

## **RFP#: JUV2018**

### **Addendum 1**

#### **Q&A**

- 1) Is the amount of funding in the RFP the same amount that is currently funding services?**

*The amount of funding in the RFP is 10% less the current FY 2017-18 funding.*

- 2) What if a program crosses over different service categories or the proposal requests more funds than what is recommended in a specific category?**

*The recommended funding amounts for the principal services areas is an approximate available amount. The funding amounts are projected based on current population, utilization patterns and unit service cost patterns. The amount of approximate available funding by principal service areas is a guide and is not absolute and will be adjusted by Probation based upon need during award and negotiations. Proposed programs may include one or more principal service categories, however if proposing multiple programs, applicant is to submit an application for each program.*

- 3) Can Probation provide a description of the Principal Service Areas?**

*Programs that Address Criminal Thinking, Behavior and Identity: Criminal thinking, behavior and peers are the most strongly predictive criminogenic factors for recidivism. A variety of research-based curricula are available, along with training and support for fidelity of implementation. Organizations interested in delivering curriculum should provide dedicated staff for training and certification, have the ability and willingness to work closely with probation staff to deliver curriculum lessons to fidelity.*

*Programs that Address Family Engagement and Increased Family Involvement: Family dysfunction represents a principal service need which can be reduced by resolving conflict, improving communication, and repairing emotional bonds. Local experience has shown that family conflict resolution and involvement in planning and intervention services can reengage natural supports. In addition, strengthening family ties reduces reliance on criminal associates and increases accountability and swift response to early warning signs of recidivism. Family engagement services may include family-based conferencing; conflict resolution; parent education classes, coaching and support groups, etc. Increasing family capacity and skills would also be addressed.*

*Programs that Address Community Support and Transition Planning: Targeted, time-limited interventions to address diversion or specific issues directly related to being successful on Probation. Services that respond to specific needs and situations of the individual to address specific barriers and achieve critical case plan objectives that are not a part of other service areas. Services may include diversion, gang desistance, mentoring and drop-in support, service advocacy to address barriers, offender rehabilitation, competency development, and accountability to victims through community services and restitution. Case plan objectives would include identifying the roles of family/natural supports to include changes in home/community to support a youth's transition.*

Programs that Address Substance Use Disorder or Behavioral Health Care (providers are expected to leverage existing systems of care): While substance use contributes to the criminality of this population, it is not enough to treat chemical dependency without also addressing criminal thinking, associations, and other risk factors that may be present in the individual. Responsivity issues with this population that must be addressed include low readiness for treatment and change, a history of treatment failure, co-occurring mental health disorders, and life skill deficits. While mental health is not in itself a criminogenic factor, unmet mental health needs among criminally involved individuals can be a barrier to the delivery and effectiveness of other prevention and intervention services. Services may include a range of services that integrate evidence based practice, enhances protective factors, family education regarding diagnosis and responsiveness as well as the ability to advocate for services/resources in the school/community. Mobilizing on-going community support and the ability to advocate for services/resources in the school and community will also be a focus.

Programs that Address Supporting a Youth's Education: Low educational participation or attainment among the target population both reflects their history of low social attachment and predicts a future of low employability and limited career advancement. Responsivity factors include undiagnosed learning disorder, inconsistent motivation, and negative past experiences in educational settings.

**4) Can Probation provide more information on the geography of clients and services as the RFP states on page 8 that 40% of the youth on supervision reside in Pajaro Valley Unified School District in the Watsonville area?**

Approximately 54% reside in the 95076 zip code (40% residing in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District)

Approximately 16% reside in the 95060 zip code

Approximately 9% reside in the 95062 zip code

Approximately 6% reside in the 95019 zip code

Approximately 5% reside in the 95003 zip code

Approximately 4% reside in the 95066 zip code

Approximately 3% reside in the 95073 zip code

Approximately 2% reside in the 95005 zip code

Approximately less than 1% reside in the 95006 zip code

Approximately less than 1% reside in the 95010 zip code

Approximately less than 1% reside in the 95018 zip code

**5) The RFP does not detail referral processes; can probation please explain the referral process?**

*The referral process for services will vary based upon the proposed services and service delivery model. Referrals for services may come directly from Probation or may come from the Courts or Probation partners. The referral system will be negotiated with selected providers based upon the services they will provide. Currently Probation and the Courts refer to programs using paper referrals, fax, emails, calls, and hand-off's. The probation department may also implement the use an electronic interface case management system for referrals and attendance tracking for programs and services.*

