incorporation Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/revenue/</p>
31	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>For Profit: NJ Business Registration Certificate with the Division of Revenue (required prior to contract award). If not applicable, include a signed/dated written statement on Agency letterhead. Website: https://www.nj.gov/njbusiness/registration/</p>
32	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Agency By-laws or Management Operating Agreement if an LLC</p>
33	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Tax Exempt Organization Certificate (ST-5) -or- IRS Determination Letter 501(c)(3) If not applicable, include a signed/dated written statement on agency letterhead Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/taxation/exemptintro.shtml</p>
34	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Disclosure of Investigations and Other Actions Involving Bidder Form (PDF) (signed/dated) Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml [Version 3-15-19] Form: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/DisclosureofInvestigations.pdf</p>

35	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disclosure of Investment Activities in Iran (PDF) (signed/dated) Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml [Version 6-19-17] Form: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/DisclosureofInvestmentActivitiesinIran.pdf
36	<input type="checkbox"/>	For Profit: Ownership Disclosure Form (PDF) Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml [Version 6-8-18] Form: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/OwnershipDisclosure.pdf See instructions for applicability to your organization. If not applicable, include a written statement.
37	<input type="checkbox"/>	For Profit: Chapter 51/Executive Order 117 Vendor Certification --and-- Disclosure of Political Contributions (signed/dated) [Version: Rev 4/1/19] See instructions for applicability to your organization. If not applicable, include a signed/dated written statement on agency letterhead. Website: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml Form: https://www.nj.gov/treasury/purchase/forms/eo134/Chapter51.pdf
38	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Regarding Debarment (signed/dated) Website: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/requests/#2 Form: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/contract/forms/Cert.Debarment.pdf
39	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statement of Assurances – (Signed and dated) Website: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/requests/#2 Form: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/Statement.of.Assurance.doc
40	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tax Forms: Non Profit Form 990 Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax or For Profit Form 1120 US Corporation Income Tax Return or-LLC Applicable Tax Form and may delete or redact any SSN or personal information
41	<input type="checkbox"/>	Executed Russia Belarus Disclosure form provided as Exhibit F

* Standard forms for RFP's are available at:
<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/requests/>

See *Standard Documents for RFPs* for forms.

Standard DCF Annex B (budget) forms are available at:
<https://www.state.nj.us/dcf/providers/contracting/forms/>

** Treasury required forms are available on the Department of the Treasury website at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.shtml>

Click on Vendor Information and then on Forms.

Standard Language Document, and the Contract Reimbursement Manual and Information Manual may be reviewed via the Internet respectively

at: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/forms/> and www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/manuals

C. Requests for Information and Clarification:

Question and Answer:

DCF will provide additional and/or clarifying information about this initiative and application procedures through a time-limited electronic Question and Answer Period. Inquiries will not be accepted after the closing date of the Question and Answer Period.

Questions must be submitted in writing via email to:
DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov.

Written questions must be directly tied to the RFP. Questions should be asked in consecutive order, from beginning to end, following the organization of the RFP. All inquiries submitted to DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov must identify, in the Subject heading, the specific RFP for which the question/clarification is being sought. Each question should begin by referencing the RFP page number and section number to which it relates.

Written inquiries will be answered and posted on the DCF website as a written addendum to the RFP at:

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/notices/requests/>

Technical inquiries about forms and other documents may be requested anytime through DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov.

All other types of inquiries will not be accepted. **Applicants may not contact the Department directly, in person, or by telephone, concerning this RFP.**

EXHIBIT A
MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE
N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. (P.L. 1975, C. 127)
N.J.A.C. 17:27
GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the contractor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, and labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the targeted employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval
Certificate of Employee Information Report
Employee Information Report Form AA302 (electronically available at www.state.nj.us/treasury/contract_compliance).

