

Nebraska Office of Consumer Affairs

Request for Proposals
For
Contractual Services

**Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Behavioral Health**

April 2014

Peer Support and Trauma Related Projects and Programs for Communities

Proposals due by April 30, 2014, 2p.m.



SUMMARY

Peer Support and Trauma Related Projects and Programs for Communities

The information contained in this summary highlights items of immediate importance to all potential contractors.

Contracting Organization: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Behavioral Health

Initiative: Nebraska Peer Support and Trauma Projects and Programs for Communities

Total Funds Available: \$36,550 will be made available with fixed-price contract awards no less than \$1,000 per award and no greater than \$5,000 per award.

Terms of the Contracts: A contract resulting from this Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued for a period of up to seven (7) months effective on or after May 31, 2014 through December 31, 2014, with no option to renew. A sample of this contract may be found in Attachment 1.

General Information: The Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to solicit proposals from consumer-run organizations, organizations that provide peer support and/or peer support training, and whose work has a local, multi-community, or statewide focus in delivering Adult and/or Family Peer Support or training this workforce. The awarded contractors will be responsible for delivering community-based education or educational resources related to trauma at a competitive and reasonable cost. DHHS seeks multiple contractors so that these services may be provided to meet the unique needs of communities across the state of Nebraska. Fixed-price contracts will be awarded as a result of this request for proposal and DHHS reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, wholly or in part, or to award to multiple bidders in whole or in part.

Services to Be Delivered: Trauma related education for Adult and/or Family Peer Support programming within community-based settings. Projects and activities could include a public speaker, training, and delivery of expert technical assistance in a planning process to address Adult and/or Family Peer Support and trauma.

Background and Instructions
Peer Support and Trauma Related Projects and Programs for Communities
Contract for Services

Background:

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announces the availability of funding for contracts to organizations and entities in Nebraska to support new or on-going activities as well as one-time projects for Adult and/or Family Peer Support and Trauma related technical assistance or education. Fixed-price contracts will be awarded as a result of this opportunity for a period of up to seven (7) months effective on or after May 31, 2014 through December 31, 2014 with no option to renew. The awarded contractors will be responsible for delivering community-based trauma and peer support related technical assistance or education at a competitive and reasonable cost. Proposals will be evaluated by DHHS, and final selection will be based on the evaluation process.

Purpose:

The purpose is to increase the peer support workforce knowledge about trauma. Nebraska recently conducted a study that found a high prevalence of trauma within the peer support workforce and people utilizing behavioral health services. This experience included compassion fatigue and reported adaptations following trauma on a scale of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms and a Post-Traumatic Growth Scale. Nebraska has identified the following priority target populations:

- Adult Peer Support Specialists
- Family Peer Support Specialists
- Adults and families that utilize Adult & Family Peer Support Services

Preference will be given to those proposals demonstrating the primary emphasis is placed on reaching and serving the identified target population(s) while addressing compassion fatigue, self-care for the effects of trauma and/or peer relationship skills pertaining to trauma, as well as those proposals which are facilitated and/or co-facilitated by trauma survivors.

Sample Projects and Activities: Projects and activities should be appropriate for the proposed target population and supportive of a community and/or regional and /or statewide approach that incorporates technical assistance or education for a planning process. Samples or outlines of materials used must be submitted along with proposals. Examples of projects or activities may include but are not limited to:

- Large group presentations with guest speakers
- Curriculum-based training or workshops
- Provision of Technical Assistance for a planning process

Contractor Eligibility:

Eligible bidders include any public or private non-profit entity, peer-run organizations, and family-run organizations.

Each bidder must identify a lead agency if applying as a coalition of entities.

The bidder must complete Form A and Form B, mandatory requirements.

Response Deadline for Request: April 30, 2014 2:00 p.m.

Date of Contract Execution: May 31, 2014

All contract deliverables must be completed by December 31, 2014 with invoices dated no later than this date.

Bidders should submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of the entire proposal. The original and copies of the proposal must be either mailed or hand delivered to the following address:

Carol Coussons De Reyes
Department of Health and Human Service
Office of Consumer Affairs
301 Centennial Mall South, 3rd Floor – PO Box 95026
Lincoln, NE 68509-5026

Proposals that are faxed or emailed will not be considered in the award process. All proposals must clearly marked "Trauma & Peer Support Services RFP" and must be received no later than 2:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014.

