

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers

TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein.

Program Name: Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers

Purpose: This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the development of Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers (OTP). This RFP is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response Grant (SOR). Total annualized funding for this RFP is \$750,000, subject to federal appropriations. The contract award is through September 29, 2022 depending on federal appropriations. Through this initiative, the successful bidder will provide training, coaching, and consultation services to counselors and leadership employed at Department of Health (DOH)-licensed Opioid Treatment Providers (OTPs). The goal of this initiative is to narrow the treatment gap experienced by Black/African Americans (AA) who are diagnosed with opioid and stimulant use disorders and who are statistically less likely to receive or access services. A second goal of this initiative is to increase the prescribing of Medication for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) among the Black/AA community. DMHAS anticipates making one (1) award.

This project will provide OTP counselors and agency leadership with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to ensure that services are provided in a manner which exemplifies the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care and SAMHSA's *TIP 59: Improving Cultural Competence*. While it can be challenging to take a holistic view of an individual and see more than the substance use disorder (SUD), this may be even more so for Black/African Americans who are subjected to the implicit biases of the health care system. Failing to bridge a racial cultural divide often contributes to premature termination of treatment among people of color. When the cultural context is ignored or misunderstood, respect for the client is lacking, little hope is provided, and it becomes challenging for Black/African Americans with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) to engage in treatment.

Available Funding Amount: Total annualized funding for this RFP is \$750,000 subject to federal appropriations.

Who Can Apply/Bidder Qualifications: To be eligible for consideration for this RFP, the bidder must satisfy the following requirements:

- The bidder may be a non-profit, for-profit, or governmental entity;
- For a bidder that has a contract with DMHAS in place when this RFP is issued, that bidder must have all outstanding Plans of Correction (PoC) for deficiencies submitted to DMHAS for approval prior to proposal submission;
- The bidder must be fiscally viable based upon an assessment of the bidder's audited financial statements. If a bidder is determined, in DMHAS' sole discretion, to be insolvent or to present insolvency within the twelve (12) months after bid submission, DMHAS will deem the proposal ineligible for contract award;
- The bidder must not appear on the State of New Jersey Consolidated Debarment Report at <http://www.nj.gov/treasury/revenue/debarment/debarsearch.shtml> or be suspended or debarred by any other State or Federal entity from receiving funds;
- The bidder shall not employ a member of the Board of Directors as an employee or in a consultant capacity; and
- Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, a for-profit bidder and each proposed subcontractor must have a valid Business Registration Certificate on file with the Division of Revenue. This statutory requirement does not apply to non-profit organizations, private colleges and universities, or state and municipal agencies.

Proposal Procedure: Effective November 16, 2021, the Request for Proposal (RFP) is available at <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/>. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

Proposal Receiving Office: Helen Staton
Department of Human Services
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
5 Commerce Way, Suite 100
PO Box 362
Hamilton, NJ 08691-0362

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. December 14, 2021.

Notification Date: Bidders will be notified on or before January 14, 2022.

Sarah Adelman, Acting Commissioner

Date