

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION



ENHANCED SPECIALTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (ESMHS)

County of San Mateo Behavioral Health and
Recovery Services

Release Date: February 7, 2022

Responses must be Received
by 4:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time
on March 28, 2022

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
FOR
ENHANCED SPECIALTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Interested respondents must register online with the County at
www.publicpurchase.com

Responses must be submitted electronically to
www.publicpurchase.com

By 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time on March 28, 2022

RESPONSES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE AND TIME

Note regarding the Public Records Act:

Government Code Sections 6250 *et seq.*, the California Public Record Act, defines a public record as any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public business. The Public Record Act provides that public records shall be disclosed upon written request and that any citizen has a right to inspect any public record unless the document is exempted from disclosure.

Be advised that any contract that eventually arises from this Request For Information is a public record in its entirety. Also, all information submitted in response to this Request For Information is itself a public record **without exception**. Submission of any materials in response to this Request For Information constitutes a waiver by the submitting party of any claim that the information is protected from disclosure. By submitting materials, (1) you are consenting to release of such materials by the County if requested under the Public Records Act without further notice to you and (2) you agree to indemnify and hold harmless the County for release of such information.

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SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

A. STATEMENT OF INTENT

San Mateo County is conducting research through the Request for Information (RFI) process to solicit information for possible solutions for Enhanced Specialty Mental Health Services (ESMHS). This RFI contains preliminary information to serve as a platform for discussion with the provider community. The information in this RFI is in no way final nor does it represent what may be contained in a future RFP. This RFI does not constitute a commitment to issue an RFP, award a contract, or pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a response to this request. The County strongly encourages proposals from a wide variety of agencies and organizations. Proposers may submit proposals for any one or all the services under ESMHS (TFC/ICC/IHBS). The County is interested in information from proposers who exhibit expertise in providing these services.

The San Mateo County Health Plan has a responsibility to determine if all children, youth, or non-minors with Medi-Cal who meet medical necessity criteria for Enhanced Specialty Mental Health Services (ESMHS) who reside in San Mateo County, are also eligible for Intensive Care Coordination (ICC), Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS) and Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) Services. If criterion for ICC, IHBS, and/or TFC are met, the San Mateo County Plan's Coordinator will convene a Child and Family Team (CFT) for the eligible child/youth, and ensure the child/youth and family's needs and goals are attained following the framework of the Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM) as described in the Medi-Cal Manual for Intensive Care Coordination, Intensive Home Based Services, and Therapeutic Foster Care Services for Medi-Cal Beneficiaries, 3rd Edition, January 2018. Neither membership in the Pathways to Well-Being (PTW) Class (formally known as Katie A.) nor Subclass is a prerequisite to consideration for receipt of ICC, IHBS and/or TFC. Therefore, a child/youth does not need to have an open Children and Family Services (CFS) case to receive these services.

SECTION II – SCOPE OF CONCEPT

A. DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of the scope of work here. Describe all requirements.

Several specialty mental health services are part of the ESMHS program including Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS), Intensive Care Coordination (ICC), and Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC). These services will encompass community services and support: physical, behavioral, and mental health support; life and social support, transitional support services for children/youth and families who assume permanency; services for transition-aged youth; services for non-minor dependents; trauma-informed practices and supports for children and youth; and treatment services through the provisions of the following services:

Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) is an intensive form of Targeted Case Management (TCM) that facilitates assessment of, care planning for, and coordination of services for children and youth. ICC includes urgent services for beneficiaries with intensive needs. While the key service components of ICC are similar to TCM, a difference between ICC and the more traditional TCM is that ICC is intended for children and youth who:

- Are involved in multiple children serving systems;
- Have more intensive needs; and/or
- Whose treatment requires cross-agency collaboration.

ICC also differs from TCM in that there needs to be a CFT in place, to provide feedback and recommendations to guide the provision of ICC services. A key element of ICC is the establishment of an ICC coordinator, who often is a Mental Health Plan employee or contractor.

Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS) are individualized, strength-based interventions designed to ameliorate mental health conditions that interfere with a child's or youth's functioning. These interventions are aimed at: helping the child/youth build skills for successful functioning in the home and community, as well as improving the family's ability to help the child/youth successfully function in the home and in the community. The difference between IHBS and more traditional outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) is that IHBS is expected to be of significant intensity to address the mental health needs of the child or youth, consistent with the child's or youth's client plan, and will be predominantly delivered outside an office setting, and in the home, school, or community. IHBS activities support the engagement and participation of the child/youth and his/her significant support persons. In addition, IHBS activities help the child/youth develop skills and achieve the goals and objectives of the plan.

