



Q&A

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Division on Women

2025 Request For Proposals for Sexual Violence Direct Services and Primary Prevention in Union County

Written questions related to the *content* of this Request for Proposals (RFP) were due on **October 16, 2025**.

A non-mandatory conference was held on **October 16, 2025 at 11:00 AM**.

Written *technical* questions about forms, documents, and format may be emailed at any time up to the due date to dcf.askrfp@dcf.nj.gov.

All responses must be submitted ONLINE.

To submit online, respondent must **first** complete and submit an Authorized Representative (AOR) registration form.

[Click here to access the AOR Registration Form.](#)

AOR registration forms must be received by **October 30, 2025**.

All responses must be received by **November 6, 2025** (by 12:00 NOON)

Section II-A – Required Performance and Staffing Deliverables for Sexual Violence Direct Services

1. Transition Coordination and Collaboration:

Will DCF or the outgoing provider offer any guidance, templates, or opportunities for coordination to help new providers ensure a smooth transition for survivors, community partners, and staff? (Page 12)

Answer: Yes, DCF or the outgoing provider will assist with coordination to ensure a smooth transition for survivors.

2. Continuity of Survivor Care:

To best support continuity of care for survivors, could DCF please clarify how active clients who begin services in late 2025 (for example, November or December) will be supported during the transition to the new contract period starting January 2026? (Page 12)

Answer: Yes, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) or the outgoing provider will assist with coordination to ensure a smooth transition for survivors.

3. Community Partnerships and Prevention Education:

Does DCF encourage collaboration with community partners, such as schools, faith-based organizations, or culturally specific programs, to expand outreach and prevention-education efforts? (Page 13)

Answer: Yes, please see page 14, 15, and 23 of the RFP. In addition, there are requirements for letters of collaboration and support from community partners

4. Systems Coordination (Law Enforcement, Hospitals, and SART Teams):

Will DCF assist new providers in establishing or maintaining coordination with system partners such as law enforcement, hospitals, and SART teams to ensure continuity in survivor response services? (Page 13)

Answer: DCF offers opportunities to liaise with other system partners and stakeholders. However, it is incumbent upon the provider to establish and maintain relationships within their community and communities they serve.

5. Accessibility and Equity:

The RFP notes that program sites must be centrally located and accessible. Could DCF please clarify whether “accessible” refers to ADA compliance or broader community accessibility (such as transportation or linguistic access)?

If a site requires modifications to improve physical accessibility, would a written plan or timeline for completion be acceptable at the start of the contract? (Page 13)

Answer: The site has to be in a centralized location that can be accessed via public transportation. In addition, the site needs to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and have flexible hours to ensure survivors can access services.

If improvements to the facility are needed, a written plan with a reasonable timeline will be acceptable.

6. Alternative Service Locations: In alignment with DCF's commitment to accessibility and equity, may applicants include the use of multiple accessible community locations to ensure services are available to all survivors regardless of transportation or mobility barriers? (Page 13)

Answer: Yes.

7. County Boundaries and Service Site Eligibility:

The RFP specifies that sites must be located in Union County. If a provider's administrative office is located just outside county lines but all direct services will occur within Union County, would this be considered compliant? (Page 13)

Answer: Yes, and there must be a physical site where services are provided in Union County.

Section II B - Required Performance and Staffing Deliverables for Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence (Resources)

8. Staff Continuity and Experience:

To promote continuity of services and minimize disruption for survivors, would DCF allow the awarded provider to consider qualified personnel with relevant experience in sexual-violence services, provided all credentialing, background checks, and CARL clearances are completed? (Page 22)

Answer: Yes, as long as they are in compliance with what is specified in the RFP.

9. Recognition of Prior Advocate Training:

For volunteers who have already completed the required 40-hour sexual-violence advocate training through the current program, may those training hours be recognized by DCF under the new contract? (Page 22)

Answer: Yes, as long as they can provide a certificate of completion of the 40-hour sexual violence training.

10. Trauma-Informed Supervision and Staff Wellness:

Given the emotionally demanding nature of sexual-violence advocacy, does DCF have any recommended models for trauma-informed supervision or staff-wellness initiatives that may be built into the program design? (Page 22)

Answer: DCF recommends reaching out to the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault for suggested trainings.

11. Technical Assistance and Evaluation Support:

Will DCF provide technical assistance or fidelity guidance for new providers during the first year of the contract to help ensure quality assurance and alignment with statewide survivor service standards? (Page 22)

Answer: Yes.

Section III –Documents Requested to be Submitted with This Response

12. Program Longevity and Multi-Year Planning:

Since the contract term begins in 2026 with renewal options, should applicants include long-term sustainability or capacity-building strategies in their proposals? (Page 25)

Answer: Yes.

13. Use of Start-Up Funding:

May start-up funds be used for accessibility-related improvements (such as ramp installation, door modifications, or restroom updates), technology for hybrid service delivery, or staff onboarding and training? (Pages 26–27)

Answer: Yes.

14. Performance Measures and Reporting:

Does DCF have standard performance indicators, data-tracking requirements, or reporting templates (for example, VOCA or VAWA aligned

measures) that new providers should prepare for during the start-up phase?
(Page 26)

Answer: Yes, DCF has its own standard performance measures.

15. Technology and Confidentiality Standards:

For hybrid and virtual service delivery, does DCF have preferred secure-technology platforms or data-storage protocols to ensure confidentiality and compliance with VOCA, HIPAA, and VAWA requirements?

May start-up or program funds be used for technology or security related costs? (Pages 26–27)

Answer: Yes. Any platforms used must comply with confidentiality requirements. Applicant can reach out to New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault for suggested platforms.

Start-up funds can be used for this purpose.

Miscellaneous

16. Is this an existing program that is currently funded but up for re-bid?

Answer: Yes, the services are currently being provided and there will be an overlap between the current and new providers.

17. Can you tell us who the existing provider is?

Answer: Union County Department of Health – Rape Crisis Center.