The contractor and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Department of Children and Families, the Division of Purchase & Property, CCAU, EEO Monitoring Program as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Department of Children and Families, the Division of Purchase & Property, CCAU, EEO Monitoring Program for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to **Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27.**

EXHIBIT B
TITLE 10. CIVIL RIGHTS
CHAPTER 2. DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT ON PUBLIC WORKS
N.J. Stat. § 10:2-1 (2012)

§ 10:2-1. Antidiscrimination provisions

Antidiscrimination provisions. Every contract for or on behalf of the State or any county or municipality or other political subdivision of the State, or any agency of or authority created by any of the foregoing, for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the acquisition of materials, equipment, supplies or services shall contain provisions by which the contractor agrees that:

- a. In the hiring of persons for the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or for the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies or services to be acquired under this contract, no contractor, nor any person acting on behalf of such contractor or subcontractor, shall, by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex, discriminate against any person who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates;
- b. No contractor, subcontractor, nor any person on his behalf shall, in any manner, discriminate against or intimidate any employee engaged in the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or engaged in the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies or services to be acquired under such contract, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex;
- c. There may be deducted from the amount payable to the contractor by the contracting public agency, under this contract, a penalty of \$ 50.00 for each person for each calendar day during which such person is discriminated against or intimidated in violation of the provisions of the contract; and
- d. This contract may be canceled or terminated by the contracting public agency, and all money due or to become due hereunder may be forfeited, for any violation of this section of the contract occurring after notice to the contractor from the contracting public agency of any prior violation of this section of the contract.

No provision in this section shall be construed to prevent a board of education from designating that a contract, subcontract or other means of procurement of goods, services, equipment or construction shall be awarded to a small business enterprise, minority business enterprise or a women's business enterprise pursuant to P.L.1985, c.490 (*C.18A:18A-51 et seq.*).

Exhibit C

Notice of Standard Contract Requirements, Processes, and Policies

I. Instructions:

Please carefully read all the information on these page(s) and then sign, scan, and email this executed document to:
OfficeOf.ContractAdministration@DCF.NJ.Gov

II. Organizations awarded contracts are required to comply with:

- A. the terms and conditions of the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) contracting rules and regulations as set forth in the Standard Language Document (SLD), or the Individual Provider Agreement (IPA), or Department Agreement with a State Entity. Contractors may view these items on the internet at:
<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/contract/forms/StandardLanguage.doc>
- B. the terms and conditions of the policies of the Contract Reimbursement Manual and the Contract Policy and Information Manual. Contractors may review these items on the internet at:
<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/manuals>
- C. all applicable State and Federal laws and statues, assurances, certifications, and regulations.
- D. the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements of the State Affirmative Action Policy, N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.
- E. the laws relating to Anti-Discrimination, including N.J.S.A 10:2-1, Discrimination in Employment on Public Works.
- F. the Diane B. Allen Equal Pay Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.14 and N.J.A.C. 12:10-1.1 et seq., mandate to provide the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development a report regarding the compensation and hours worked by employees categorized by gender, race, ethnicity, and job category using the report templates found at <https://nj.gov/labor/equalpay/equalpay.html>.

- G. the confidentiality rules and regulations related to the recipients of contracted services including, but not limited to:
1. Compliance with 42 CFR Part 2 Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records.
 2. Maintenance of client specific and patient personal health information (PHI) and other sensitive and confidential information in accordance with all applicable New Jersey and Federal laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).
 3. Safeguarding of the confidentiality of case information as mandated by N.J.S.A 9:68.10a with the understanding that the release of any information may be in violation of State law and may result in the conviction of individuals for a disorderly person's level offense as well as possibly other disciplinary, civil, or criminal actions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10b.
 4. Ensuring the content of every contractor's web site protects the confidentiality of and avoids misinformation about the youth served and provides visitors with a mechanism for contacting upper administrative staff quickly and seamlessly.
- H. the terms of Executive Order No. 291 (EO 291) issued March 7, 2022; and DCF Administrative Order 14 titled Limitations on Activity Involving Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine; prohibiting the use of DCF funds to knowingly procure goods or services from any entity owned by or closely tied to the governments of Russia or Belarus, their instrumentalities, or companies investing directly in the same. In addition, every entity contracting with the State must submit to DCF a copy of a signed certification that it is not engaged in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus, as defined in L.2022, c.3 (S1889). The certification is available at: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/forms/>
- I. the requirement of N.J.S.A. 52:34-15 to warrant, by signing this document, that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure the contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the contractor for the purpose of securing business. If a breach or violation of this section occurs, the State shall have the right to terminate the contract without liability or in