From the date the RFP is issued until an award is issued, contact between potential contractors and individuals employed by the State is restricted only to written communication. Written questions are due no later than April 11, 2014 and should be submitted via email to Carol.CoussonsdeReyes@nebraska.gov.

Written answers will be provided April 21, 2014 through the posting of FAQs on the Internet at the following link: http://dhhs.ne.gov/behavioral_health/Pages/behavioral_health_index.aspx

Within ten (10) business days of the posting of the award(s), grievances/protests are to be expressed in writing and mailed to the Division of Behavioral Health Director Scot Adams, PO Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026. The letter should state the specific issues to be addressed and should provide a point of contact and address to which a response can be sent. If the response from the Division of Behavioral Health Director has not satisfied the grievance, a meeting may be scheduled.

SAMPLE SERVICES CONTRACT

BETWEEN THE

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Office of Consumer Affairs
AND**

XYZ Organization

This contract is entered into by and between the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, **DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH** Office of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter "DHHS"), and **XYZ Organization** (hereinafter "Contractor").

PURPOSE. The purpose of this contract is to increase the peer support workforce knowledge about trauma.

I. TERM AND TERMINATION

- A. TERM. This contract is in effect from May 31, 2014 until December 31, 2014.
- B. TERMINATION. This contract may be terminated at any time upon mutual written consent or by either party for any reason upon submission of written notice to the other party at least Thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination. DHHS may also terminate this contract in accord with the provisions designated "FUNDING AVAILABILITY" and "BREACH OF CONTRACT." In the event either party terminates this contract, the Contractor shall provide to DHHS all work in progress, work completed, and materials provided to it by DHHS in connection with this contract immediately.

II. CONSIDERATION

- A. TOTAL PAYMENT. DHHS shall pay the Contractor a total amount not to exceed \$ (spell out in dollars) for the services specified herein.
- B. PAYMENT STRUCTURE. Payment shall be structured as follows: *Payment structure will be reflective of approved budget.*
- C. PROMPT PAYMENT. Payment shall be made in compliance with the Nebraska Prompt Payment Act, NEB. REV. STAT. §81-2401 through 81-2408. Unless otherwise provided herein, payment shall be made by electronic means.
- D. Automated Clearing House (ACH) Enrollment Form Requirements for Payment.

The vendor shall complete and sign the State of Nebraska ACH Enrollment Form and obtain the necessary information and signatures from their financial institution. The completed form must be submitted before payments to the vendor can be made. Download ACH Form:

http://www.das.state.ne.us/accounting/nis/address_book_info.htm

III. SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. The Contractor shall do the following:

1. Deliver services as proposed (insert specific deliverables/activities based on approved proposal).
2. By December 16, 2014, prepare and submit a final invoice along with a detailed report of completed events/activities by site and date including numbers served.
3. Address one or more of the following:
 - a. Large group presentations with guest speakers
 - b. Curriculum-based training or workshops
 - c. Provision of technical assistance for a planning process

B. DHHS shall do the following:

1. Provide technical assistance as needed through phone calls and/or email.
2. Facilitate communication as needed between contractor and any potential stakeholders of approved activities.

IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. ACCESS TO RECORDS AND AUDIT RESPONSIBILITIES.

1. All Contractor books, records, and documents regardless of physical form, including data maintained in computer files or on magnetic, optical or other media, relating to work performed or monies received under this contract shall be subject to audit at any reasonable time upon the provision of reasonable notice by DHHS. Contractor shall maintain all records for five (5) years from the date of final payment, except that records that fall under the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) shall be maintained for six (6) full years from the date of final payment. In addition to the foregoing retention periods, all records shall be maintained until all issues related to an audit, litigation or other action are resolved to the satisfaction of DHHS. All records shall be maintained in accordance with generally accepted business practices.
2. The Contractor shall provide DHHS any and all written communications received by the Contractor from an auditor related to Contractor's internal control over financial reporting requirements and communication with those charged with governance including those in compliance with or related to Statement of Auditing Standards (SAS) 112 *Communicating Internal Control related Matters Identified in an Audit* and SAS 114 *The Auditor's Communication with Those*

Charged With Governance. The Contractor agrees to provide DHHS with a copy of all such written communications immediately upon receipt or instruct any auditor it employs to deliver copies of such written communications to DHHS at the same time copies are delivered to the Contractor, in which case the Contractor agrees to verify that DHHS has received a copy.

