

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP): *Open Access Project Evaluation*

Pre-Proposal Conference held: September 4, 2024 | 9:30 a.m.

BHSB Facilitators:

Lynn Mumma, Procurement Lead

John Crouch, Project Lead

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Posted: September 13, 2024

1. How many consumers were served through the three cohorts?

Approximately 1,000 consumers were served by the first 2 cohorts. No data is available yet for the third cohort because it recently started.

2. Is the intent for the project limited to analyzing existing data, or is there an expectation to collect new data?

The selected evaluator will be expected to analyze existing data collected by the Open Access consultant and Behavioral Health Link, the platform where referrals are made from the 988 Regional Helpline. If the selected evaluator determines that additional data will make the evaluation more thorough, they can propose a plan for collecting the additional data.

3. To what extent does BHSB want the evaluator to make recommendations based on the analysis?

BHSB wants to learn 1) if the Open Access Project has improved access and quality of care and 2) whether the model is self-sustaining or needs additional resources to be sustainable. BHSB is interested in recommendations that emerge from the data analysis related to these two goals.

4. Are there any limits on indirect rates?

BHSB will execute a consultant contract with the selected applicant in which payment will be based on an hourly rate multiplied by the number of hours. The hourly rate should be inclusive of all of the consulting organization's costs. If the selected applicant has a negotiated indirect rate, BHSB will consider if it is applicable during the budget negotiations for the consultant contract.

5. Are there considerations around applicants who are certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)?

No. One of BHSB's core organizational values is equity. One of the ways we advance this value and ensure good stewardship of public funds is through competitive procurements that set equitable criteria. Because MBE certification applies only to for-profit businesses, and not to non-profit businesses, BHSB does not include MBE certification in its scoring criteria.

6. Are there length/formatting requirements for the proposal?

The SurveyMonkey Apply software structures the formatting for proposals. There are no minimum requirements, and the software sets a maximum for each question. Generally, it is BHSB's understanding that there is sufficient space for applicants to provide comprehensive responses to each question.

End of Questions and Answers