



## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

### **1) Residential Treatment Services (RTC) for New Jersey Youth**

### **2) Specialty Services for New Jersey Youth**

**Responses due: February 19, 2020**

Christine Norbut Beyer, MSW  
Commissioner

February 7, 2020

## **Request for Information Purpose**

The New Jersey Department and Families (DCF), Children's System of Care (CSOC) is seeking information from providers from any community group, non-profit or for-profit entity, government agency, Universities, or other organization for services described in this Request for Information (RFI). We wish to identify best practices for using in-state and out-of-state providers to provide care for youth in the following settings:

- 1) Residential Treatment Center (RTC) which provides 24-hour staff supervised all-inclusive clinical services in a community-based therapeutic setting for children/youth/young adults who present severe and persistent challenges in social, emotional, behavioral, and/or psychiatric functioning. RTC IOS also provides programming for several special populations, which includes co-occurring substance use and or a youth with a developmental disability.
- 2) Specialty Services Centers out of home services are tailored to particular needs in a manner extending beyond the usual expectations of individualized care. Information gathered in response to this RFI will be used guide the coordination of care for youth with complex needs.

## **Applicant Criteria**

DCF is interested in information and input from the following potential applicants:

- 1) New Jersey DCF licensed and contracted residential treatment provider agencies who meet one or more of the following conditions:
  - a) The agency has current licensed, contracted, and underutilized treatment beds and/or
  - b) The agency has current licensed and uncontracted treatment beds and/or
  - c) The agency has the potential capacity to develop newly licensed and contracted treatment beds

## **Request for Information Facility/Program Description**

Each applicant should read the following descriptions in order to answer the request for information questions:

- 1) **Residential Treatment Services (RTC) for New Jersey Youth** are intended to implement an integrated service delivery approach with professional competencies and capabilities to maintain a treatment milieu that is functionally appropriate for to youth with significant maladaptive behaviors that may include juvenile justice involvement, gang involvement, aggressive/assaultive behavior, sexual behaviors (low to moderate risk), trauma, and/or fire setting (with prior treatment). The preferred service model will offer five-bed, community based-homes for older youth

(for females, males and transgender youth). The youth exhibit significant maladaptive behaviors (i.e., aggression, depression, non-acute harmful behavior to self or others, substance use due to cultural norm in the youth's community or as coping skill, frequent missing episodes, reaction to trauma, etc.). The youth has been (or is) at risk of being excluded from normal community, home, or school activities due to these significantly disruptive symptoms and/or behaviors. All-inclusive treatment needs must be addressed by means of a therapeutic milieu, which is fundamental at this intensity of service. Staff need to be trauma-informed, consistent in modeling healthy / prosocial interactions, and excel in relationship building.

- 2) **Specialty Services (SPEC) for New Jersey Youth** are uniquely tailored to the particular needs of youth in a manner that extends beyond the usual expectations of individualized care. Standard specialty criteria include problematic sexual behavior, fire setting, assaultive behavior, complex trauma, and animal cruelty. Treatment practices center around trauma-informed care, which focus on the individual's safety and well-being through engagement and an emphasis on de-escalation techniques. The individualized focus should implement therapeutic principles which are directly focused on the etiology of each individual's prescribed need.

**Additional clinical criteria for all services are available on the PerformCare website via the following link:**

<https://www.performcarenj.org/provider/clinical-criteria.aspx>

### **Request for Information Questions**

DCF requests responses to the following specific questions. **Please create a separate response for each of the Applicant Criteria (a, b, and c) above:**

- 1) Do you have an existing facility that can accommodate these services and how many beds may be available?
- 2) If you are in the State of New Jersey, where is the facility or proposed facility located?
- 3) What is the projected availability of beds in each of the two intensities of service (RTC and SPEC) in the next 2 months?
- 4) How does or how will education services be provided for youth?
- 5) What age groups can you safely accommodate?
- 6) Are you able to accommodate youth that identify as males, females, transgender in separate homes or can your facilities accommodate all genders including those transitioning?

- 7) Does or would your program identify any behaviors as exclusionary criteria for admission? If so, please list all exclusionary behaviors for admission.
- 8) What are some of the barriers/concerns related to having programs ready to admit youth within 2 months of the date that this RFI is issued?
- 9) When would the facility be ready to safely accept youth?

### **General Information/Instructions**

Comments and suggestions on this RFI can be forwarded by email to: [dcf.askrfp@dcf.nj.gov](mailto:dcf.askrfp@dcf.nj.gov). Please include the title of this RFI so that your comments, questions and other feedback can properly be assessed and considered.

All responses to this RFI are due by **12:00 PM** on or before **February 19, 2020**. Responses shall be accepted on a rolling basis. Responses will assist DCF in developing a coordinated plan that reflects stakeholder input. Applicants shall not contact the Department directly, in person or by telephone, concerning this RFI. Applicants may request information and/or assistance from [dcf.askrfp@dcf.nj.gov](mailto:dcf.askrfp@dcf.nj.gov).

Responses received after **12:00 PM** on **February 19, 2020** may not be considered in the planning process but will be reviewed.

To receive notices announcing funding opportunities by email, visit: <https://lp.constantcontact.com/su/7SbnfjG/NJDCF>