3. The Contractor shall immediately correct any material weakness or condition reported to DHHS in the course of an audit and notify DHHS that the corrections have been made.
 4. In addition to, and in no way in limitation of any obligation in this contract, the Contractor shall be liable for audit exceptions, and shall return to DHHS all payments made under this contract for which an exception has been taken or which has been disallowed because of such an exception, upon demand from DHHS.
 5. The above provisions shall survive termination of the contract.
- B. AMENDMENT. This contract may be modified only by written amendment, executed by both parties. No alteration or variation of the terms and conditions of this contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties.
- C. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable local, state and federal statutes and regulations regarding civil rights and equal opportunity employment, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Public Law 93-112; the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336; and the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 48-1101 to 48-1125. Violation of said statutes and regulations will constitute a material breach of contract. The Contractor shall insert this provision in all subcontracts.
- D. ASSIGNMENT. The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest, rights, or duties under this contract to any person, firm, or corporation without prior written consent of DHHS. In the absence of such written consent, any assignment or attempt to assign shall constitute a breach of this contract.
- E. ASSURANCE. If DHHS, in good faith, has reason to believe that the Contractor does not intend to, is unable to, or has refused to perform or continue to perform all material obligations under this contract, DHHS may demand in writing that the Contractor give a written assurance of intent to perform. Failure by the Contractor to provide written assurance within the number of days specified in the demand may, at DHHS's option, be the basis for terminating this contract.
- F. BREACH OF CONTRACT. DHHS may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, if the Contractor fails to perform its obligations under the contract in a timely and proper manner. DHHS may, by providing a written notice of default to the Contractor, allow the Contractor to cure a failure or breach of contract within a period of thirty

(30) days or longer at DHHS's discretion considering the gravity and nature of the default. Said notice shall be delivered by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested or in person with proof of delivery. Allowing the Contractor time to cure a failure or breach of contract does not waive DHHS's right to immediately terminate the contract for the same or different contract breach which may occur at a different time. DHHS may, at its discretion, contract for any services required to complete this contract and hold the Contractor liable for any excess cost caused by Contractor's default. This provision shall not preclude the pursuit of other remedies for breach of contract as allowed by law.

- G. CONFIDENTIALITY. Any and all information gathered in the performance of this contract, either independently or through DHHS, shall be held in the strictest confidence and shall be released to no one other than DHHS without the prior written authorization of DHHS, provided, that contrary contract provisions set forth herein shall be deemed to be authorized exceptions to this general confidentiality provision. This provision shall survive termination of this contract.
- H. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. In the performance of this contract, the Contractor shall avoid all conflicts of interest and all appearances of conflicts of interest. The Contractor shall immediately notify DHHS of any such instances encountered so that other arrangements can be made to complete the work.
- I. DATA OWNERSHIP AND COPYRIGHT. All data collected as a result of this project shall be the property of DHHS. The Contractor shall not copyright any of the copyrightable material produced in conjunction with the performance required under this contract without written consent from DHHS. DHHS hereby reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use the copyrightable material for state government purposes. This provision shall survive termination of this contract.
- J. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION OR DECLARED INELIGIBLE. The Contractor certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
- K. DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE. All references in this contract to laws, rules, regulations, guidelines, directives, and attachments which set forth standards and procedures to be followed by the Contractor in discharging its obligations under this contract shall be deemed incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract with the same force and effect as if set forth in full text, herein.
- L. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE. Contractor certifies that it maintains a drug-free workplace environment to ensure worker safety and workplace integrity. Contractor shall provide a copy of its drug-free workplace policy at any time upon request by DHHS.