**6) What is the number of youth potentially impacted by immigration?**

*We do not track the number of youth impacted by immigration. Per department policy, determination of immigration status is not the responsibility of the probation department. Our department holds the value of not removing youth from caretakers due to immigration status and not influencing the community placement of adults due to immigration status. Santa Cruz County does not hold individuals in custody solely for immigration reasons beyond release date/time, regardless of the charges or conviction.*

**7) Are proposal scores weighted on the cost-benefit analysis of a proposed program?**

*No. There are no points attached to a cost-benefit analysis. In section 7.2(II) of the RFP, points are assigned to the Service Description section that does request information on the unit cost of the services. Applicants are expected to describe the cost per hour of service and/or cost per participant for completed service. In Section 7.2(II) of the RFP, points are assigned for Matching Resources.*

**8) The RFP references using evidenced based curriculum, what if the proposed program does not use curriculum, can other evidence-based practices and/or approaches be used?**

*Yes. If a service/program does not use an evidence based curriculum, applicants should propose evidence based practices and approaches that have been proven effective for the target population and that will result in measurable outcomes.*

**9) There are different definitions of Evidence Based Practices.**

*Section 4.1 of the RFP, Evidence Based Practices summarizes the National Institute of Corrections description of evidence based practices. Section 6.1 of the RFP, Proposed Levels of Evidence Based describes the proposed levels and provides a chart of the level of evidence criteria.*

**10) Is there one or a specific Evidence Based Practice (EBP) that the County wants?**

*No. The Request for Proposal's intention is to recruit a variety evidence-based services that are effective for the target population that address the principal needs of the population as outlined in the RFP.*

**11) Can providers use National research?**

*Yes, please see Section 6.1 Proposed Level or Evidence. Providers are encouraged to consult with evidence-based clearinghouses.*

**12) Budget- How should it be set up?**

*All services agreements/contracts will be cost re-imburement for services delivered. Depending on the type of proposed service, applicants may propose a budget by: personnel and operational costs; costs per session/class/or unit of service; or costs per hour.*

**13) Can funding under this RFP be used for diversion services and programs?**

*Yes.*

**14) Is there a limit to the number of applications/proposals a provider can submit?**

*No.*

**15) Can a proposal request funding for an existing funded program?**

*Yes. If requesting funding for an existing funded program, the request for funds should demonstrate an increase in or enhanced program services that are not already available to the target population under that funded program and services that address the principal needs of the population as outlined in the RFP. Supplanting is not allowed in the RFP.*

**16) Will Probation staff be the RFP review panel?**

*The RFP Review Panel/Committee will include Santa Cruz County Probation staff; Court and juvenile criminal justice system partners; members from local community organizations that are not applying for the RFP; representatives from the Youth Violence Prevention Taskforce, Children's Behavioral Health, County Office of Education, and other county departments; and out of county youth serving organization and/or agency.*

**17) Do providers write one proposal for different principal service areas?**

*Yes, providers are to submit one proposal per program (even if the program provides services in multiple service areas). If a provider is proposing more than one program, then providers are to submit separate proposal per each proposed program.*

**18) Please clarify "Net Widen" on page 8.**

*Net widen occurs when lower risk individuals are served with more intensive engagement and services that are designed for moderate to higher risk individuals. Engaging low risk individuals with these services is proven to be harmful and poses a risk to their recidivism.*

**19) Are the principal service areas supporting the Evening Center services in addition or replacing what is currently in existence?**

*The principal services areas are supporting services delivered in the evening center. The purpose of the RFP is to solicit evidence based services and culturally responsive programs that match the needs of the population. Probation will continue to deliver services through the evening center in addition to the programs selected under this RFP process.*