

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

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Addendum to RFP #HSS-18-01

**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention and
Early Intervention (PEI) for Older Adults**

Proposers' Questions & Answers

Q1. Can you share the experience of the review panelists?

A1. The review panelists will be comprised of people from within and outside of Solano County that are familiar with the Mental Health Services Act and Prevention and Early Intervention and/or have experience with providing services to older adults.

Q2. Is the early intervention documentation standard Medi-Cal documentation?

A2. No, not at this time.

Q3. What is the county's intended impact of the program from the winning bidder? Are there specific metrics the county is looking for this population based on these services?

A3. Some intended impact of the program includes:

- Key community stakeholders have skills to recognize the signs/symptoms of mental health for the geriatric/older adult population to promote appropriate referrals and linkages
- Prevention of the development of disabling mental health conditions
- Prevention of homelessness
- Continued reduction in suicides for the older adult population in Solano County.

Proposers may propose specific metrics to measure these impacts and other proposed impacts.

Q4. What are the "intended outcomes" in Section 1.3 of the RFP?

A4. The proposer should propose intended outcomes based on the model being proposed.

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- Q5. What is the intended reach of outreach and education in terms of # of persons? Is there a target number to be reached?**
A5. The proposer should propose the number to reach based on the model proposed. For example, particular training curriculums may have caps for number of participants per training. Final numbers served will be determined during contract negotiations with the vendor awarded the contract.
- Q6. What is the average yearly/monthly case management case load?**
A6. The proposer should propose the caseloads for both brief and longer-term case management based on the model of service delivery proposed (keeping in mind this program is not intended to serve the older adult seriously mentally ill [SMI] population). Final caseloads will be determined during contract negotiations with the vendor awarded the contract.
- Q7. Is there flexible consumer supported funds included?**
A7. Flexible consumer supports is an allowable expense. Bidders should propose what they believe will be needed for consumer support funds in their proposed budget.
- Q8. Are there parameters on what can be spent with “consumer supported funds?”**
A8. Consumer support funds would include items considered necessary to meet urgent basic needs and may include things such as: emergency food, medications/medical supplies, one-time payment of utilities, transportation for consumers, installation of equipment in the home for safety, hygiene items, one-time emergency rent to prevent eviction/homelessness. The vendor awarded the contract will need to have clear policies in place to monitor the use of funds in order to demonstrate appropriate oversight and accountability.
- Q9. Is the \$50,000 start-up funding included as part of the total \$1.1 million?**
A9. Yes.
- Q10. Can you send the contact information from the proposers’ conference to the attendees?**
A10. Yes. This information will be distributed to all attendees of the Mandatory Proposers’ Conference

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Q11. Have any community focus groups or surveys been completed involving the older adult community to seek input on needs and priorities? If so, where would applicants find the data?

A11. During fiscal year 2017/18, a comprehensive community planning process was held to develop the countywide Solano County Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan which included an older adult focus group. Link to plan:
<http://www.solanocounty.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=27271>

Q12. Does the County place an equal priority on prevention and early intervention? Or would the County like applicants to devote more resources to one of the two components?

A12. There is no prescribed ratio between prevention and early intervention activities. Per the MHSA Three-Year Plan "PEI funds are intended to reduce stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness and provides preventative and early intervention services to avert mental health crises and the development of more severe disabling mental illnesses."

Q13. Are there particular models or practices that the County would especially like to see in place in Solano County?

A13. The County has not identified particular models. However, all services including community education/trainings (particularly suicide prevention trainings) and early intervention activities should be anchored in evidenced-based or best practice curriculums.

Q14. Are there are counties or systems that the County looks to as a leader in Older Adult PEI?

A14. Not at this time.

Q15. How long may "longer-term" case management last? Is there a cut-off, or may a client receive services as long as the services are beneficial?

A15. Longer-term case management may last 6-12months.

Q16. Are there validated instruments that the County would like to see used?

A16. The County is not prescribing any specific instruments; however, proposals should include planned use of validated instruments to evaluate the impact of the program being proposed.

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Q17. Are there any eligibility requirements? May any adult from the target age group living in Solano County access showing need receive early intervention services?

A17. Given the program will be funded by MHSA prevention and early intervention (PEI) funds, the program is intended to serve older adults in Solano who have not yet developed a diagnosable mental health condition and/or have mild to moderate mental health conditions. There are no other eligibility requirements, including no insurance restrictions.

Q18. Would you like the proposals to be single-sided or double-sided?

A18. Proposals may be printed single-sided or double-sided.

Q19. Would you like the proposals to be bound with a binder clip? Is another binding preferred?

A19. There is not a preferred binding style or device; binder clips are acceptable. Each copy should be separately bound.