

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Navajo Epidemiology Center

RFP# 18-04-1813VJ

Evaluation Services for the Development of a Toolkit to Accelerate Health Promotion

**Evaluation Services for the Development of a Toolkit to Accelerate Health Promotion
Good Health & Wellness in Indian Country Initiative,
Funded by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)**

PROGRAM SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW

The Navajo Epidemiology Center, under the Navajo Department of Health, is currently a recipient of funding through a cooperative agreement known as Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC). This funding is made available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Under GHWIC, the Navajo Epidemiology Center (NEC) engages in activities with local communities to prevent heart disease, prevent and manage type 2 diabetes, and increase access to healthy foods, including traditional foods. NEC will work with tribal communities to provide education and awareness about the health effects of commercial tobacco, increase opportunities and access to physical activity, increase access to healthy foods and beverages, with a focus on traditional foods, and ensure that cultural values serve as the foundation for awareness and implementation. Currently, the Navajo population experiences a high rate of chronic illness associated with sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition leading to high rates of obesity, type 2 diabetes, end-stage renal disease, and other chronic conditions. Improving the health of the Navajo Nation requires a holistic strategy that addresses the social and cultural contexts that affect total health and wellbeing.

The contractor/consultant's proposal shall respond to the Scope of Work identified in the RFP.

The terms of the contract shall begin April 30, 2018 and end December 31, 2019 dependent on successful consultant performance. This contract will be a multi-year contract contingent upon funding availability.

Submittal Deadline:

Proposal(s) must be received by **Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 5:00 pm DST**

All parties responding to this Bid # **18-04-1813VJ** are instructed to submit or send four (4) proposals (1 original and 3 copies) to the following address:

Physical Address: Navajo Department of Health
(Courier Service/ Navajo Epidemiology Center
Deliver to) Attention: Ramona Antone Nez, Senior Epidemiologist
Administration Building Number 2
Window Rock Boulevard
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Mailing Address: Navajo Department of Health
Navajo Epidemiology Center
Attention: Ramona Antone Nez, Senior Epidemiologist
PO Box 1390
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Addendum to RFP

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of the RFP, the NEC will issue a written addendum on the specifics of the change and inform all respondents who received the original RFP.

Inquiries Regarding this RFP

Questions regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing (email, facsimile, regular mail) to the Senior Epidemiologist of the Navajo Epidemiology Center at Ramona.Nez@nndoh.org or at facsimile number 928-871-6255. Only written responses to written questions shall be official. Verbal inquiries and responses shall be considered unofficial and may not receive a response. **Questions regarding this procurement will be accepted until Thursday, April 19, 2018.**

Rejection of Proposals

The Navajo Nation reserves the right to waive any informalities or irregularities in the RFP, or reject any or all proposals, whenever such rejection is deemed in the best interest of the Navajo Nation.

CONTRACTOR/CONSULTANT SCOPE OF WORK

Goal: Seeking evaluation services for a funded initiative known as Good Health & Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) to provide coordination in the collection of potential data sources, data collection methods, data collection timelines, data analyses and final report generation.

1. LITERATURE REVIEW

In close coordination and collaboration with the NEC staff, the consultant will review and summarize examples of how other Toolkits have been developed (settings, delivery methods, etc.) by other tribes. The consultant will also review how other entities have assessed and evaluated the effectiveness of a Toolkit that highlights health promotion in areas such as physical activity, dietary education, and cultural values implementation.

2. DEFINE TOOLKIT OUTCOMES

The consultant will work with the NEC staff to define and develop the expected outcomes of a Toolkit including how use of the Toolkit increased their knowledge of how to effectively implement Chapter community wellness plans. Will also evaluate if the Toolkit increased participants' skills and knowledge on how to assess public health measures such as BMIs, target heart rates, target weight, etc. The consultant will also work with NEC staff and other Navajo departments and programs (such as the Division of Community Development) to develop an assessment tool describing what public health improvements the Navajo Chapters have done with the Healthy Dine Nation Act revenue funds. This could also include a summary of the barriers/challenges/benefits the Chapters faced as they implemented their Community Wellness Plans.

3. TEST THE TOOLKIT'S EFFECTIVENESS

The consultant must propose and be prepared to design options for testing the Toolkit's effectiveness for eventual use amongst all 110 Navajo Chapters. The toolkit can be evaluated in phases for clarity and cultural applicability, with different types of Navajo Chapters, and on a regional level where a Chapter may be trained on the Toolkit and then train other Chapters near them.

