

(1) Describes and defines the target population at the project location (e.g., Tribal population, number of CAN and/or SMI cases reported, number of cases prosecuted, number of children/families currently receiving treatment, number of children/families determined to be at risk), and identifies the information sources;

(2) Lists the number of CAN and/or SMI children and youth who are involved or at risk for becoming involved with the juvenile justice systems and specifies the source of information for all data that supports the need for program;

(3) Describes the existing resources and available resources, including the availability of AI/AN healing resources that will provide services to the target population and their families;

(4) Describes the needs of the target population and what efforts have been made in the past to meet the need, as applicable (e.g., number of treatment providers, collaborative efforts and agreements with other treatment programs, availability of program funding from other sources);

(5) Summarizes the applicable standards, laws, regulations, and codes and

(6) Shows Tribal or organizational support for the proposed program.

(b) Program Goals and Objectives (30 points)

The application will be evaluated on the extent to which the applicant:

(1) Includes a clear description of the objectives and goals of the program and what is expected to be accomplished;

(2) Describes how the accomplishment of the objectives will be measured, including whether or not the program is replicable;

(3) Describes tasks and resources needed to implement and complete the project;

(4) Provides milestones or a time chart that indicates the time that the project will begin to accept clients;

(5) Defines the data collection mechanism for the project, how it will be obtained, analyzed, and maintained;

(6) Includes information in the data system that reflects the number and types of people served, services provided, client outcomes, client satisfaction, and associated costs;

(7) Describes how the data collection will support the stated objectives for the program and how it will support the evaluation of the program;

(8) Describes the evaluation methodology and related activities, describes how the effectiveness of the employed interventions will be

monitored as well as the acceptance of the program within the community; and

(9) Develops a knowledge base of reliable and valid service system models that define the best outcomes for AI/AN children and their families, respecting the unique features of the culture of the target community (e.g. Northern Plains, Pueblo, Alaska Native village).

Further evaluation will be made of how well the applicant:

(1) Discusses the manner that allows the program services to continue after the cooperative agreement expires;

(2) Expresses willingness to share models of success with other communities and programs;

(3) Develops a cohesive and effective mental health service system that draws on Tribal, federal, State, local, and private resources, including traditional healers as determined by the community. The system of care must involve education, primary care, justice, child welfare, as well as behavioral health prevention and treatment; and

(4) Describes how data derived from the program will be used for improving the service system, increasing the quality of service delivery, developing system of care policies in the local community, and sustaining the system of care beyond the eight-year period of federal funding.

(c) Management Controls (15 points)

The application will be evaluated on the extent to which the applicant:

(1) Describes the project location, facilities, and available equipment;

(2) Describes the management controls of the recipient over the direction and acceptability of work to be performed;

(3) Describes the personnel and financial mechanisms to be utilized;

(4) Demonstrates that the organization has adequate systems and expertise to manage federal funds; and

(5) Includes a letter from the accounting firm with the results of the most recent financial audit for the organization.

(d) Key Personnel (10 points)

The application will be evaluated based on the extent to which the applicant:

(1) Provides a resume, qualifications, and position description for the program director and key personnel as described on page 22 of the PHS 5161;

(2) Identifies existing personnel and new program staff to be hired;

(3) Lists the qualifications and experience of consultants or contractors where the use is anticipated; and

(4) Identifies who will determine if the contracted work is acceptable and how the determination will be made.

(e) Budget (10 points)

The application will be evaluated based on the extent to which the applicant:

(1) Provides an itemized estimate of costs and a justification for the proposed program on SF 424A, Budget Information Non-Construction Programs;

(2) Allows for a narrative justification that describes the expenditures and the justification for the expenditures;

(3) Indicates special start-up costs;

(4) Includes a brief program narrative and budget for each additional year of funding requested; and

(5) Provides a statement that cooperative agreement funding may not be used to supplant existing public and private resources.

(f) Evaluation (10 points)

The application will be critiqued to the extent to which the applicant implements an evaluation protocol. Collaboration and coordination with local Tribal colleges or universities is highly encouraged. The application will be evaluated on the extent to which, the applicant:

(1) Describes the knowledge and experience of individuals with evaluation expertise available within the local community;

(2) Specifies the degree to which these individuals have specialized knowledge and experience about:

(i) Applied research and evaluation methods, as well as family and community study approaches;

(ii) Children's mental health services; and

(iii) Directing and supervising research and evaluation projects.

Application Consideration

Applications submitted by the closing date and verified by the postmark will undergo a review to determine that the:

(1) Applicant is eligible in accordance with the Eligibility and Documentation section of this announcement;

(2) Application narrative, forms, and materials submitted meet the requirements of the announcement and allow the review panel to undertake an in-depth evaluation; otherwise, the application will be returned to the applicant and the application is not a duplication of a previously funded project and the application complies with this announcement; otherwise it will be returned.

Competitive Review of Accepted Applicants

Applications meeting eligibility requirements that are complete, responsive, and conform to this program