



Judicial Council of California
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

FINANCE DIVISION

455 Golden Gate Avenue • San Francisco, California 94102-3688
Telephone 415-865-7739 • Fax 415-865-7217 • TDD 415-865-4272

TANI CANTIL-SAKAUYE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT
Chief Deputy Director

ZLATKO THEODOROVIC
Director, Finance Division

TO: **POTENTIAL PROPOSERS**

FROM: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
FINANCE DIVISION

DATE: August 31, 2011

SUBJECT/PURPOSE OF MEMO: **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
Proposals to provide the services of a consultant to facilitate local juvenile courts and child welfare partners to plan and develop improved information sharing.

ACTION REQUIRED: You are invited to review and respond to the attached Request for Proposal (RFP), as posted at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/rfps.htm>:
Project Title: DATA EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR JUVENILE COURTS AND CHILD WELFARE PARTNERS
RFP Number: CFCC 20110826-CT

QUESTIONS TO THE SOLICITATIONS MAILBOX: Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to Solicitations@jud.ca.gov by **1:00pm (Pacific) on September 7, 2011.**

DATE AND TIME PROPOSAL DUE: There will not be a pre-proposal conference for this RFP.
Proposals must be received by **September 14, 2011, at close of business.**

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL: Proposals must be sent to:
**Judicial Council of California
Administrative Office of the Courts
Attn: Nadine McFadden, RFP No. CFCC 20110826-CT
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 7th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688**

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Judicial Council of California, chaired by the Chief Justice of California, is the chief policy making agency of the California judicial system. The California Constitution directs the Council to improve the administration of justice by surveying judicial business, recommending improvements to the courts, and making recommendations annually to the Governor and the Legislature. The Council also adopts rules for court administration, practice, and procedure, and performs other functions prescribed by law. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is the staff agency for the Council and assists both the Council and its chair in performing their duties.

1.2 THE CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

The Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC), a division of the AOC, provides a range of services to courts in California, including research and technical assistance for juvenile and family courts, collaborative justice courts, cases involving self-represented litigants, and cases involving family violence. (www.courts.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/) AOC/CFCC staffs the two major child welfare policymaking bodies in California: the Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care (BRC) and the California Child Welfare Council (CWC).

1.3 DESCRIPTION OF ISSUES

1.3.1 Overview

Improving information sharing and data exchange among major partners in child welfare is a dependency system improvement recommended by the national Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care, the Blue Ribbon Commission, and the Child Welfare Council. Children in foster care can experience harmful interruptions to health care, to education, and to family reunification when agencies and the courts do not share vital information. (These problems and others related to inadequate information sharing, and recommended solutions, are well-described in the reports and recommendations of these three bodies.) In its role as staff to the BRC and CWC, the AOC is working with partners including the California Department of Social Services to identify and resolve barriers to information sharing, to highlight successful models of information sharing, and to build consensus among major systems design projects so that they will adequately share information on children in foster care.

1.3.2 Facilitate Information Sharing for Juvenile Courts and Child Welfare Partners

The AOC is funding a project to facilitate state agencies including the AOC, the Departments of Social Services, Alcohol and Drug Programs, Mental Health, and

Education; and local partners including the juvenile courts, county child welfare departments, probation departments, mental health and substance abuse services, and tribal courts to build consensus and create a statewide strategy for improving information sharing on children in foster care. The foundation of this project is already in place through the work of the CWC in creating a statewide policy on information sharing and convening state department heads, and the AOC in analyzing the legal issues around information exchange.

The consultant is sought to provide the following: develop curriculum and facilitate local strategic planning sessions on information sharing; identify key participants for a statewide strategic planning session on information sharing; confer with key participants to develop curriculum and then facilitate the statewide session; and provide the products of the statewide session to all stakeholders.

The AOC and its partners will provide the administrative support for holding the local and statewide sessions, and will provide necessary travel and lodging costs for participants and faculty (not including consultant and staff). The consultant is expected to focus on the content of the sessions, identifying and convening key participants, and conducting the strategic planning.

It is expected that the project will include 4 local sessions lasting 1 day each, 4 information gathering and consensus building trips of 2 or more days each; and one statewide session of 3 days. Travel costs should be budgeted based on 2 trips each to the cities of *San Diego, Santa Ana, Fresno, and Sacramento*, and an additional trip to the statewide session in *Sacramento*. The State travel guidelines are described in *Attachment 2, Contract Terms, Exhibit C – Payment Provisions*.

