

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Request for Proposals for FY18 Credible Messenger Initiative

The District of Columbia, Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is soliciting applications from qualified applicants to join the DYRS Credible Messenger Initiative. The purpose of the Credible Messenger Initiative is to provide transformative mentoring and family engagement services to justice-involved youth and families in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018).

Eligibility: Any public or private, community-based non-profit agency, organization or institution located in the District of Columbia is eligible to apply. For-profit organizations are eligible but may not include profit in their grant application. For-profit organizations may also participate as subcontractors to eligible agencies

The purpose of the Request for Proposals (RFP) is to announce funding availability for qualified applicants to partner with DYRS in the implementation and delivery of the Credible Messenger Initiative. Through the Credible Messenger Initiative, DYRS connects youth and families to the people in their neighborhoods and communities who are the most effective relationship builders and supporters of a youth's success, and the Credible Messengers serve in a variety of capacities to coach, guide, mentor, and advocate for youth and families in both group and individual settings. DYRS is seeking up to six (6) providers to participate in the Credible Messenger Initiative for FY 2018. In addition, providers will receive technical program support, as well as financial monitoring and payment for services from DYRS in partnership with the Administrative and Capacity Building Partner from the DYRS Community Programming Initiative.

All of DYRS' community-based programs strive to serve as a bridge between youth, families, and the community through outreach, engagement and other supportive services. Accordingly, the Agency implements community-based services with the following three objectives in mind:

1. Connect youth to services, supports, and resources that help them reach their goals and developmental milestones;
2. Engage youth in positive, developmentally appropriate, and structured activities that complement and enhance DYRS's methodologies for the care and supervision of young people; and
3. Invest directly in local organizational and human resources that are accessible and dedicated to strengthening young people and their families.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Credible Messenger Initiative is implemented with the following guiding principles:

- Connect young people to caring adults and resources in their home communities;
- Engage families and communities in efforts to support DYRS youth; and
- Invest in neighborhood-based resources where DYRS youth and families live.

Length of Awards: The Credible Messenger Initiative will span the duration of FY18 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018). DYRS reserves the right to extend any grant agreement for two (2) single-year extensions, pending funding availability and the satisfactory delivery of the proposed programming and services.

Availability of Funding for Awards: The award allocation for each service provider selected to deliver community-based services under the Credible Messenger Initiative services is up to \$472,512.00.

Anticipated Number of Awards: It is anticipated that DYRS will select up to six (6) grantees to serve as providers. Award numbers and amounts are subject to availability of funds and District appropriations.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released on Monday, May 1, 2017. The application submission deadline will be Friday, June 9, 2017 at 5:00 pm (EST). The RFP must be submitted electronically. A link to the application and online submission system will be available on DYRS' website, <http://dyrs.dc.gov/page/doing-business-dyrs>.

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services will facilitate two optional Pre-Application Technical Assistance Workshops for grant applicants. These sessions are scheduled to occur on Wednesday, May 10 at 10:00 A.M., and on Wednesday, May 17 at 5:30 P.M at the D.C. Rise Demonstration Center, located at 2730 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20032. In addition, all applicants must submit a Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) by May 26, 2017. A Notice of Intent to Apply template is available on DYRS' website, <http://dyrs.dc.gov/page/doing-business-dyrs>. All NOIA submissions must be sent to Charles Evans at CMRFPquestions@plcntu.org by 5:00PM (EST) on May 26, 2017.

For more information regarding the grant competition or questions about the RFP, please contact Charles Evans at CMRFPquestions@plcntu.org.