



Request for Information (RFI): Identifying Organizations with the Interest and Appropriate Expertise to Participate in a DHHS/OFA Fatherhood Grant

I. KEY DATES FOR THIS RFI

Release Date: March 10, 2020

Response Date: April 3, 2020

II. ISSUED BY: Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County

III. PURPOSE

This request for information (RFI) seeks to identify (Tarrant County) organizations with the interest and appropriate expertise to serve as partners with Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County as grantee, for an anticipated grant solicitation from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Family Assistance (OFA) to provide competitive grant awards that support “activities to promote responsible fatherhood: under each of three broad categories of 1) promoting or sustaining marriage, 2) responsible parenting, and 3) economic stability activities authorized under Section 403(a)(2) of the Social Security Act.

OFA is strongly encouraging submitted proposals to be designed for implementation of one specific program model for one specific service population. Target populations mentioned in the funding forecast were rural fathers, reentering fathers and urban fathers. For our submission, Workforce Solutions will focus on serving approximately 250 adult urban fathers or father figures each year (ages 18 and over whose children are age 24 and younger). Applicants, such as Workforce Solutions, must provide evidence of organizational capacity to implement their proposed project. We are seeking the same evidence within our partners for their organizational capacity to provide the proposed services to this grant.

IV. GRANT ANTICIPATED TIMELINE:

Estimated Release Date of Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): March 23, 2020

Estimated Application Due Date: May 22, 2020

Estimated Award Date: September 29, 2020

Estimated Project Start Date: September 30, 2020

Expected Number of Awards: 68

Estimated Total Program Funding (Nationally) \$ 60 million

Award Ceiling: \$1.5 million (annually)

Award Floor: \$500,000 (annually)

V. INFORMATION REQUESTED: Please prepare your responses consistent with at least one or more of the following anticipated grant requirements:

Subject Expertise:

Interested parties should specifically address one or more of the following or related project activities:

Responsible Parenting – Activities to promote responsible parenting, such as:

- Counseling, mentoring, and mediation
- Disseminating information about good parenting practices
- Skills-based parenting education
- Parenting education strategies to build resilience in children and families, including strategies to raise awareness of adverse childhood experiences (ACE) and trauma-informed approaches
- Encouraging child support payments
- Other methods
 - OUTCOMES include: improved parenting and co-parenting skills, increased frequency of father/child engagement; improved adult and child well-being

Economic Stability – Activities to foster economic stability, such as:

- Helping fathers improve their economic status by providing activities such as work first activities, job search, job training, short-term training for industry-recognized credentials, job retention, job enhancement education, including career-advancing (career pathways) education
- Dissemination of employment materials
- Coordination with existing employment services such as welfare-to-work programs; referrals to local employment training initiatives
- Customized job fairs
- Other methods
 - OUTCOMES include: progress toward greater economic stability, including increased skill attainment and employment, and reduced recidivism as appropriate; reduced poverty

Healthy Marriage – Activities to promote and/or sustain marriage through activities, such as:

- Counseling, mentoring, disseminating information about the benefits of marriage and two-parent involvement for children
- Enhancing relationship skills
- Education regarding how to control aggressive behavior
- Disseminating information and/or training on the causes of domestic violence and abuse
- Marriage preparation programs
- Premarital counseling
- Marital inventories
- Skills-based marriage education
- Financial planning seminars, including improving a family's ability to effectively manage family business affairs by means such as education, counseling, or mentoring on matters related to family finances, including household management, budgeting, banking, and handling of financial transactions and home maintenance
- Divorce education and reduction programs, including mediation and counseling
 - OUTCOMES: Improved family functioning (e.g. couple relationships); increased economic stability and mobility; improved healthy relationship and marriage skills

Rough Estimate: 1 Year Budget:

This RFI asks for a general estimate of one-year of costs to provide the services outlined above. Please provide on the attached form a rough estimate of annual personnel and operating costs associated with services you are proposing for the purpose of this review.

VI. BACKGROUND

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County (WSTC) will serve as the grantee for the proposal if awarded. The Board is the local workforce development Board serving Tarrant County, Texas.

Workforce Solutions spearheaded the development of a county-wide initiative to promote responsible fatherhood in our community, which led to establishing the Fatherhood Coalition of Tarrant County, for which WSTC continues to serve as an active founding member. Our efforts toward creating community collaboration in fatherhood initiatives began in October 2000 when we invited social service organizations in Tarrant County to a series of public forums and discussions focusing on fathers and their children. In 2011, WSTC was awarded one of the OFA fatherhood grants, known as FACT, in collaboration with eight community partners to implement a four-year comprehensive responsible fatherhood program. We are looking forward to this opportunity again.

VII. RESPONDING TO THIS RFI:

Please submit your responses in a WORD or PDF document along with the attached proposed budget form. There is not a page limitation, but we appreciate concisely written responses.

- I. Identify Your Organization and Contact Person
- II. Identify Your Service Component(s) and Expertise in this Area
- III. Identify Your Target Population and estimated number you would serve with the submitted Budget
- IV. Identify Your Service Strategy
- V. Provide a 1 Year Rough Budget (The reviewers will use this budget and service numbers to estimate your cost per for the purposes of scaling up or down for the actual proposal).

Responses will be accepted through **Friday, April 3, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Central Daylight Savings Time.**

Please email your response to the above inquiries to: byron.nelson@workforcesolutions.net

In your response, please also provide the following in the subject line: **RFI Response to WSTC for Fatherhood Grant 2020**

This RFI is for information and planning purposes only and should not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on the part of Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County.

Acknowledgment of receipt of responses may not be made, nor will respondents be notified of WSTC's evaluation of the information received. No basis for claims against WSTC shall arise as a result of a response to this request for information or WSTC's use of such information as either part of our evaluation process or in developing specifications for any subsequent announcement.

Responses will be held confidential. Any proprietary information should be so marked.

Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries to:

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