Costs to the consultant are expected to include all costs for professional staff to facilitate sessions, and any honoraria for faculty at the sessions.

The project is expected to span *three months*.

2.0 TIMELINE FOR THIS RFP

The AOC has developed the following list of key events from the time of the issuance of this RFP through the intent to award contract. All dates are subject to change at the discretion of the AOC.

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EVENT	KEY DATE
Issue date of RFP on http://www.courts.ca.gov/rfps.htm	August 31, 2011
Deadline for questions to Solicitations@jud.ca.gov	September 7, 2011
Posting of answers to questions (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 9, 2011
Latest date proposal may be submitted (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 14, 2011
Evaluation of proposals (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 15-16, 2011
Notice of Intent to Award (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 19, 2011
Negotiations and execution of contract (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 19, 2011
Anticipated start day (<i>estimate only</i>)	September 20, 2011

3.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

- 3.1 The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to secure a contract to provide the services of a Contractor to develop a statewide strategic plan for sharing information among courts and service providers on children in foster care. This RFP is the means for prospective professionals to submit their qualifications to the AOC and request selection as the service provider for this evaluation.
- 3.2 The services are expected to be performed by the selected Contractor from September 20, 2011 through December 30, 2011.
- 3.3 The Work of this RFP is provided in *Attachment 2 - Contract Terms, Exhibit D - Work to be Performed*.

4.0 RFP ATTACHMENTS

- 4.1 Included as part of this RFP are the following attachments:
 - 4.1.1 Attachment 1 - Administrative Rules Governing Request for Proposals. Proposers shall follow the rules, set forth in *Attachment 1*, in preparation and submittal of their proposals.
 - 4.1.2 Attachment 2 - Contract Terms. Contracts with successful firms will be signed by the parties on a State of California Standard Agreement form and will include terms appropriate for this project. Terms and conditions typical for the requested services are attached as *Attachment 2 - Contract Terms* and include: *Exhibits A through E*.
 - 4.1.3 Attachment 3 - Vendor's Acceptance of the RFP's Contract Terms. Proposers

must either indicate acceptance of Contract Terms, as set forth in *Attachment 2 – Contract Terms*, or clearly identify exceptions to the Contract Terms, as set forth in this *Attachment 3*.

4.1.3.1 If exceptions are identified, then proposers must also submit (i) a red-lined version of *Attachment 2 – Contract Terms*, that clearly tracks proposed changes to this attachment, and (ii) written documentation to substantiate each such proposed change.

4.1.4 Attachment 4 - Payee Data Record Form. The AOC is required to obtain and keep on file, a completed Payee Data Record for each vendor prior to entering into a contract with that vendor. Therefore, vendor's proposal must include a completed and signed *Payee Data Record Form*, as set forth in *Attachment 4*.

5.0 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals will be evaluated by the AOC using the following criteria, in order of descending priority.

- 5.1 ***Specialized expertise and technical competence.*** (25 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated considering key personnel's skills sets and demonstrated experience on projects similar in scope and complexity to that described in this RFP, with special consideration, as demonstrated in paragraph 6.2, below.
- 5.2 ***Quality of work plan submitted.*** (20 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated considering the level of detail provided regarding each identified task and the level of understanding reflected regarding all elements of the project to achieve the milestones, as demonstrated in 6.1, below.
- 5.2 ***Past record of performance.*** (15 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated considering past performance, ability to meet schedules, collaborate and be responsive on projects, as demonstrated in paragraph 6.3, below.
- 5.4 ***Ability to meet timing requirements to complete the Work.*** (10 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated in terms of project scheduling, as demonstrated in 6.4, below.
- 5.5 ***Reasonableness of cost projections.*** (10 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated in terms of reasonableness of cost, proposed rate structure for the position, including breakdown of salary, overhead and profit, as demonstrated in 6.5, below.
- 5.6 ***Business Stability and Capabilities.*** (10 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated in terms of the sole proprietorship's or company's stability and capabilities as demonstrated in 6.6, below.
- 5.7 ***Proposed Contract Terms.*** (10 Total Possible Points). Proposals will be evaluated in terms of proposers acceptance of the AOC's proposed contract terms as demonstrated in 6.7, below.

