



COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

DRAFT CHILD ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT GRANT

TREATMENT AND / OR TRANSPORTATION

1. Do the following expenses fit within the description of funding use?

a) Transportation to and from mental health (intake, psychotherapy) appointments (the RFP lists medical appointments)?

Yes. This description has been added on page 3.

b) Purchasing a vehicle for the purposes of transportation to and from medical and mental health appointments? Dan to check

Funding through this RFP may not be used to purchase vehicles. The purchase of a vehicle is not a treatment service. An applicant must submit a separate proposal to DCF's RFP for Capital Funds. This modification has been added on page 3.

c) Hiring someone, such as a transportation aide, to transport clients in a county vehicle purchased with these funds?

Yes. Modification was made on page 3 to allow funding for a one-year consultant contract for a transportation aide to transport clients.

However, you cannot purchase a vehicle with these funds.

d) Paying for Uber, taxis, and/or bus passes?

Yes. Modification was made on page 3 to include these as allowable uses of funding for transportation.

e) Hiring a CAC Coordinator to assist with the accreditation process, data collection requirements, etc.?

Yes. Modification was made on page 3 to allow funding to hire a consultant for one year to perform the duties of CAC Coordinator to assist with the accreditation process, and data collection requirements.

- f) **Hiring a Family Advocate to help meet the NCA Standards which require an advocate to be present at every forensic interview to provide the family with information and support?**

Yes. Modification was made on page 3 to allow funding to hire a consultant for one year to perform the duties of a Family Advocate to help meet the NCA Standards which require an advocate to be present at every forensic interview to provide families with information and support.

- g) **Due to the delays in funding, can contracts be granted for up to 18 months instead of 12 months?**

No.

- h) **Paying for office space for psychotherapy in a facility other than the CAC? For example, Ocean County's CAC does not have space for on-site mental health services.**

No. The payment for office space is not a treatment service. An applicant must submit a separate proposal to DCF's RFP for Capital Funds.

- **Could they lease office space for providers to offer mental health services in areas that are underserved?**

No. Leasing office space is not a treatment service. An applicant must submit a separate proposal to DCF's RFP for Capital Funds.

- i) **Paying for an additional mental health provider at a partner mental health agency that would serve CAC clients?**

Yes. Modification was made on page 3 for the provision of funding for an additional mental health provider at a partner mental health agency to better serve CAC clients.

- j) **Can funding be used to send mental health providers to train in evidence-based practice?**

Training funds may be available through the NJ Children's Alliance (NJCA). This funding may be used for this purpose if other resources are not available.

For clarification, on page 3, the following is stated: "Hire a new consulting position as a MDT Coordinator."

- **The MDT Coordinator position is a permanent one that is already established in all 21 counties. However, the position, although in**

most counties should be full-time, is typically a second role for a Victim Advocate. Thus, a position such as Family Advocate to support the Victim Advocate/MDT Coordinator would be ideal to assist with ensuring that every family receives the time and attention needed (as stated in “question 1f.” above).

Modification was made on page 3 to allow funding to hire a consultant for one year to perform the duties of a Family Advocate to help meet the NCA Standards which require an advocate to be present at every forensic interview to provide families with information and support.

- **Also, a CAC Coordinator to assist with the accreditation process and data requirements would be beneficial (as stated in “question 1e.” above).**

Modification was made on page 3 to allow funding to hire a consultant for one year to perform the duties of CAC Coordinator to assist with the accreditation process, and data collection requirements.

2. **For clarification, on page 3, the following is stated: “In counties without a defined space dedicated as a child advocacy center, this RFP permits an application for funds for the development of treatment services in an identified safe, comfortable and neutral space in which forensic interviews are to be conducted and other services or supports may be provided.”**

Modifications was made to the RFP on page 4. This RFP permits services to be provided outside the CAC by a separate provider agency.

On page 4, it continues: “The Applicant’s treatment proposal must include, at a minimum space to accommodate forensic interviewing...”

These statements suggest that mental health services have to be provided where forensic interviews are conducted. While offering onsite mental health is usually the goal, it is not always possible (e.g., space limitations even with a new proposed facility, especially when in a county building) or the best use of resources (e.g., some counties have trained practitioners in nearby facilities that are easily accessible, therefore a better use of resources might be to fund an additional clinician at that facility). Thus, please consider modifying these statements to allow for funding to be used for providing mental health services off-site.