- M. FORCE MAJEURE. Neither party shall be liable for any costs or damages resulting from its inability to perform any of its obligations under this contract due to a natural disaster, or other similar event outside the control and not the fault of the affected party ("Force Majeure Event"). A Force Majeure Event shall not constitute a breach of this contract. The party so affected shall immediately give notice to the other party of the Force Majeure Event. Upon such notice, all obligations of the affected party under this contract which are reasonably related to the Force Majeure Event shall be suspended, and the affected party shall do everything reasonably necessary to resume performance as soon as possible. Labor disputes with the impacted party's own employees will not be considered a Force Majeure Event and will not suspend performance requirements under this contract.
- N. FUNDING AVAILABILITY. DHHS may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, in the event funding is no longer available. Should funds not be appropriated, DHHS may terminate the contract with respect to those payments for the fiscal years for which such funds are not appropriated. DHHS shall give the Contractor written notice thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of any termination. The Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any authorized work which has been satisfactorily completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the Contractor be paid for a loss of anticipated profit.
- O. GOVERNING LAW. The contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws and statutes of the State of Nebraska. Any legal proceedings against DHHS or the State of Nebraska regarding this contract shall be brought in Nebraska administrative or judicial forums as defined by Nebraska State law. The Contractor shall comply with all Nebraska statutory and regulatory law.
- P. HOLD HARMLESS.
1. The Contractor shall defend, indemnify, hold, and save harmless the State of Nebraska and its employees, volunteers, agents, and its elected and appointed officials ("the indemnified parties") from and against any and all claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses ("the claims"), sustained or asserted against the State of Nebraska, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the willful misconduct, negligence, error, or omission of the Contractor, its employees, subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, except to the extent such Contractor liability is attenuated by any action of the State of Nebraska which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.
 2. DHHS's liability is limited to the extent provided by the Nebraska Tort Claims Act, the Nebraska Contract Claims Act, the Nebraska Miscellaneous Claims Act, and any other applicable provisions of law. DHHS does not assume liability for the action of its Contractors.
 3. The above provisions shall survive termination of the contract.

- Q. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR. The Contractor is an Independent Contractor and neither it nor any of its employees shall for any purpose be deemed employees of DHHS. The Contractor shall employ and direct such personnel as it requires to perform its obligations under this contract, exercise full authority over its personnel, and comply with all workers' compensation, employer's liability and other federal, state, county, and municipal laws, ordinances, rules and regulations required of an employer providing services as contemplated by this contract.
- R. INVOICES. Invoices for payments submitted by the Contractor shall contain sufficient detail to support payment. Any terms and conditions included in the Contractor's invoice shall be deemed to be solely for the convenience of the parties.
- S. INTEGRATION. This written contract represents the entire agreement between the parties, and any prior or contemporaneous representations, promises, or statements by the parties, that are not incorporated herein, shall not serve to vary or contradict the terms set forth in this contract.
- T. NEBRASKA NONRESIDENT INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING. Contractor acknowledges that Nebraska law requires DHHS to withhold Nebraska income tax if payments for personal services are made in excess of six hundred dollars (\$600) to any contractor who is not domiciled in Nebraska or has not maintained a permanent place of business or residence in Nebraska for a period of at least six months. This provision applies to individuals, to a corporation if 80% or more of the voting stock of the corporation is held by the shareholders who are performing personal services, and to a partnership or limited liability company if 80% or more of the capital interest or profits interest of the partnership or limited liability company is held by the partners or members who are performing personal services.

The parties agree, when applicable, to properly complete the Nebraska Department of Revenue Nebraska Withholding Certificate for Nonresident Individuals Form W-4NA or its successor. The form is available at:

http://www.revenue.ne.gov/tax/current/f_w-4na.pdf or
http://www.revenue.ne.gov/tax/current/fill-in/f_w-4na.pdf

- U. NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY ACCESS STANDARDS. The Contractor shall review the Nebraska Technology Access Standards, found at <http://www.nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/> and ensure that products and/or services provided under the Contract comply with the applicable standards. In the event such standards change during the Contractor's performance, the State may create an amendment to the Contract to request that Contract comply with the changed standard at a cost mutually acceptable to the parties.
- V. NEW EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS. The Contractor shall use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new

employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. § 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of a newly hired employee.