its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

III. Organizations awarded contracts are advised:

- A. As noted in Section 5.12 of the SLD, or in Section 5.03 of the IPA, the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under this contract is expressly dependent upon the availability to DCF of funds appropriated by the State Legislature and the availability of resources. Funds awarded under this contract program may not be used to supplant or duplicate existing funding. If any scheduled payments are authorized under this contract, they will be subject to revision based on any audit or audits required by Section 3.13 Audit of the Standard Language Document (SLD) and the contract close-out described in: [Contract Closeout - CON-I-A-7-7.01.2007 \(nj.gov\)](#)
- B. All documentation related to products, transactions, proof of services and payments under this contract must be maintained for a period of five years from the date of final payment and shall be made available to the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller upon request.
- C. Any software purchased in connection with the proposed project must receive prior approval from the New Jersey Office of Information Technology, and any data collected or maintained through the implementation of the proposed program shall remain the property of DCF.
- D. Any data collected or maintained through the implementation of the proposed program shall remain the property of DCF.
- E. Contractors shall maintain a financial management system consistent with all the requirements of Section 3.12 of the SLD or the IPA.
- F. As defined in N.J.S.A. 52:32-33, contractors are encouraged to notify their employees, through information and materials or through an organ and tissue awareness program, of organ donation options. The information provided to employees shall be prepared in collaboration with the organ procurement organizations designated pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1320 b-8 to serve in this State.
- G. DCF endorsed the Prevent Child Abuse of New Jersey's (PCANJ) Sexual Abuse Safe-Child Standards (Standards) as a preventative tool for

contractors working with youth and children to reference when implementing policies and procedures to minimize the risks of the occurrence of child sexual abuse. The Standards are available on the internet at: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/SafeChildStandards.pdf>

- H. NJ Rev Stat § 9.6-8.10f (2017) requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to conduct a check of its child abuse registry for each person who is seeking employment in any facility or program that is licensed, contracted, regulated, or funded by DCF to determine if the person is included on the child abuse registry as a substantiated perpetrator of child abuse or neglect. Contractors are to utilize the Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) Online Application to set-up a facility account by visiting: <https://www.njportal.com/dcf/cari>
- I. DCF staff may conduct site visits to monitor the progress and problems of its contractors in conforming to all contract requirements and in accomplishing its responsibilities. The contractor may receive a written report of the site visit findings and may be expected to submit a plan of correction, if necessary, for overcoming any problems found. Corrective Action Plan (CAP) requirements, timeframes and consequences are explained on the internet at: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/policy_manuals/CON-I-A-8-8.03_issuance.shtml
- J. Contractors must have the ability to maintain the full operations census specified in the contract, and to submit timely service reports for Contracted Level of Service (CLOS) utilization in the format and at the time DCF requests.
- K. Contractors awarded contracts must have the ability to achieve full operational census within the time DCF specifies. Extensions may be available by way of a written request to the Contract Administrator, copied to the DCF Director managing the contracted services.
- L. As noted in Section 4.01 of the SLD or the IPA, DCF or the contractor may terminate this contract upon 60 days written advance notice to the other party for any reason whatsoever.
- M. DCF will advise contractors of the documents and reports in support of this contract that they must either timely submit or retain on-site as readily available upon request. The contractor also shall submit all required programmatic and financial reports in the format and within the timeframes that DCF specifies as required by Section 3.02 of the SLD or

IPA. Changes to the information in these documents and reports must be reported to DCF. Contractors are under a continuing obligation, through the completion of any contract with the State of NJ, to renew expired forms filed the NJ Department of Treasury and to notify Treasury in writing of any changes to the information initially entered on these forms. Failure to timely submit updated documentation and required reports may result in the suspension of payments and other remedies including termination.

IV. Organizations awarded contracts for the provision of certain types of services additionally shall be aware of the following:

- A. If services are provided at licensed sites, contractors must meet all NJ Department of Children and Families and other applicable Federal Licensure Standards.
- B. If services are paid with Medicaid funds, contractors must have the demonstrated ability, experience, and commitment to enroll in NJ Medicaid, and subsequently submit claims for reimbursement through NJ Medicaid and its established fiscal agent, within prescribed times.
- C. If services are paid with federal funds (including Medicaid funds), contractors must adhere to the provisions set forth in the Rider for Purchases funded in whole or in part, by federal funds. <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/contracting/forms/RIDER-For-Purchases-Funded-by-Federal-Funds-7.31.2020.pdf>
- D. If services are provided by programs licensed, contracted, or regulated by DCF and provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities, contractors must comply with:
 - 1. the Central Registry of Offenders against individuals with Developmental Disabilities law, N.J.S.A 30:6D-73 et seq. (Individuals on the Central Registry are barred from working in DCF-funded programs for persons with developmental disabilities. If you are not registered to access the Central Registry, DCF will facilitate the qualified applicant's registration into this system after the award of a contract.); and
 - 2. Danielle's Law: <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dds/documents/fireprocurement/ddd/Danielle%27s%20Law.pdf>