6.0 SPECIFICS OF A RESPONSIVE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

The following information shall be included as the technical portion of the proposal:

6.1 *Quality of work plan submitted.*

6.1.1 Proposed plan for completing the following key milestones:

- 6.1.1.1 Work Plan: Full schedule and logistics for developing the curricula and conducting the local and statewide strategic planning sessions.
- 6.1.1.2 Initial contacts with stakeholders and meetings with stakeholders in preparation for 4 local sessions, the juvenile court judge(s); the county child welfare director, chief probation officer, county counsel and supervisors; local service providers; local attorneys and foster youth representatives.
- 6.1.1.3 Prepare session design, agenda and participant list for each local strategic planning session.
- 6.1.1.4 Facilitate 4 local sessions of 1 day each.
- 6.1.1.5 Contacts and meetings with state- and federal-level stakeholders, philanthropic organizations, and policy organizations in preparation for statewide strategic planning session.
- 6.1.1.6 Provide suggested attendee list and assist in recruiting participants for statewide strategic planning session.
- 6.1.1.7 Facilitate statewide strategic planning session.

6.2 *Specialized expertise and technical competence.*

6.2.1 Specialized expertise and technical competence in each of the following areas:

- 6.2.1.1 Demonstrated experience in convening national, state, and local stakeholders to conduct strategic planning around issues of importance in child welfare.
- 6.2.1.2 Demonstrated ability to facilitate productive strategic planning sessions.

6.3 *Past record of performance.*

- 6.3.1 Discuss each proposed key personnel's record of performance on past projects, including such factors as quality of work, ability to meet schedules, cooperation, responsiveness, and other considerations.
- 6.3.2 Provide the most recent resume and the names, physical and electronic addresses, and telephone numbers of a minimum of *three (3) clients* for whom the proposed key personnel has conducted similar services. The AOC may check references provided by the proposer.

6.4 ***Ability to meet timing requirements to complete the Work.***

- 6.4.1 Provide plan that includes time estimates for completion of all work required; and
- 6.4.2 Include a statement of availability of each proposed key personnel to complete the work within the project schedule, set forth in *Exhibit D, Work to be Performed*. The statement must also include any other anticipated periods of unavailability greater than five (5) consecutive business days during the Initial Term. If there are no periods of unavailability, then it must be stated so.

6.5 ***Reasonableness of cost projections.***

See below, *RFP: 7.0 Specifics of a Responsive Cost Proposal*.

6.6 ***Business Stability and Capabilities.*** Provide the following information about your business, whether sole proprietorship or company (*not all will apply to sole proprietorship*):

- 6.6.1 Point of contact, including name, physical and electronic addresses, and telephone and facsimile numbers in a cover letter.
- 6.6.2 Number of years your company has been in the business of evaluation design and implementation.
- 6.6.3 Number of full time employees.
- 6.6.4 Disclose any judgments, pending litigation, or other real or potential financial reversals that might materially affect the viability of the proposer's company.
- 6.6.5 Annual gross revenue from your most recent audited or reviewed profit and loss statement and balance sheet. State the audit/review year and the annual gross revenue. The AOC may request a copy of your most recent audited or reviewed profit and loss statement and balance sheet.
- 6.6.6 Tax recording information. Complete and submit *Attachment 4 - Payee Data Record Form*. Note that if an individual or sole proprietorship, using a social security number for tax recording purposes, is awarded a contract, the social security number will be required prior to finalizing a contract.

6.7 ***Proposed Contract Terms and Administrative Rules.***

- 6.7.1 Contract with the successful proposer will be signed by the parties on an AOC Standard Agreement form and will be based on the AOC's Contract Terms included as Attachment 2, including the payment terms and the scope of services set forth therein. Additional terms and conditions appropriate for this project may be included in the final agreement.
- 6.7.2 The proposal must include a completed and signed Attachment 3 indicating whether the proposer accepts the contract terms set forth in Attachment 2, or

whether the proposer takes any exceptions to those terms. The proposer will be deemed to have accepted such terms and conditions and service requirements, except as is expressly called out in the proposal. If exceptions are taken, proposer must submit a “redlined” version of the contract terms showing all proposed modifications. The proposer must additionally provide an explanation as to why each specific modification is required.

