

Addendum One

Issued Date: June 12, 2020

Solicitation Title: Generation Future

Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

Change in Solicitation Response Due Date Change in Terms and Conditions

Other

Please Note the Following Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

- Is this only for existing Ramsey County youth programs? Answer: These CARES Act dollars are intended for residents of Ramsey County.
- Is this only for youth programs impacted by COVID-19? Answer: Yes, funds should serve residents impacted by COVID-19 either through job loss, reduction in hours, increased COVID risk due to health concerns, uncertainty in their future employment opportunity, or experiencing an increase in existing barriers to employment as a result of the pandemic and its secondary affects.
- 3. Is this a better grant for organizations working with youth organizations that have existing training programs?

Answer: This scope of services does not require respondents have an existing training program, it would be more important to have a history of working with the identified population. Refer to the quote document under Scope of Services to see eligible organizations and the list of training areas as examples to consider.

- 4. With several programs already in Ramsey County, is this funding designed to serve more youth or to provide deeper services to existing youth. Or both? Answer: This funding could be for either. However, CARES funding cannot supplant existing funding and should be funding new, expanded or pivoted services and programs.
- 5. Must the funding be spent by the end of 2020? Answer: Yes, CARES funding has to be expended by December 30, 2020.
- 6. What are the upper and lower amounts of grant requests to be considered and what you anticipate being the average grant amount requested? Answer: We recognize that every organization is very different and that these funds have a fairly short duration. We would encourage organizations to apply for the funds needed in order to meet the goals of the request for quotes. We certainly anticipate funding smaller amounts up to larger allocations well. We do have \$750,000 set aside for this initiative and intend to fund multiple organizations.

Procurement Metro Square 121 7th Place East, Suite 4000 Saint Paul, MN 55101 (651) 266-8072 www.ramseycounty.us

- Is there a grant amount for each of the programs? I understand it will be distributed over numerous contractors Answer: Please see question #6.
- 8. What is the anticipated contract amounts? Is there a dollar range that you're aware of? Answer: Please see question #6.
- Do we have to provide services <u>in</u> Ramsey County, or can we provide services out of [Avivo's Seward location in near the Saint Paul border] <u>to</u> Ramsey County residents? Answer: The work can take place in either county. However, funding has to serve Ramsey County residents.
- 10. Our program works with young people with about 50% referred to us from Ramsey County agencies and 50% from Hennepin county. Our program is located in Ramsey County. With a mix of trainees from Ramsey and Hennepin counties would be eligible for this fund? Answer: The Ramsey County allocation of CARES Act dollars are intended for residents of Ramsey County. If the organization serves both Ramsey and Hennepin counties, the agency will need to develop an accurate way to separate, track and account for which funds are for Hennepin and which are for Ramsey. As CARES monies are direct reimbursement only, all costs must be necessary and directly linked to the project and within compliance with CARES Act funding regulations.
- 11. If we are applying for the Learn Earn Lead should we not apply for other contract opportunities? Answer: Organizations are welcome to apply to multiple informal requests for quotes and is encouraged if separate programming fits the separate program.
- 12. I want to clarify whether we can apply to this and the Learn Earn Lead solicitation? Answer: See answer to Question #11.
- 13. We are applying to Learn Earn Lead. Would we be eligible to apply for both if we believe this one is also a fit?

Answer: See answer to Question #11.

- 14. What do you see as the main distinguishing factor between these two grants, apart from the age range of young people served? We serve youth across both ranges. Could we submit one proposal that addresses the full range? If not, may we submit to both funding streams? Answer: Besides the age difference to ensure programming is developmentally appropriate, the major programming differences between these two programs is that Young Adult Transitions is more heavily focused on work-readiness, career pathways, life skills and other post-secondary related activities. The Generation Future program is more focused on general career exploration, personal and professional goal setting and other life skills. To provide further clarity around the youth and young adult request for quotes, the Learn, Earn, Lead is focused on organizations whose mission is tied to youth employment and they had to adjust and/or reduce their intended summer youth employment programming. One organization can enter submissions for multiple request for quotes and is encouraged if separate programming fits the separate program.
- 15. What are the key differences between Young Adult Transitions and Generation Future. We've noted the age differences but people are searching for if there is more distinction in services delivered since

they're quite similar? Answer: See answer to Question #14.

