African American Family Leadership and Engagement Grant Request for Proposals

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **Question:** Do you have an example of what a successful application looks like?

   Answer: We do not have an example of a successful application available for review. However, when reviewing the Request for Proposals (RFP), would encourage you to look closely at the scoring criteria in Appendix A. The scoring criteria includes the worksheet that reviewers will complete as they are reviewing applications and provides details on how scores will be determined for applications.

2. **Question:** Can you help me understand the ideal organizations that will fit the scope of this RFP?

   Answer: According to page 4 for the RFP document, eligible applicants include: "Community-based not-for-profit or for-profit organizations who serve African American families. Preference is given to organizations who are owned or led by African American persons." Applicants should describe their experience and expertise as it relates to implementing the grant in the Project Narrative portion of their application – specifically within *Sections A: Organizational Background Information* and *B: Organizational Skills and Knowledge*. The scoring criteria in Appendix A outlines the areas that applicants should cover when describing their experience and expertise.

3. **Question:** Please confirm where the grant needs to be sent.

   Answer: Applications should be submitted via email to health.cyshn@state.mn.us. All applications must be received by MDH no later than 12:00pm CST on February 15, 2022.

4. **Question:** When can I expect a decision after the grant application has been submitted?

   Answer: We expect to decide on the final grantee in late February – early March 2022. You can expect to hear back from us by April 2022 on the final decision.

5. **Question:** Is this a renewable grant or just something that is available now?

   Answer: At this point, the end date for this grant is July 31, 2026, and it is not renewable. During the project, we will seek out opportunities to increase sustainability of the project, but it is not guaranteed that we will be able to continue funding.

6. **Question:** Is it possible to focus on a geographic area or should the focus be statewide? Is there time to build up the council representation over time to become statewide? For example, can you focus on your local region in year one and build the council to become representative statewide in the following years?

   Answer: The intent of the Minnesota Integrated Care for Early Childhood initiative is to have a statewide focus. However, because the population we are focusing on primarily lives in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, we will likely first focus on that area for our work and then will build the impact statewide. Therefore, yes, it is okay to have the focus of grant proposal to first be on a local region (i.e., the Twin Cities area) and then build to be become more representative statewide. We wouldn't recommend having a local focus smaller than the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area, though.

7. **Question:** Can fiscally-sponsored organizations apply to this grant?

   Answer: Yes, organizations can work with a fiscal host in applying for and implementing this program. Ultimately, the fiscal host would be the organization that would be entering into the grant agreement with MDH and would need to register as a vendor in the state of Minnesota's accounting system. If you are working with a fiscal host, we would request that you include the information on that organization on Form A: Application Face Sheet. Then, as a part of the Organizational Background Information in your Project Narrative, you can describe how you're working together as multiple organizations (including the roles of each).

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3654