

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DATE: April 26, 2022

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) Community Services Division

RE: Request for Early Start/Early Intervention (EI) Services Consultant

Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) is a private nonprofit organization under contract with the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS). FNRC is part of a statewide network of 21 Regional Centers responsible for the coordination and development of services to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities in Shasta, Butte, Tehama, Siskiyou, Modoc, Trinity, Glenn, Lassen and Plumas Counties.

FNRC has identified a significant unmet need throughout all nine counties in FNRC's catchment area for Early Start therapists and interventionists including Occupational Therapists (OT), Physical Therapists (PT), and Speech Language Pathologists (SLP). Establishing vendorization with individuals or agencies in these professional disciplines are a priority to ensure required assessments and recommended services are provided in a timely manner. FNRC is seeking to contract with a provider who has the experience, capability, and knowledge to serve in the role as an Early Start/Early Intervention (EI) Services Consultant. The Consultant will partner with FNRC to develop and implement a strategy to increase qualified Early Start providers in FNRC's catchment area to provide OT, PT, and SLP services, as well as assessments for the purpose of determining EI eligibility and ongoing regional center eligibility upon transitioning out of EI.

The Consultant will recruit Early Start providers through extensive community outreach; provide public education, collaboration and engagement with healthcare providers and specialists, universities, and general recruitment of professionals to become vendors with FNRC.

The Consultant must be knowledgeable in Early Start, including applicable federal and state statutes and regulations: IDEA, Part C; CFR 34 Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; California Code of Regulations Title 14, CEISA; and Title 17. Furthermore, the Consultant must also be knowledgeable in developmental disabilities and the regional center system. Experience in marketing/networking is also highly desirable.

Start up funds are available for this project through the Community Placement Plan (CPP) up to \$75,000.00.

All interested parties are required to submit a proposal to FNRC. The proposal must include:

1. A cover page listing the applicant's name, address, phone number, name of person preparing the proposal if other than the applicant.
2. A description of applicant's education and experience related to the field of Early Start/Early Intervention, developmental disabilities, similar projects, and ability to complete the project.
3. Budget for start up cost, showing realistic costs of operating such program as required by this proposal.
4. A statement of applicant's goals and expected outcomes in providing support to FNRC as an EI Services Consultant.
5. A description of how applicant will assess the level of support required to meet FNRC's unmet need related to EI services.
6. Information on how applicant will promote equity and diversity in EI provider recruitment strategy in order to serve the diverse families within FNRC's area.

Please submit a hardcopy proposal, **the original plus five (5) copies**, to Far Northern Regional Center. All proposals received by the deadline will be reviewed and scored by evaluators selected by FNRC. Applicants who meet the proposal criteria may be invited to participate in an interview process.

Please submit proposals to:

Fuey Saechin
Community Service Division
Far Northern Regional Center
P.O. BOX 492418
Redding, CA 96049-248
(530) 221-9520
Email: fsaechin@farnorthernrc.org

Deadline for submission of proposal.....May 31, 2022 by 5 P.M.

*FNRC reserves the right to withdraw this Request for Proposal (RFP) at any time without prior notice. Furthermore, FNRC makes no representation that any agreement will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP. FNRC reserves the right to reject the proposal of any respondent who, in the opinion of FNRC, is not responsible or has previously failed to perform properly, or is not in a position to operate within the program design.