



**Community Based Care of Brevard, Inc.
dba Brevard Family Partnership**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

FOR

REUNIFICATION SUPPORT SERVICES

Closing Date: January 4, 2012 / Time: 2:00 p.m.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Brevard Family Partnership (BFP) seeks to improve the safety, permanence, and well-being of children served by the child welfare system in Brevard County through the further integration of evidence-based and evidence-informed practice in the community service delivery continuum, particularly related to Reunification Support Services. While BFP and its sub-contracted Providers have consistently done well in achieving timely reunifications of children back with their families after a removal, we have struggled with subsequent re-entry of the children into out-of-home care following a reunification.

Recently BFP initiated a comprehensive review incorporating three (3) years of data of children that had re-entered out-of-home care following a subsequent removal and reunification and found the following similarities:

- 73% of children who re-entered out-of-home care were removed within 197 days (1st 6 months) of reunification;
- 76% of children who re-entered out-of-home care were under 8.65 years of age;
- 95.2% of children who re-entered out-of-home care were removed with similar conditions to previous removal with substance abuse/relapse being the predominant factor;
- 70% of children who re-entered out-of-home care were reunified against DCF/BFP recommendation to the court;
- 78.6% of children who re-entered out-of-home care did not have a Reunification Staffing prior to reunification.

Last Fiscal Year, BFP had approximately 66 families with a child age 9 years of age and under who achieved reunification during the year.

BFP and its subcontracted Case Management Agencies were involved with this review and have identified some potential root causes within our child welfare system and have selected some countermeasures for implementation. In addition to this, BFP is seeking to fund an evidence-based Reunification Services program as a pilot project to work with this specific population.

OVERVIEW/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BFP is seeking interest from agencies equipped to implement an evidence based Reunification Services pilot model. Preference will be given to programs that meet the criteria of an Evidence Based Program. Minimally applicants should have research that supports the program model effectiveness and positive outcomes and the ability to measure and report referral specific outcomes. The proposed program model should be identified as a reunification program and rated on the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC) as a “1 (Well-Supported by Research Evidence)”, “2 (Supported by Research Evidence)”, or “3 (Promising Research Evidence)” OR indicated as a Promising Practice (based on solid theory but untested) by the recent Chadwick Center for Children and Families comprehensive review conducted on the BFP Network of Providers.

Proposed program outcomes should show reduced recidivism (re-entry into out-of-home care following a reunification) for clients served at the 6, 12, and 18 month mark and include but are not limited to the following targets:

1. The percentage of children reunified who successfully complete the program who re-enter out-of-home care within 6 months shall not exceed 5%.
2. The percentage of children reunified who successfully complete the program who re-enter out-of-home care within 12 months shall not exceed 7.5%.
3. The percentage of children reunified who successfully complete the program who re-enter out-of-home care within 18 months shall not exceed 10%.

BFP intends this program to be a 1-year pilot project and continued funding is contingent on the outcomes of the pilot project and available funding for subsequent Fiscal Years.

Interested parties should respond to the following:

1. Describe your organizations interest and ability to pilot the Reunification Support Services.
2. Describe the specific model to be used and identify its rating on the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare OR recent Chadwick Center for Children and Families comprehensive review.
3. If the model has not been specifically rated on the CEBC, please provide the location of the evidence based documentation conducted on the program.
4. Define the target population of the rated program.
5. Define the length of service provision of the program.
6. Describe your ability and capacity to provide Medicaid reimbursable services and whether this service could be billed to Medicaid.
7. Describe the projected staffing pattern to best serve this project, given the approximate number of families served during the previous FY (info given above).
8. Describe the timeline and capacity to which your agency would be interested in implementing the pilot project.
9. Submit a projected one year pilot project line item budget and projected number of families to be served.

All submissions shall become the property of Brevard Family Partnership. Submissions should be submitted to the attention of Amy Moseley, Contracts & Compliance Manager, BFP, 2301 Eau Gallie Blvd, Ste 4, Melbourne, FL 32935, on or prior to January 4, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. BFP reserves the right to award a contract based on the results received from the posting of this RFI to one, all, or none of the agencies that respond. This RFI should not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on the part of BFP.