- E. If services are to be administered by the Contracted System Administrator (CSA), contractors must conform with, and provide services under, protocols that include required documentation and timeframes established by DCF and managed by the CSA. The CSA is the single point of entry for these services and facilitates service access, linkages, referral coordination, and monitoring of CSOC services across all child-serving systems. Contractors of these services will be required to utilize “Youth Link”, the CSOC web-based out-of-home referral/bed tracking system process to manage admissions and discharge after being provided training.

- F. If services are to be provided to youth and families who have an open child welfare case due to allegations of abuse and neglect, then contractors shall deliver these services in a manner consistent with the DCF Case Practice Management Plan (CPM) and the requirements for Solution Based Casework (SBC), an evidence-based, family centered practice model that seeks to help the family team organize, prioritize, and document the steps they will take to enhance safety, improve well-being, and achieve permanency for their children. SBC provides a common conceptual map for child welfare case workers, supervisors, leadership, and treatment providers to focus their efforts on clear and agreed upon outcomes. DCF may require contractors to participate in DCF sponsored SBC training, and to be involved in developing plans with the consensus of other participants, incorporating the elements of the plans into their treatment, participating in Family Team Meetings, and documenting progress and outcomes by race, age, identified gender, and other criteria DCF deems relevant and appropriate.

- G. If services provided under a DCF contract are for mental health, behavioral health, or addictions services by a contractor with at least 10 regular full-time or regular part-time employees who principally work for the contractor to provide those services, then P.L. 2021, c.1 (N.J.S.A. 30:1-1.2b) requires the contractor to:
 - 1. submit no later than 90 days after the effective date of the contract an attestation: (a) signed by a labor organization, stating that it has entered into a labor harmony agreement with such labor organization; or (b) stating that its employees are not currently represented by a labor organization and that no labor organization has sought to represent its employees during the 90-day period following the initiation or renewal of the contract; or

(c) signed by a labor organization, stating that it has entered into an agreement or binding obligation to be maintained through the term of the contract that provides a commitment comparable to a labor harmony agreement, as defined in section 4 of P.L.2021, c.1 (N.J.S.A. 30:1-1.2c). The required attestation is submitted to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of services caused by labor-management disputes and is a condition of maintaining a DCF contract. The failure to submit it shall result in DCF's issuance of a financial recovery and a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). Should the contractor not adhere to the terms of the CAP, DCF shall cancel or not renew the contract upon obtaining a replacement contractor to assume the contract or otherwise provide the services. An extension of the 90-day deadline shall be warranted if a labor organization seeks to represent a contractor's employees after the contract is renewed or entered into, but within the 90-day period following the effective date of the contract. The Commissioner of DCF may review any interested person's report of a failure by the contractor to adhere to these requirements and upon finding that a covered contractor failed to adhere to the requirements shall take corrective action which may include a CAP, financial recovery, and cost recoupment, and cancelling or declining to renew the contract. Should the covered contractor fail to engage in or complete corrective action, the Commissioner of DCF shall cancel or decline to renew the contract; and

2. make good faith efforts to comply with COVID-19 minimum health and safety protocols issued by DCF to adequately ensure the safety of the contractors, employees, and service recipients until the 366th day following the end of the public health emergency and state of emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020. The Commissioner of DCF shall take into account, prior to awarding or renewing any contract, any prior failures reported by any interested party to demonstrate a good faith effort to contain, limit, or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among the covered contractor's employees or service recipients and require at a minimum the submission of a CAP to contain, limit, or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 cases. Should the contractor fail to implement a plan or repeatedly fail to demonstrate good faith efforts to contain, limit, or mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Commissioner shall act, including financial penalties or cancellation or non-renewal of the contract.