- 6.7.3 Although the AOC will consider alternate language, the AOC will not be bound by proposed contract language received as part of a proposal. If the proposer requires that the AOC be bound by some or all of the proposed contract language, the proposal may be considered non-responsive and may be rejected.
- 6.7.4 Incorporated in this RFP, and attached as Attachment 1, is a document entitled “Administrative Rules Governing Requests for Proposals.” Proposers must follow and be bound by these rules in preparation of their proposals and in all matters regarding this solicitation.

7.0 SPECIFICS OF A RESPONSIVE COST PROPOSAL

The following information shall be included as the cost portion of the proposal:

7.1 *Reasonableness of Cost Projections.*

- 7.1.1 As a separate document, submit a detailed line item budget showing total cost of the services for each of the **six (6) Deliverables** specified in *Attachment 2 Contract Terms, Exhibit D - Work to be Performed*. This budget should identify unique hourly rates, titles, and responsibilities for each “Key Personnel.” Staff rates should be fully burdened, including indirect costs, overhead and profit. The cost proposal should also include separate line items for postage/ mailing costs and travel and lodging. Fully explain and justify all budget line items in a narrative entitled “Budget Justification.”
- 7.1.2 The total cost for consultant services will range between **\$100,000.00 - \$125,000.00**, inclusive of personnel, materials, overhead rates, travel and other reimbursable expenses, and profit. The method of payment will be by cost reimbursement for each of the **six (6) deliverables** specified in *Attachment 2 Contract Terms, Exhibit D - Work to be Performed*. Reimbursement for travel related expenses shall be as set forth in Section 3.A of *Attachment 2 Contract Terms, Exhibit C – Payment Provisions*, and shall not exceed \$30,000.00.

8.0 SUBMISSIONS OF PROPOSALS

- 8.1 Contact information. Provide proposer's point of contact, including name, physical and electronic addresses, and telephone and facsimile numbers in a cover letter.
- 8.2 Responsive proposals should provide straightforward, concise information that satisfies the requirements noted in items *RFP: 6.0 Specifics of a Responsive Technical Proposal* and *RFP: 7.0 Specifics of a Responsive Cost Proposal*, above. Expensive bindings, color displays, and the like are not necessary or desired. Emphasis should be placed on conformity to the state's instructions, requirements of this RFP, and completeness and clarity of content.
- 8.2 Compliance with Contract Terms. Complete and submit *Attachment 3 - Vendor's Acceptance of the RFP's Contract Terms*. If changes to *Attachment 2* are proposed, submit red-lined version of *Attachment 2 – Contract Terms* as well as written justification supporting any such proposed changes

Proposers will submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of the technical proposal and cost proposal, signed by an authorized representative of the company, including name, title, address, and telephone number. *Proposers are also required to submit an electronic version of the entire proposal on CD-ROM.*

- 8.3 Proposals must be delivered to the individual listed under Submission of Proposals, as set forth on the cover memo of this RFP.
- 8.4 Only written responses will be accepted. Responses should be sent by registered or certified mail or by hand delivery.

9.0 RIGHTS

The Court and the AOC reserve the right to reject any and all proposals, in whole or in part, as well as the right to issue similar RFPs in the future. This RFP is in no way an agreement, obligation, or contract and in no way is the AOC, the Court or the State of California responsible for the cost of preparing the proposal. One copy of a submitted proposal will be retained for official files and becomes a public record subject to disclosure under California Rule of Court 10.500 (see: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/rules.htm>) as to disclosure of its administrative records.

10.0 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

It may be necessary to interview prospective service providers to clarify aspects of their submittal. If conducted, interviews will likely be conducted by telephone conference call. The AOC will notify prospective service providers regarding the interview arrangements.

11.0 CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

- 11.1 The Administrative Office of the Courts is bound by California Rule of Court 10.500 (see: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/xbcr/cc/ammend-jan2010-2.pdf>) as to disclosure of its

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administrative records. If the information submitted contains material noted or marked as confidential and/or proprietary that, in the AOC's sole opinion, meets the disclosure exemption requirements of Rule 10.500, then that information will not be disclosed pursuant to a request for public documents.

- 11.2 If the AOC does not consider such material to be exempt from disclosure under Rule 10.500, the material may be made available to the public, regardless of the notation or markings. If the proposer is unsure if its confidential and/or proprietary material meets the disclosure exemption requirements of Rule 10.500, then it should not include such information in its proposal.

END OF FORM