

Solicitation of Interest

Title: Solicitation of Interest- #20389
Provision of Harm Reduction Services Via Telemedicine

AGENCY: Health, NYS Dept. of
AIDS Institute, Office of Drug User Health

Contract Number: TBD

Contract Term: December 1, 2023 – November 30, 2025

Date of Issue: 8/8/2023

Due Date/Time: 8/29/2023 4:00 PM ET

County(ies): Statewide – All Counties

Location: Statewide

Classification: Medical & Health Care

Opportunity Type: Grant or notice of funds availability

Description: The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) AIDS Institute (AI) Office of Drug User Health announces the opportunity for a not-for-profit licensed medical practice to increase access to medications for addiction treatment or medications for opioid use disorder (MAT/MOUD). The funded entity will be responsible for providing low-threshold harm reduction services via telemedicine to persons with opioid use disorder/at risk of overdose. The purpose of this opportunity is to expand access to MAT/MOUD and other related harm reduction services across New York State, specifically for areas of the state where there is a lack of available harm reduction and comprehensive medical services available to Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUD), as well as to prevent overdoses and overdose deaths among PWUD in New York State.

Expected Activities/Work Performed

The expected activities/work to be performed are to:

- Provide telehealth services for medications for addiction treatment or medications for opioid use disorder (MAT/MOUD) for individuals experiencing opioid use disorder throughout NYS;
- Provide medical services to underserved populations, particularly people who use drugs, the unhoused, individuals with mental health needs, and people of trans experience;
- Provide medical and social services to clients, including low-threshold access to buprenorphine and naloxone, mental health services,

trauma-informed care, primary care, and sexual and reproductive health services;

- Have a stigma and bias free, anti-racist, trauma-informed approach to working with PWUD;
- Provide and/or facilitate prompt access to quality, appropriate, stigma- and bias-free, anti-racist, trauma-informed, culturally comprehensive access to syringe service programs and harm reduction supplies for PWUD;
- Implement strategies and interventions to engage and maintain linkages to care;
- Invite and meaningfully include PWUD in policy and program development, decision-making, and in advisory roles on committees;
- Coordinate services with other health and human services providers serving PWUD;
- Participate in a collaborative process with the NYSDOH AI to assess progress towards meeting the initiative standards and program outcomes, and provide monthly narrative reports describing the program with respect to:
 - 1) model implementation,
 - 2) client identification, engagement, and retention,
 - 3) success in performing the activities outlined in this SOI,
 - 4) data collection and reporting,
 - 5) significant accomplishments achieved, and
 - 6) barriers encountered and plans to address noted problems.
- Submit statistical reports on clients served, and other data using the AIDS Institute Reporting System (AIRS). Successful applicants must demonstrate the capacity to collect and report all required data, both personnel and hardware-related using AIRS. AIRS is a data reporting system that is required by the NYSDOH AI to report client demographic information as well as program activities. NYSDOH AI requires maintenance and reporting of unduplicated client level data, including demographics and service histories, in accordance with applicable federal and/or state reporting requirements. NYSDOH AI provides and supports the AIRS software to enable providers to meet data submission requirements. Details on this software product may be obtained by accessing the following Internet address, www.airсны.org; and
- Complete the 12-module, free online [Health Equity in the Response to Drug Overdose Training](#) that was funded by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the CDC and submit their completion certificate to the NYSDOH

Minimum Qualifications of Eligible Organizations:

- Applicant is eligible to do business with New York State;
- Applicant is located in New York State;
- Applicant complies with telehealth standards for New York State https://health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/telehealth/index.htm and <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PBH/A29-G>;

- Applicant provides medical services to underserved populations, in particular people who use drugs, the unhoused, individuals with mental health needs, and people of trans experience;
- Applicant has strategies and interventions to engage and maintain linkages to care;
- Applicant provides medical and social services to clients, including low-threshold access to buprenorphine and naloxone, mental health services, trauma-informed care, primary care, and sexual and reproductive health services;
- Applicant utilizes a stigma and bias free, anti-racist, trauma-informed approach to working with people who use drugs;
- Applicant has experience working with syringe service programs;
- Applicant has a minimum of five (5) years of experience in providing medications for addiction treatment or medications for opioid use disorder (MAT/MOUD) for individuals experiencing opioid use disorder throughout NYS;
- Applicant is familiar with utilizing an electronic medical record (EMR); and previous use of AIRS is required;
- Applicant has a minimum of two (2) years of experience contracting with a government entity; and
- Applicant has a minimum of two (2) years of experience providing MAT/MOUD via telemedicine in NYS.

How to Apply:

Interested eligible organizations should submit a completed Checklist and Application Cover Sheet (available under the “Documents” tab) and no more than a four (4) page document describing the organization’s background, capacity and experience that demonstrates its ability to conduct the activities as described above. These documents must be submitted via email to AIGPU@health.ny.gov no later than 4:00 pm ET on 8/29/23.

Funding for this project is contingent on the availability of State funds and the number of eligible applicants that respond to the advertisement. Available funding to support this initiative will be limited to the amount(s) appropriated in the enacted State Fiscal Year budgets for this purpose. The anticipated contract term is December 1, 2023 – November 30, 2025. The resulting contract will be a cost reimbursable contract. Progress reports will be required. **This advertisement is not a guarantee or promise of funding.**

The Department reserves the right to withdraw this solicitation and/or issue a competitive procurement for this project if the number of interested and eligible parties exceeds that which can be reasonably accommodated by available funds.

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| Minority Owned Sub-Contracting Goal: | 15% |
| Women Owned Sub-Contracting Goal: | 15% |
| Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Contracting Goal: | 0% |
| Disadvantaged Owned Sub-Contracting Goal: | 0% |

Contact Information

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