- H. If the employees of a contractor or its subcontractor enter, work at, or provide services in any state agency location, then they are covered by Executive Order No. 271 (EO 271), which was signed and went into effect on October 20, 2021. A covered contractor must have a policy in place: (1) that requires all covered workers to provide adequate proof, in accordance with EO 271, to the covered contractor that the covered worker has been fully vaccinated; or (2) that requires that unvaccinated covered workers submit to COVID-19 screening testing at minimum one to two times weekly until such time as the covered worker is fully vaccinated; and (3) that the covered contractor has a policy for tracking COVID-19 screening test results as required by EO 271 and must report the results to local public health departments. The requirements of EO 271 apply to all covered contractors and subcontractors, at any tier, providing services, construction, demolition, remediation, removal of hazardous substances, alteration, custom fabrication, repair work, or maintenance work, or a leasehold interest in real property through which covered workers have access to State property. EO 271 excludes financial assistance; contracts or sub-contracts whose value is less than the State bid Advertising threshold under N.J.S.A. 52:34-7; employees who perform work outside of the State of New Jersey; or contracts solely for the provision of goods.
- I. If a contract includes the allocation and expenditure of COVID-19 Recovery Funds, then it is covered by Executive Order No. 166 (EO166), which was signed by Governor Murphy on July 17, 2020. The Office of the State Comptroller (“OSC”) is required to make all such contracts available to the public by posting them on the New Jersey transparency website developed by the Governor’s Disaster Recovery Office (GDRO Transparency Website), and by subjecting them to possible review by an Integrity Monitor.

By my signature below, I hereby confirm I am authorized to sign this document on behalf of my organization. I have read, understand, and have the authority to ensure my organization will comply with the terms and conditions of providing services under my contracts with DCF as described in the text and referenced documents above. The terms set forth in this document govern all executed contracts with DCF and contracts to be entered into with DCF in the future.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Exhibit D

**Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 Attestation Form for Providers with DCF
Contracts**

**ALL DCF Providers must sign, scan, and email this executed document to:
OfficeOf.ContractAdministration@Dcf.nj.us**

By my signature below, I hereby confirm I am authorized to review and sign this document on behalf of my organization. I additionally confirm:

_____ (1) my organization **is not** an entity entering into or renewing a contract or contracts with the Department of Children and Families to provide mental health, behavioral health, or addiction services that employs more than 10 regular full-time or regular part-time employees who principally work for the organization to provide the contracted services as defined in Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1 [if you select this response, please return the signed form as noted above].; OR

_____ (2) my organization **is** such an entity and in compliance with Public Law P.L. 2021, c.1., I therefore must submit within the 90-day period following the initiation or renewal of our DCF contract(s) either:

A. An attestation:

_____ signed by a labor organization confirming entry into a labor harmony agreement with such labor organization; **or**

_____ stating that our employees are not currently represented by a labor organization and that no labor organization has sought to represent our employees during the 90-day period following the initiation or renewal of our DCF contract(s) after the effective date of this act and up to the time of submission; **or**

_____ signed by a labor organization, confirming entry into an agreement or binding obligation to be maintained through the term of the DCF contract that provides a commitment comparable to a labor harmony agreement, as defined in section 4 of P.L.2021, c.1 (C.30:1-1.2c); **or**

B. A notice:

_____ from a labor organization confirming it seeks to represent our employees after the expiration of the 90-day period following the effective date of our DCF contract, to be followed no later than 90 days after the date of notice stating that we have entered into:

(1) a labor harmony agreement with the labor organization; or

(2) an agreement or binding obligation to be maintained through the term of the contract that provides a commitment comparable to a labor harmony agreement, as defined in section 4 of P.L.2021, c.1 (C.30:1-1.2c); **and**

C. A COVID-19 health and safety commitment:

I ensure the organization will continue to make a good faith effort to comply with minimum health and safety protocols issued by DCF to adequately ensure the safety of the covered providers' employees, and service recipients at least through the 366th day following the end of the public health emergency and state of emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020. These efforts include our adherence to the measures service providers may take to prevent and mitigate

exposure to, and spread of, the COVID-19 virus while delivering services, as explained by the DCF Commissioner's issuance of Guidance's published on the DCF website at: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/coronavirus_contractedproviders.html These Guidance's have amended and supplemented, and may continue to amend and supplement, our contract requirements. I additionally represent I am not aware of any prior failures to demonstrate a good faith effort to contain, limit, or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among the covered provider's employees or service recipients.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Organization Name: _____