4. REPORTING

The Consultant will maintain regular communication with designated NEC staff to ensure that tasks and objectives are met thoroughly and to be responsive to coaching needs. Regular meetings may include in-person and teleconference call meetings and the submittal of quarterly reports based on service elements and in accordance with Navajo Nation requirements.

5. DELIVERABLES

- A. Evaluation tools that can be developed and implemented for this GHWIC funding.
- B. A final report that highlights the methodologies and findings of developing and implementing a GWHIC Toolkit.
- D. Monthly meetings either in-person or via conference calls with GHWIC staff.
- E. Quarterly invoices and quarterly reports that summarize accomplishments and challenges

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

- A. **ISSUING OFFICE:** This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued for the Navajo Epidemiology Center, Navajo Department of Health, PO Box 1390, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.
- B. **PURPOSE:** This RFP provides prospective proposals with sufficient information to enable them to prepare and submit for consideration.
- C. **SCOPE:** This RFP contains the instructions governing the proposals to be submitted and the materials to be included therein; mandatory requirements which must be met to be eligible for consideration and other requirements to be met.
- D. **INQUIRIES:** Prospective proposals may make telephone or written inquiries concerning this RFP to obtain requirement clarifications. No inquiries will be accepted after the inquiry deadline of **April 19, 2018** as listed on Page 2.
- E. **ADDENDUM OF SUPPLEMENT TO THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:** In the event that it becomes necessary to revise any part of the RFP, an addendum will be issued.
- F. **PROPOSALS SUBMISSION:** Proposals must be received on or before **5:00 pm DST, April 24, 2018**. Respondents who are mailing their proposals should allow sufficient time for mail delivery to insure receipt by the date specified. If mailed, it is recommended that proposals be sent by certified mail to the address indicated on Page 2 of the RFP. **LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- G. **FOUR SETS OF PROPOSALS ARE REQUIRED.** The **original and four copies** must be delivered in a sealed envelope. The outside of the envelope should be clearly marked: RFP RE: PROPOSAL TO NAVAJO EPIDEMIOLOGY CENTER, NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH "EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TOOLKIT TO ACCELERATE HEALTH PROMOTION GOOD HEALTH & WELLNESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY INITIATIVE" BID # **18-04-1813VJ** DO NOT OPEN. Name and address of the business submitting the proposal to be written legibly on the outside of the sealed envelope. **The RFP costs must be submitted in a separate envelope and must be sealed.**
- H. **REJECTION OF PROPOSALS:** The Navajo Epidemiology Center reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive informalities and minor irregularities in the proposals received.
- I. **PROPRIETARY INFORMATION:** Any restrictions on the use of data contained within any proposals must be clearly stated in the proposals itself. Proprietary information submitted in response to this RFP will be handled in accordance with the applicable purchasing procedures. Each and every page of the proprietary material must be labeled or identified with the word, "PROPRIETARY."

- J. **RESPONSE MATERIAL OWNERSHIP:** All material submitted regarding this RFP shall become property of the Navajo Nation and will not be returned to the business. Responses received will be retained by the Purchasing Services Department and may be reviewed by any person after the final selection has been made, subject to Paragraph K. The Purchasing Services Department has the right to use any or all system ideas presented in response to this RFP, subject to limitations in the Paragraph K. Disqualification or non-selection of a proposal or bid does not eliminate this right.
- K. **INCURRING COSTS:** The Navajo Nation Purchasing Services Department and the Navajo Epidemiology Center are not liable for any costs incurred by the proposal prior to issuance of a contract.
- L. **ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL CONTENT:** The contents of the successful proposal will become a contractual obligation if acquisition action ensues. Failure of the successful bidder/business to accept these obligations may result in the cancellation of the award and such proposal may be removed from consideration for future solicitations. The Navajo Nation Purchasing Services Department and the Navajo Epidemiology Center reserve the right to pursue appropriate legal action in the above set of circumstances.
- M. **ACCEPTANCE TIME:** The Navajo Epidemiology Center intends to make a vendor selection within 5 days after the closing date.
- N. **AWARD OF BID:** Upon selection, a contract document will be prepared for the contractor and the proposal submitted by the contractor will become part of the contract.
- O. **EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA:**
- I. A Review Committee will review and will judge the proposals received in accordance with the general criteria used herein. Proposals should be prepared to provide any additional information that the team believes is necessary for a fair evaluation of proposals.
 - II. Failure to provide any information requested in the RFP may result in disqualification of the proposal. All proposals must be endorsed with the signature of a responsible official having the authority to bind the proposal to the execution of a contract.
 - III. The sole objective of the Review Committee will be to select the proposal that is most responsive to the needs of the Navajo Epidemiology Center. The specifications in this RFP represent the minimum performance criteria necessary for a response. On the basis of the evaluation criteria established in this RFP, the Review Committee will select and recommend the proposal that best meets this objective.
 - IV. Evaluation Criteria: The following criteria will be used by the Review Committee in the selection process for the contract award.

