

Addendum to RFA# 67-162

Bullying Prevention and Safe Relationships

Date: August 24, 2023

Addendum Number: 1

Addendum Changes:

- 1) This addendum is to provide answers to all questions per the RFA Potential Applicant letter.

Q1: Some programs already serve the population of focus. These programs are currently licensed and billed through Medicaid and private insurance. Are we apply to apply these programs to this funding stream as well or is this not allowable?

A1: If the applicant can demonstrate that the same services are not being billed for twice, applying those programs to this funding stream would be permissible. A selected applicant cannot bill for the same service to an insurer or other payor and invoice against the Grant Agreement. Care must be taken to demonstrate single billing in the submitted budget and budget narrative.

Q2: A program currently has collaboration with the, a Grantee of the Bureau of Family Health in which the program receives funding to implement bullying and relationship education into our local school districts. This curriculum teaches teens and adults, 16 years old and older, with intellectual and related developmental disabilities, and youth with serious emotional disturbance (SED) how to develop and maintain healthy relationships and prevent interpersonal violence. **Q2a.** If we would be awarded this new funding opportunity, could we use the same curriculum? **Q2b.** Is this funding opportunity meant only for community based or can it be taken into school districts and taught in a classroom setting during school hours? **Q2c.** With being an association is it recommended to apply as an association or separately by facility/branch?

A2a: As stated in the RFA on page 11 in Section B.4.g., awarded applicants will use the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, as trained by Clemson University for the bullying prevention curriculum. As stated in the RFA on page 13 in Section B.4.j. the evidence driven safe relationship component would need to be reviewed and approved in writing by the Department prior to implementation. The awarded applicant would submit the evidence-driven safe relationship component for this review and approval prior to Year 2 of the Grant Agreement.

A2b. As stated in the RFA on page 3, paragraph 2 Awarded applicants shall implement both components of the BPSR Program within community-based organizations (CBO). For this RFA, a CBO is defined as a public or private not-for-profit resource hub that provides specific services within the CYSHCN community or a targeted CYSHCN population within the community through (but not limited to) out-of-school programs, or other community settings where CYSHCN gather outside of school hours, on weekends or during school breaks.” It cannot be taken into school districts and taught in a classroom setting during school hours.

A2c. Applicants should present their association/facility/branch in a manner that the applicant feels best demonstrates the capacity and ability to implement the BPSR Program.

Q3a: How many individuals will be needing the services described in the RFA? **Q3b:** What are the ratios of staff to individuals served? **Q3c:** The budget as stated in the RFA is \$75,000 for 30 months. Please confirm. **Q3d:** Does the PA DOH anticipate the Program Manager, Bullying Prevention Coordinator and Safe Relationship Coordinator to be full-time, part-time or as needed? **Q3e:** Are there any minimum hours that they have to provide? **Q3f:** Is the Program for all CYSHCN children throughout the State or in specified regions?

A3a: As stated in the RFA on page 18, paragraph 1 of Section C.2.c.iii. Design and Implementation, “The applicant shall describe how all requirements of the BPSR Program will be developed and implemented to support CYSHCN. Applicants shall describe how they will integrate the bullying prevention and safe relationship components into current or proposed programming. The applicant shall describe plans to establish a minimum CYSHCN inclusion rate of 80 percent.” and paragraph 6 of page 18 “Applicants shall describe their target population and community, providing an estimate of the number of CYSHCN to be served each year.”

A3b: As stated in the RFA on page 18, in the first paragraph of Section C.2.c.iii. Design and Implementation, “The applicant shall describe how key personnel for all components necessary to accomplish the deliverables will be identified, including the Bullying Prevention Coordinator and Safe Relationships Coordinator, along with level of effort.”

A3c: As stated in the RFA on page 20 in Section C.2.d. Budget Detail and Budget Narrative, “The anticipated Grant Agreement term is January 1, 2024, to June 30, 2026. The overall 30-month budget for the application shall not exceed \$75,000.”

A3d: As stated in the RFA on page 18, in the first paragraph of Section C.2.c.iii. Design and Implementation, “The applicant shall describe how key personnel for all components necessary to accomplish the deliverables will be identified, including the Bullying Prevention Coordinator and Safe Relationships Coordinator, along with level of effort.”

A3e: As stated in the RFA on page 18, in the first paragraph of Section C.2.c.iii. Design and Implementation, “The applicant shall describe how key personnel for all components necessary to accomplish the deliverables will be identified, including the Bullying Prevention Coordinator and Safe Relationships Coordinator, along with level of effort.”