- 16. I am not sure which program the organizations which we have funded called Youth Social Entrepreneurships* should apply for. We are trying to get the word out. *A Youth Social Entrepreneurship uses a model where youth develop social/emotional skills to increase their personal agency and confidence; community engagement to develop their social capital and civic pride, and workforce readiness and workforce skills acquisition to be able to enter into 21st century career pathways. Youth are paid or provided a stipend in these programs. Answer: See answer to Question #14.
- 17. Can an organization apply for more than one of the Ramsey CARE grants? Answer: See answer to Question #11.
- 18. Ramsey County has several emergency funding opportunities for youth that have some overlap in terms of age of youth served and focus. We plan to apply for the opportunity due June 12th. Can we also apply for the June 19th opportunity as well for some of the same activities (likely a combination of some same, some different), in the event we aren't awarded under the first opportunity? We will note in the proposal where there is overlap (i.e., make it clear that we aren't asking to be paid twice for the activities that are the same).

Answer: See answer to Question #14

- 19. We serve youth ages 16-24, there are three different opportunities that we're qualified to respond to: Learn Earn Lead, Youth Adult Transitions Programs, and Generation Future. All of which I know we could be an effective, reliable partner to Ramsey County as well as an excellent connector and service provider to Ramsey County youth/young adults in need. Will Ramsey County accept proposals from one organization for all three? Knowing each opportunity has a different review date, if one grant is already awarded, will that impact the review of the others? I'm trying to understand if we should prioritize one opportunity over another. Is there anything else we should be asking to help us understand this more thoroughly as we're deciding which opportunity to pursue? Answer: See answer to Question #14.
- 20. Is this a different program than the ones that Andrew announced, or, are you taking all applications and assigning (triaging) them to the right programs. However, it seems that since I first heard about this, as one grant, it is now a group of about 5 different baskets. Answer: See answer to Question #14. We currently have multiple requests for quotes, all of the CARES workforce opportunities can be found at www.ramseycounty.us/workforcecontracts
- 21. Can we include chromebooks for youth in the budget so that they can access virtual programming? Answer:Yes, this would be an eligible expense if it is part of your program design.
- 22. How do you define 'stipends' versus 'wages" paid to trainees? Answer: A 'stipend' is a fixed, regular monetary payment to the participant for ongoing, successful participation in the program. Not defined with milestones, but by active participation in the program. A stipend is a payment made to a trainee or learner for living expenses, unlike a salary or wages which are paid to an employee. If you intend to offer stipends, you will need to come up with a stipend policy as to how you will define successful participation, a stipend amount and a stipend payment schedule.

- 23. The Paycheck Protection Program is considered to be part of CARES Act? Answer: Yes, the Paycheck Protection Program is a part of the CARES Act. Funding you are requesting from Ramsey County Workforce Solutions should not pay for any items that are funded with any Paycheck Protection Program funds.
- 24. Will either the Generation Futures or Young Adult Transitions grant consider support services as an allowable expense? Young people who have lost their jobs are having difficulty paying rent, and this is a particular need. Some need assistance with childcare as well. Answer: Yes, these are acceptable expenses if they are part of your workforce program design.
- 25. Most of our youth participants are dealing with trauma. Can any of these funds be used to help them address mental health concerns? Answer: Yes, these are acceptable expenses if they are part of your workforce program design.
- 26. Can any of these funds be used for internship or interview clothes, or for uniforms? Answer: Yes, these are acceptable expenses if they are part of your workforce program design.
- 27. Can organizations show that the revenue that they are foregoing is a part of the reason these CARE dollars are needed? (Unable to have youth at the events, CSAs or diverting the produce to provide food for families in the East metro area.) Answer: The CARES Act prohibits revenue replacement.
- 28. We never did one before. Is there a way we can ask questions or get technical assistant? Answer: While quotes are still open for submission, please contact the identified Procurement Specialist. However, if awarded a contract the county recognizes that there may be a need for some organizations to receive ongoing technical assistance and will provide that as needed.

All Addendum(s) are to be acknowledged on the Solicitation Cover Page to be included with your submission. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF THE SOLICITATION RESPONSE. Unless otherwise specified above, the Solicitation Response due date and time all other Terms and Conditions remain the same.

Sincerely,

Karen Bollinger, CPPB Principal Procurement Specialist 651-266-8077 Karen.bollinger@co.ramsey.mn.us

Ramsey County representatives recommending this Addendum acknowledge that all Ramsey County solicitation policies and procedures have been followed.