**June 9th, 2021 Bidders’ Workshop Questions & Answers**

**RFA # 2022-2023 CC-2: The Unmet Needs Initiative: A Coordinated Campaign to Impact the Registry of Unmet Needs**

**Will we work with Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) and be able to access the list of individuals who are on the Registry of Unmet Needs (Registry)?**

Answer: The LMEs/MCOs are interested in this work, but Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and privacy concerns are a barrier to accessing the list of individuals on the Registry. NCCDD currently has a Registry of Unmet Needs Research initiative that is gathering as much information as possible about the Registry, and NCCDD will make the findings available to the successful applicant who becomes the contractor for this new initiative. It will be part of the work of this initiative to continue to engage the LME/MCOs to better understand and impact the Registry of Unmet Needs.

**How does this initiative differ from the work that Christina Dupuch and Cansler Collaborative Resources are doing for NCCDD right now?**

NCCDD is doing a one-year pilot Registry of Unmet Needs Research initiative from October 1st, 2020 through September 30th, 2021 to research the Registry, and Cansler Collaborative Resources is the contractor, with Christina Dupuch performing the research. This RFA is for an initiative that will do more than merely research the Registry per the four main components of the RFA:

1. Strategy Development, Story Gathering and Research
2. Community Engagement
3. Policy Education, Analysis, and Advocacy
4. Communications

NCCDD’s vision for this RFA is to generate an initiative that will take action to create systems change.

**Can an agency outside of North Carolina apply?**

Answer: Yes. However, an agency or organization doing this work either as the contractor or a subcontractor must be located in the United States.

**Is the intent for a large organization with a lot of capacity to apply?**

Answer: NCCDD will consider all applications that are submitted by the due date that meet the Intent, Background, and Deliverables sections of this RFA.

**Can an interested applicant submit an idea for NCCDD to consider?**

Answer: An interested applicant can phrase an idea in the form of a question to info@nccdd.org. Any questions received and NCCDD’s answer will be shared with all organizations that have expressed an intent to apply or that attended the Bidders’ Workshop.

**How does partnering to submit an application work?**

An interested agency or organization can partner with other interested agencies or organizations in submitting an application. In this case, only one agency/organization should submit an application, and the other agency/organization will be considered the subcontractor. The Intent to Apply document lists every individual, agency, and organization that has expressed an intent to apply or that attended the Bidders’ Workshop.

**Questions E-mailed to** **info@nccdd.org**

**It is noted in the grant that NCCDD will be collaborating with the organization that is chosen for grant funding on this initiative. Since we have had multiple people question the funding of the grant for such a big ask (systemic change regarding RUN), we are wondering if you could be more specific about how NCCDD will collaborate and if we can assume NCCDD will be providing any other direct resources (for example staff time use of NCCDD website, social media or database, etc.) to meet the objectives of the grant?**

Answer: Thank you for this important question as to what the role of the Council will be in this initiative. The Council intends to be a full working partner in the work related to the Registry of Unmet Needs to the successful applicant and any of their sub-contractors for this initiative.

The Council and its staff will work together with the successful applicant on community engagement, strategies, policy education, communications, education and events. Since as stated in the question this is big systemic change, applicants are welcome to state what they can accomplish given the amount of the budget and can specify areas they would want the Council to participate, provide staff time, or lead. Since the first year of the Application is the only part that needs to be fully budgeted in this application, the successful applicant and the Council can work together in future years on division of responsibilities. The partnership in this initiative is also important because the Council has specific federal state laws and regulations restricting it, particularly related to lobbying, and the Council will want to work with the successful applicant on what the Council funds can do – which is raise awareness and educate state leaders, policy makers and the community – and what Council funds cannot do, which is mostly not lobbying.

The Council will also provide feedback and approval for communications and events. See # 28 and # 29 of our Assurances. Also, the Council may help support some accommodation requests. The Council anticipates that certain areas of the grant may be a focus during certain years and less a focus in other years. For instance, an applicant may focus more on community engagement and strategy development in the early part of this grant.

Finally, the Council has a communications contractor who can work to a certain extent with this initiative, as with all of our initiatives, in utilizing the Council’s website, social media, database and communications. The contractor will also work with this initiative to ensure consistent messaging.

In short, the Council recognizes this is a big ask and requests that applicants provide a realistic response as to how they can work with the Council to meet the objectives of this grant.