A3f: As stated in the RFA on page 18, paragraph one of Section C.2.c.iii. Design and Implementation, “The applicant shall describe how all requirements of the BPSR Program will be developed and implemented to support CYSHCN. Applicants shall describe how they will integrate the bullying prevention and safe relationship components into current or proposed programming. The applicant shall describe plans to establish a minimum CYSHCN inclusion rate of 80 percent.” and paragraph 6 of page 18 “Applicants shall describe their target population and community, providing an estimate of the number of CYSHCN to be served each year.”

Q4. Is the program able to be done via Zoom with attendees all over the state? We do many of our programs virtually and would have the best ability to reach more students with Special Healthcare needs in this way.

A4. Yes. As stated in the RFA, paragraph 6 of page 18 “Applicants shall describe their target population and community, providing an estimate of the number of CYSHCN to be served each year.” The BPSR Program does not exclude the use of Zoom or other virtual delivery methods so long as the methods comply with approved bullying prevention and safe relationship models.

Q5. Is the initial training of staff on the Olweus program to be included in the overall budget?

A5. Yes. As stated in the RFA, on page 20 in Section C.2.d. Budget Detail and Budget Narrative, “The Department shall provide initial training costs for the OBPP for awarded applicants, supporting up to three staff from each awardee. Applicants shall budget \$4,500.00 in Year 3 and Year 4 of the budget for any new staff requiring OBPP (or a Department identified bullying prevention model) training, and additional funding as appropriate to support new staff training in the identified safe relationships model.”Q6. What is the big picture dream of this RFA (no statistics) just please honest gut big dream?

A6. As stated in the RFA on page 5, paragraph 2, “The overall goal of this funding is to promote appropriate relationship development and the reduction of bullying among 12 through 21-year-old CYSHCN.” and, on page 7 line 4 “Applicants are encouraged to be innovative and creative in their approach.”

Q7a. Why did you combine bullying prevention and sexuality in the same RFA? **Q7b.** Was there an increase in dating violence or LGBTQIA+ bullying in certain areas that PA was watching?

A7a. As stated in the RFA on page 1, “Every five years the Department conducts a comprehensive needs and capacity assessment to gauge the strengths and needs of the state’s Maternal and Child Health (MCH) population and related services. As a result of the most recent needs and capacity assessment, the Department identified seven priorities on which to focus on in 2021 through 2025, including: improve mental health, behavioral health and developmental outcomes for children and youth with and without special health care needs.” The Department determined through the needs and capacity assessment that CYSHCN had needs related to developing the skills and tools for positive and supportive relationship building to prevent bullying and abuse.

A7b. As stated in the RFA, on page 3 paragraph 1 “Awarded applicants will enhance positive behaviors and healthy relationships within and for CYSHCN through staff training and implementation of a BPSR Program.” As stated in the RFA, on page 2 paragraph 4 “CYSHCN are defined, for the purposes of this RFA, as individuals through 21 years of age who have chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions which require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.”

Q8. The 75,000 does this include the cost of the training for each educator that will come out of this budget to send them to the preferred bullying prevention program trainings or is that separate?

A8. Yes, as stated in the RFA on page 20 in Section C.2.d. Budget Detail and Budget Narrative, “The Department shall provide initial training costs for the OBPP for awarded applicants, supporting up to three staff from each awardee. Applicants shall budget \$4,500.00 in Year 3 and Year 4 of the budget for any new staff requiring OBPP (or a Department identified bullying prevention model) training, and additional funding as appropriate to support new staff training in the identified safe relationships model.”

Q9. When you envision this project, what percentage do you see being in person and what is virtual?

A9. The BPSR Program does not provide a set percentage for virtual delivery methods, so long as the methods comply with approved bullying prevention and safe relationship models.

Q10. The RFA states the services should be provided in the community, is virtual support an accepted delivery of services for some of the services.

A10. Yes, as state in the RFA on paragraph 6 of page 18 “Applicants shall describe their target population and community, providing an estimate of the number of CYSHCN to be served each year.” and, on page 7 line 4 “Applicants are encouraged to be innovative and creative in their approach.”

Q11. Can you please tell me how many organizations will be awarded the funding?

A11. As stated in the RFA on page 5 paragraph 2 “The Department is interested in funding up to six applications across Pennsylvania addressing BPSR for CYSHCN.”

Q12. The \$75,000 amount funding the project. Will this be for all potential vendors or per vendor?

A12. Each awarded applicant can request up to \$75,000 in the submitted budget as stated in the RFA on page 20 in Section C.2.d. Budget Detail and Budget Narrative, “The overall 30-month budget for the application shall not exceed \$75,000.”

*Except as clarified and amended by this Addendum, the terms, conditions, specifications, and instructions of the RFA and any previous addenda, remain as originally written.