

Questions and Answers
Maryland Department of Health
Behavioral Health Administration (BHA)
Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

Procurement ID #: BHA REOI 2021-002
Title: Adolescent Hospital Overstay Program
Question Due Date: March 17, 2021
REOI Response Due Date: March 23, 2021

Question 1. With respect to the BHA REOI 2021-002, are only non-profit Provider's eligible for submission/response?

Response: Yes. Only non-profit providers are eligible for state grants.

Question 2. For an RCC provider that does not receive reimbursement from Medicaid for per diem rates of care, how would the base per diem rate be paid for youth placed by LBHA or some other entity that is not DSS or DJS?

Response: Funding will be from the state directly, not from Medicaid. Details of how payment will be distributed are still being clarified

Question 3. Further clarification of the profile of youth served is needed. From the TA call held 3/3/21, it seems as though the majority of youth are those that have been denied by current in state Residential Treatment Centers? Is this the case? If so, are these youth pending out of state placement or is that something to be determined by the overstay provider?

Response: The target population are those youth who have been, or will be (going forward) denied by existing Residential Treatment Centers. They may remain in a hospital overstay setting, or they may be in an inadequate or inappropriate community setting awaiting a placement.

Question 4. As a RCC provider, can we define that we are only able to serve youth recommended for high intensity group home level of care (as aligned with our current RCC provider profile)?

Response: We seek to work with all interested providers to help identify what specific service components are needed. Part of our broader effort is to help to align the recommendations for placements to include descriptions of needed services not to give categorical placement recommendations.

Question 5. For providers that may not be able to deliver services on July 1, will a timeline for implementation be considered along with the final submission?

Response: Yes, but providers able to start on July 1 would be given preference.

Question 6. I realize that you indicated in your cover email that “While the (REOI) speaks to residential treatment centers MDH is opening the RFP to residential child care providers who may consider expanding their programs.” The Children’s Guild operates therapeutic group homes and has an intensive education program to educate children and adolescents with autism. Are we eligible for consideration to dedicate one of our therapeutic group homes to this population or must we have a locked setting of some sort to be eligible to serve this population?

Response: The needs of the patient will determine both the clinical requirements and any environmental / security requirements. The potential population is quite diverse.

Question 7. What are the ages of the youth who have autism and their ability to independently care for themselves, i.e., toileting, showering, eating, dressing?

Response: This response applies to the remaining questions (7-25)

The potential universe of youth are not identified at this time, but rather this grant will be to serve those youth who are not able to be placed in an existing residential treatment facility in the future. While some of these youth will have cognitive or social/communicative delays, this is not true of the entire population. The intent of this process is to identify providers who are willing and able to safely manage these youth for treatment and stabilization pending another long term placement.

Question 8. What if any self-injurious behavior do they have?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 9. What level of daily medical care do these adolescents need?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 10. How would you describe where the adolescents are on the autism spectrum?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 11. At what level do they read?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 12. What current supports is your hospital providing for them now?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 13. Are you willing to provide the adolescent's family history and a paragraph describing the needs of each adolescent with autism you currently have to place so that it will assist in understanding the services needed to meet their needs?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 14. What was the situation which resulted to the adolescent being admitted to your hospital?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 15. What physical disabilities do the adolescents with autism have that would require accommodation in the setting we will provide?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 16. What are the interests and talents of the current adolescents with autism you are trying to place?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 17. Are these adolescents able to prepare basic meals, i.e., cereal for breakfast, make a peanut butter & jelly sandwich, make a hard boiled or soft boiled egg?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 18. Are you willing to provide us access to the behavior intervention plans of these youth we are trying to program for so we can determine what if anything we would need to do to adapt the physical environment and staffing environment to serve them?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 19. Are you willing to share student IEP and 504 plans for those you invite to submit a RFP.

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 20. What level of communication skill do they possess? How many of them need communication devices?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 21. How many of the students have occupational therapy and speech and language services outside of school? Please describe the level of need so we can plan for these needs should The Children’s Guild be invited to submit a proposal.

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 22. Are all the prospective youth in need of the service covered by Medicaid? If not do they have private health insurance?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 23. What, if any, vocational interests do the adolescents with autism in your care currently have?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 24. Are the parents of these adolescents able to care for them at home or do you see them as long term residents who will need adult supportive living?

Response: See response to Question 7.

Question 25. I’m assuming your need is more for a male residence than a female one?

Response: See response to Question 7.

The Department of Health hosted an informational webinar March 3, 2021 titled, “ Maryland Department of Health: Adolescent Overstay Population Grant Initiative Webinar”. A link to the recorded webinar is included for reference.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQgYCnY0Y94>

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