- a. Demonstrate ability and knowledge to work in close collaboration with the NEC staff to conduct a literature search of similar types of Toolkits that have been developed to see how the GHWIC Toolkit can be improved and effectively implemented at the Navajo Chapters. Must be aware and knowledgeable of public health topics such as physical activity, access to nutritious foods, Navajo cultural values, tobacco cessation, heart disease, and diabetes. (25 points)
 - b. Must demonstrate ability to effectively define and develop expected outcomes of a Toolkit. An evaluation resource should evaluate whether a user of the Toolkit's knowledge and/or skills increased and whether the user has increased knowledge of tracking public health measures. Must demonstrate the ability to collaborate with other Navajo Nation departments and programs to develop the evaluation resource. Must also develop a summary report of the benefits/barriers/challenges that the Navajo Chapters have faced as they implement(ed) their community wellness plans. (30 points)
 - c. Must propose and be prepared to design options for testing the Toolkit's effectiveness for eventual use amongst all 110 Navajo Chapters. The toolkit should be evaluated in phases for clarity and cultural applicability, with different types of Navajo Chapters, and on a regional level where a Chapter may be trained on the Toolkit and then train other Chapters near them. (30 points)
 - d. Must demonstrate the ability to maintain regular communication with NEC staff to ensure completion of tasks. Must demonstrate the ability to be responsive to Chapter staff for coaching and mentoring needs. Must be willing to conduct in-person and teleconference calls with NEC staff. And, must be willing to submit quarterly reports on service elements and in accordance with Navajo Nation requirements. (15 points)
- V. **Cost/Price Factors:** The importance of cost factors in the selection will depend upon the magnitude of the cost differentials identified, the credibility of such differential, the keenness of competition in the Technical Proposal, and the impact of other factors. The burden of proof as to cost credibility rests with the offeror. Proposed costs will be evaluated not only to determine if the estimate is reasonable, realistic and cost effective, but also to determine the offerors' understanding of the program and ability to organize and perform the contract. Cost/price factors will not be numerically weighed and scored.
- P. **STANDARD CONTRACT:** The Navajo Nation reserves the right to incorporate standard contract provisions into any contract negotiations as a result of a proposal submitted in response to this RFP.
- Q. **RETURN OF PROPOSALS:** The Navajo Nation has no obligation to return any proposals received in response to this RFP.

- R. **TERMS:** The term of this contract will be made in the best interest of the Navajo Epidemiology Center with a contract or a Purchase Order that will require mutual agreements between both parties.
- S. **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:** All proposals must have as a minimum, the capabilities listed herein and the bid proposal submitted must reflect in detail the inclusion of these services as well as the degree of expertise in utilizing these capabilities. The following is a list of exhibits that are attached and are a bidding part of this RFP:
1. Licensed, bonded, and current **General Liability.**
 2. Prospective recipient shall sign a **Navajo Nation Debarment and Suspension Waiver Form.**
 3. Must submit Listing and provide all Licenses, Certifications, Awards, Degrees with proposal.
 4. Prospective recipient shall sign a **W-9 Tax Form.**
 5. Must provide a Listing of Personnel assigned to project.
- T. **TAXES:** All appropriate taxes should be included in cost of services including the Navajo Sales Tax. All work performed within the territorial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation is subject to the Navajo Sales Tax of 5% (24 N.N.C. Section 601 *et. seq.*).
- U. **SOVEREIGNTY:** The Navajo Nation will not relinquish any of its sovereignty rights.

BILLING AND PAYMENT:

Billing and payment shall conform to all Navajo Nation procurement procedures and rules and regulations. In order to receive timely payment, vendor has an obligation and responsibility to present invoices that are timely and accurate. An original vendor invoice is needed for payment. The invoice must also contain information as shown on the purchase order or contract.