TFC is a short-term, intensive, highly coordinated, trauma-informed, and individualized intervention, provided by a TFC parent to a child or youth who has complex emotional and behavioral needs. TFC is available as an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit to children and youth, under

the age of 21, who are Medi-Cal eligible and meet medical necessity criteria. (See ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. I-05-17 and MHSUDS INFORMATION NO. 17- 009)

Membership in the Katie A. class or subclass is not a prerequisite to receiving TFC. Therefore, a child or youth who does not have an open child welfare services case and is not in foster care or involved in the Juvenile Probation system, may be considered for TFC, in an approved TFC resource home.

TFC is intended for children and youth who require intensive and frequent mental health support in a family environment. TFC should not be the only SMHS that a child or youth receives. Children and youth receiving TFC also must receive ICC and other medically necessary ESMHS, as set forth in the client plan. Similar to ICC and IHBS, there must be a CFT in place to guide and plan TFC service provision.

B. ENVIRONMENT/POPULATION

The current demographics for the population that BHRS serves is the following:

- 1539 county clients
- 31% Latino/x
- 23% White
- 5% African American
- 5% Asian/Pacific Islander
- Under 18-48% are female and 52% are male

Contractor shall serve children and youth under the age of 21 who are Medi-Cal beneficiaries who meet medical necessity for specialty mental health services (SMHS), and are at risk of entering, or are stepping down from a higher level of care.

C. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS/CONSIDERATIONS

List any other requirements and/or considerations here. This section is optional.

D. LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS

This section is optional.

SECTION III – RFI QUESTIONS

Provide the following information as part of your response to this RFI:

A. GENERAL PROVIDER INFORMATION

- Contact Information - Name of the primary point of contact for the response, position title, and include e-mail address and phone number.
- Key Staff - Identify other key individuals who collaborated on the RFI response.
- Qualifications of your Organization – Include a statement of the extent of experience and history providing the services requested or similar services. With

the history, include the length of time in business, and any experience working with public agencies.

- Professional Qualifications – If applicable, list the professional qualifications held by your agency and/or personnel.

B. IMPLEMENTATION METHODOLOGY AND PLAN

- Philosophy/Service Model
 - Describe your philosophy and/or the service model you would employ while delivering services to the target population.
 - How do you plan to acquire these Therapeutic Foster homes?
 - How do you plan to recruit the TFC parents?
 - Given the client population indicated, do you foresee any difficulties or logistical issues with providing the services?
 - How many staff hours per week would be needed to effectively deliver the services?
 - What are the community partnerships you would utilize in the delivery of these services?
 - What is the typical average length of implementation?
- Staffing and Training
 - How many positions would be needed to deliver the services? Indicate any staff licensing requirements.
 - Do you have specialty training for 0-5 population?
 - What evidence-based and trauma informed trainings do you provide to your staff?
 - How often will you provide TFC, IHBS, and ICC trainings to your staff?
 - Do you currently offer multi-lingual capability in your service delivery? If not, how would you propose serving clients whose primary language is not English?
- Quality/Program Evaluation
 - What would be your proposed method of evaluation for these services?
 - How would you handle emergency situations that may arise with the target population?
- Budget
 - What would be the proposed budget for the service delivery? Include start-up costs (if any) and staff training.

SECTION IV – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Register at publicpurchase.com. All potential respondents must register with Public Purchase to receive important updates about the RFI process and to submit responses.

Read all Instructions. Read the entire RFI and all enclosures (if any) before preparing your response.

Questions and Responses Process. Submit all questions relating to this RFI to the designated questions field associated with this RFI at publicpurchase.com. Responses to questions will be posted to publicpurchase.com.

All questions must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 21, 2022.

If changes to the RFI are warranted, they will be posted to the publicpurchase.com website. It is the responsibility of each respondent to check the website for changes and/or clarifications to the RFI prior to submitting a response.

Miscellaneous. This RFI is not a commitment or contract of any kind. The County reserves the right to pursue any and/or all ideas generated by this RFI.

SECTION V – RFI SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

This section describes the general RFI procedure used by the County, and the remaining sections of this RFI list detailed requirements.

A. SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Public Purchase Registration: Providers/service providers interested in responding to this RFI must register online with the County of San Mateo at www.publicpurchase.com. The County will not be held responsible for or liable for registration errors.

Responses: The RFI response will be submitted electronically to www.publicpurchase.com by 4:00p.m. Pacific Standard Time on March 28, 2022.