If the Contractor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

1. The Contractor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at www.das.state.ne.us.
2. If the Contractor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Contractor agrees to provide the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Contractor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.
3. The Contractor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required and the Contractor may be disqualified or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by NEB. REV. STAT. § 4-108.

W. PUBLIC COUNSEL. In the event Contractor provides health and human services to individuals on behalf of DHHS under the terms of this contract, Contractor shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Public Counsel under NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 81-8,240 through 81-8,254 with respect to the provision of services under this contract. This provision shall not apply to contracts between DHHS and long-term care facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the state long-term care ombudsman pursuant to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Act. This provision shall survive termination of the contract.

X. RESEARCH. The Contractor shall not engage in research utilizing the information obtained through the performance of this contract without the express written consent of DHHS. The term "research" shall mean the investigation, analysis, or review of information, other than aggregate statistical information, which is used for purposes unconnected with this contract. This provision shall survive termination of the contract.

Y. SEVERABILITY. If any term or condition of this contract is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and conditions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if this contract did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid.

Z. SUBCONTRACTORS. The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of this contract without prior written consent of DHHS. The Contractor shall ensure that all subcontractors comply with all requirements of this contract and applicable federal, state, county and municipal laws, ordinances, rules and regulations.

AA. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. Time is of the essence in this contract. The acceptance of late performance with or without objection or reservation by DHHS shall not waive any rights of DHHS nor constitute a waiver of the requirement of timely performance of any obligations on the part of the Contractor remaining to be performed.

NOTICES. Notices shall be in writing and shall be effective upon receipt. Written notices, including all reports and other written communications required by this contract shall be sent to the following addresses:

FOR DHHS:

Name
Organization
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone

FOR CONTRACTOR:

Name
Organization
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have duly executed this contract hereto, and each party acknowledges the receipt of a duly executed copy of this contract with original signatures.

FOR DHHS:

FOR CONTRACTOR:

Name
Title
Department of Health and Human Services
Division

Name
Title
Contractor name

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

FORM A

Bidding Cover Sheet

Name of Bidding Organization:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Name of Authorized Official:	
Title of Authorized Official:	
Project Contact Person:	
Phone Number:	
Email Address:	
Title of Project:	
Amount Requested:	Tax ID Number:
City(ies)/County(ies) Impacted:	Number of youth targeted:
Demographic or Age Group(s) Targeted: (Check all that apply)	
Ages 10-14 []	Educators/Health Care Providers []
Ages 15-17 []	Other Groups (Please Specify) []
Ages 18-19 []	_____
Ages 20-24 []	_____
Parents []	
Racial/Ethnic Populations Targeted: (Check all that apply)	
Asian___ Native American___ African American___ Caucasian___ Hispanic/Latino___ Other___	
Project Timeframe:	
Has your organization ever received funds from the State of Nebraska before?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, when, and from which Department?	

FORM B

Use a separate sheet of paper to answer the following in paragraph format. Head the paper "Form C" followed by the name of the applying entity on the next line. Use the headings as described below. Limit your answers to one or two paragraphs for each heading. Page limit – 2 pages.

1. **Who are you?** Provide a description of your organization, including mission and/or purpose. Identify any current/past RFP identified target population projects or activities your organization has facilitated.
2. **What is your project?** Describe your proposed project or activity. Identify whether or not your proposed project is a continuation of current/past projects.
3. **How does your proposed project address the services described in Section III, A. 3 and the requirements in Section III, A. 4?** Describe the key messages that the project or activity will address.
4. **How will you have referral resources available if needed, i.e., Network of Care providers, the National Suicide Helpline, Family Helpline, and the SAMHSA Behavioral Health Service Locator?**
5. **How will your proposal address cultural and linguistic competence that demonstrates the curriculum and presentation are culturally responsive to the audience?**
6. **How will you spend your funds?** Using the example table below, describe how the requested funds will be allocated. **Funds may not be used to purchase equipment or reimburse for existing personnel or administrative costs.**

SAMPLE BUDGET

Budget Item	Cost
Total Cost	\$