



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS SERIES #2
FOR
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST RESPONSES
(LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY PER DIEM PROVIDERS)

Question 1: I would like to know is this bid required to do drug & alcohol testing services and background screening?

Answer 1: There is no formal requirement for drug & alcohol testing services. That is a decision for each agency depending on the program services offered. All agency staff must have completed background screenings, which include FBI and State Criminal Background checks as well as child protection clearances.

Question 2: I also would like to have a copy of the attendee/pre-bid/bidder list.

Answer 2: There was no pre-proposal conference or attendee list.

Question 3: Do you have time to help me explain this to MARFY membership? I've gotten a few questions after seeing this on the marketplace website first as to why this Request is going out when the already existing Independent Living and Mother-Baby programs are under-utilized. Are you looking to fill gaps in certain areas?

Answer 3: The Expression of Interest (EOI) is a noncompetitive negotiated procurement method that may be used per COMAR 21.14.01.04 to procure group foster care services for children or adults under a negotiated rate system. As the current contract will end on June 30, 2016, current Providers must submit a response to the EOI and provide the requested information in order to be considered for a new contract in FY17. This is the first instance that DHR is utilizing this method of procurement for CPA Providers. DHR has been directed by DBM to utilize this method to procure the CPA services.

Question 4: If the Department is responding to not having enough bed capacity to serve projected number of older youth with the present contracted beds? This seems odd if most present providers are not

at capacity? Is there a planned reduction in the number of beds/providers?

Answer 4: See Answer to Question 3. There is not a planned reduction at this time. DHR is utilizing the required procurement method to address service needs within the CPA provider community.

Question 5: Why do providers currently serving youth have to re-apply?

Answer 5: See Answer to Question 3.

Question 6: There is some confusion on our part as to what exactly DHR is asking for with this communication. There appear to be two separate issues contained in this email, which is what is lending to our confusion. The first appears to be an RFQ for agencies interested in providing IL services, but then also appears to want previously licensed foster care agencies to restate their interest in providing TFC services???. If we are already licensed to provide those services and have active contracts for services with DHR to provide those services, then why must we restate our intent to provide those services? Can you please clarify for me that based on this email, a licensed foster care provider, who is all ready licensed and under contract with DHR to provide these services, needs to now send a formal letter or email re-stating our intent to do the same?

Answer 6: See Answer to Question 3.