Modifications were made to the RFP on page 5. Mental health services can be provided by outside personnel at a provider agency, but it does not include funding for office space

3. Under the category for consideration for grant approval labeled as a Non-Profit entity licensed to work in NJ and must be affiliated with a Prosecutor's office on page 1, 1)-3):

Do you have to have prior affiliation to be considered for the grant? If not, will you be given a grace period? If not, will you be given a deadline to secure affiliation? If not, what kind of proof of affiliation is acceptable?

An Applicant for treatment and/or transportation funds for a County WITHOUT a CAC must submit a separate Response to DCF's RFP for Capital Funds in order for its Response for Treatment Funds to be considered.

Yes, you need to have to have an affiliation with a Prosecutor's Office in the form of an MOU agreement or other written agreement to be eligible to apply for this grant.

As per this RFP on Page 1: An Applicant for treatment and/or transportation service funds for a County WITHOUT a CAC must be applying for funds to provide treatment and/or transportation services at a new CAC.

- 1) Be a part of a County Government or Prosecutor's Office or
- 2) Be a non-profit corporation that is duly registered to conduct business in the State of New Jersey and be affiliated with a County Prosecutor's Office by means of a prior Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or other written agreement or
- 3) Be a County Multidisciplinary Diagnostic Team (MDT) affiliated with a County Prosecutor's Office.

This will be clarified in the RFP.

4. In your definition of a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) you mentioned that it must be a safe space for youth where forensic interviews can be conducted. Therefore, can partial funding be allocated towards Camera's and employing a licensed Security Guard on premises?

No. Funding for a licensed security guard and cameras are not treatment services. If an applicant wants to install security cameras, they must submit a separate proposal to DCF's RFP for Capital Funds. Funding for a security guard under Capital funds would not be allowed.

5. **Since the treatment of youth by MDT personnel is to be conducted at the CAC, for offenders and victims can you further explain what is the minimum and maximum age range of youth for treatment?**

Yes. RFP was modified on page 1 to include the ages of children and youth from age 0-21.

6. **Since the grant funds under “Transportation” are to be used for commuting children back and forth from the CAC and medical appointments, therefore besides some funds being allocated towards trauma treatment clinicians such as Contract Psychologist, LMSW or LCSW Consultants, can the agency also allocate funds towards Case Managers to assist with arranging medical appointments and accompanying the youth to said appointments?**

Yes. As per this RFP on page 3, consulting contracts for the position may be made up to one (1) year.

7. **Since the additional requirement to qualify for this Treatment/Transportation grant for Counties without a CAC is that they be approved for the Child Advocacy Funding - Capital Grant for obtaining a lease premises, renovations, enhancements, etc.**

Will additional time be granted to the agency as they await final determination of whether they were awarded the Capital Grant for the establishment of the actual CAC?

Yes.

8. **Can a list of Counties that already have established CAC’s be provided at the Mandatory Bidders Conference prior to the submission deadline of the RFP’s?**

Yes. The list will be included in the RFP and/or attachment which will be posted.

9. **Once the RFP is submitted. what is the turn-around time wherein the agency can expect to receive a determination in terms of their ratings from the Committee and an answer whether or not they were one of the 21 awardees chosen since the projected start date for treatment should begin in 2019?**

There is no set time for the award announcement. The award announcement will be made after all eligible proposals have been evaluated and scored and a funding recommendation is approved by the

Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families. You will be given up to 12 months to spend funds.

10. Can the agency put in more than one RFP if they are capable of running multiple CAC's in various NJ Counties?

Yes, applicants can submit for more than one proposal only for counties without a CAC: Salem, Atlantic and Cape May. Applicants are required to submit separate proposals when applying for more than one award.

No. DCF will not entertain proposals for a new CAC for counties with an existing/established CAC.

RFP was modified on page 4.

11. In regard to the Mandatory Bidders Conference requiring Agency's attendance does the CEO have to be present or can an authorized agent of the company attend on his behalf?

The CEO is not required to attend. An agency representative must attend on behalf of the agency and sign in at the Bidder's Conference.

12. On pg. 26, line D under transportation services in the budget, do you need to have itemized the a) Cost of Lease or Purchase Amount b) insurance cost c) gas allowance d) routine maintenance e) emergency repairs funds held and f) Salary of Driver?

Line D must be itemized. No vehicles can be purchased or leased with these funds.

13. Is there a funding limit set for counties with or without a CAC?

Yes. For counties with or without a Child Advocacy Center will be eligible for up to \$200,000.