

REGION 4 OPIOIDS COUNCIL
Request for Proposals (“RFP”)
RFP No. 1

Overview:

The Colorado Attorney General’s Office (the “AG”) was part of a national lawsuit suing pharmaceutical companies over the opioid epidemic and each state was awarded Opioid Settlement Funds to deal with the opioid epidemic. The AG worked with local governments to develop regions in which the Opioid Settlement Funds would be disbursed each year. The guidelines for services that can be provided with the Opioid Settlement Funds come from the terms of the national settlement. Region 4 is comprised of board members of ten (10) counties in Central and Northeast Colorado: Elbert, Lincoln, Kit Carson, Cheyenne, Yuma, Washington, Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, and Phillips Counties. There is a governing Board, called the Region 4 Opioid Council which is the decision-maker over how the Opioid Settlement Funds will be distributed.

Goals and Objectives:

The services that can be funded with the Opioid Settlement Funds are outlined in the Colorado Opioids Settlement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). An overview of the areas identified for Approved Use of Funds includes the following: Prevention & Education, Treatment, Harm Reduction, Criminal Justice, & Recovery. Specific strategies and parameters are listed in detail for each of these areas and can be found in Exhibit A of the Colorado Opioids Settlement MOU.

After assessing available data including secondary indicator data and primary data, it was determined that Region 4 has significant gaps in the availability of Opioid Use Disorder/Substance Abuse Disorder (OUD/SUD) treatment services in the region. Given these gaps, a primary focus identified for the first two years is on expanding treatment services, with a focus on increasing access through transportation services. Priority will be given to transportation programs that expand access to existing treatment services that align with the approved Use of Funds strategies in Exhibit A of the Colorado Opioids Settlement MOU. Region 4 is made up of all rural and frontier designated counties, so increasing treatment access to services and resources for those affected by opioid addiction and abuse is the ultimate goal and objective.

The region will utilize this RFP process to grant money to providers for **transportation resulting in increased access to treatment and mitigation of opioid use disorder and its effects** and are in line with the Approved Use of Funds Exhibit A of the Colorado Opioids Settlement MOU. Examples include:

- Expand access to treatment for an OUD and co-occurring SUDs or mental health conditions:
 - In-person MAT, behavioral health, and other treatment services;
 - Residential treatment programs;
 - Outpatient treatment programs and associated testing and courses;
 - Psychosocial treatment programs, including therapy and relapse prevention; and
 - Detoxification and withdrawal management programs.

Region 4 is mindful of not duplicating behavioral health existing regional services, but rather leveraging this funding to go further expand access to existing services and develop new necessary services in their communities.

In addition, Region 4 will also allocate resources to the other four areas of Prevention & Education, Criminal Justice, Recovery & Harm Reduction, although in a more limited way in the first two years. These funding opportunities are still forthcoming. Region 4 Opioid Council's goals are to primarily focus on treatment, education, prevention, recovery services, harm prevention and criminal justice related to the Opioid Epidemic the first two years of funding.

Quarterly reports to Region 4 shall be required as a condition of accepting funding.

Timeline:

Proposals will be accepted until January 31, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Proposals received after the deadline may not be considered or accepted.

Place of Delivery:

To be eligible to submit a proposal, all proposal documents must be submitted to Region 4 Opioid Council, Attn: Andrea Calhoon at administrator@co.yuma.co.us.

Evaluation:

Region 4 Opioid Council, through its fiscal agent, Yuma County, shall award contracts to providers based on the evaluation criteria contained within this RFP.

Reservation of Rights:

Region 4 Opioid Council and its fiscal agent, Yuma County, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities and to reserve any request for proposals. Region 4 Opioid Council and its fiscal agent, Yuma County, also reserve the right to award contracts as it deems will best serve its interest, including partial awards. Funds will be issued on a reimbursement basis by Yuma County serving as the Region 4 fiscal agent following receipt of project reports and associated expense invoices, subject to approval by the Council and/or its designee. All decisions are final.

Required Information:

- 1) Name of the Organization;
- 2) Mailing Address;
- 3) Applicant Contact Name and Title;
- 4) Applicant Contact email and phone number;
- 5) Applicants must submit an approved audit or financial review for the past (3) years.
- 6) No more than 5 Letters of Support, at least one of which must be a local government;
- 7) RFP's must contain the following language, signed by the Applicant or Applicant's Representative: "Applicant hereby certifies and warrants that all statements and representations, including all sources and uses of funds, made in this RFP are true and correct and may be relied upon by the Region 4 Opioid Council."

Questions to be addressed by the RFP:

- 1) Brief description of the program.
- 2) For existing programs, please explain how your program will be expanded, the amount of funding requested, and why additional funding is required. Please indicate which counties are currently served and will be served, if expanded.
- 3) Describe any new initiatives that you intend to launch, the amount of funding requested, and why additional funding is required. Please indicate which counties will be served by the new initiative.
- 4) Include a preliminary timeline for establishment/expansion of your program and for all program deliverables.
- 5) Please describe any capital infrastructure currently in place or anticipated capital investment needs as well as associated funding required.
- 6) Will this program be utilizing funds from other sources in conjunction with the Opioid Settlement Funds?
- 7) What are the anticipated project deliverables and associated outcomes of your program after applying this funding? How will you measure those outcomes? What does success look like?
- 8) Provide information evidencing that Applicant has a proven track record of experience and success with this or similar programs or as an entity with historical productivity.
- 9) Is there any current or anticipated opposition to your program?
- 10) Do you have funds available to implement and accomplish the program without funding through this RFP? Please explain.
- 11) How do you plan to fund future management and/or operating costs of the program to ensure sustainability?
- 12) If your organization is not successful in securing funding for your program from Region 4 Opioid Council, what is the future of your program?

Evaluation Criteria:

All RFP responses shall be evaluated based on the answers to the questions provided above and the following criteria:

- 1) Length of time providing the service.
- 2) Number of counties within Region 4 that will be served.
- 3) Timeline for providing the service.
- 4) Ability to address the diverse needs of Region 4.
- 5) Anticipated outcomes.
- 6) Ability to utilize and improve existing regional programs and services
- 7) Financial stability of the organization and program.
- 8) Ability to establish additional and ongoing funding sources.
- 9) Sustainability of the program.
- 10) Ability to further the goals of the 2-year plan, as described in the “Goals and Objectives” section above.
- 11) Organizational compliance, reputation, and business practices including but not limited to SAM.gov registration, Better Business Bureau ratings, Secretary of State business entity status, length of operation, references, and any other available public information.