## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROCUREMENT INFORMATION					
RFP Number: 2023-100-01.1	RFP Title:	<b>Montgomery Intensive Residential Services</b>			
Proposal Due Date and Time: May 11, 2023 12:00 p.m., Central Time		Number of Pages: 38			
<b>Procurement Officer:</b>		Issue Date: April 17, 2023			
Vicki Cooper-Robinson, Procurement Manager Phone: (334) 353-2471 E-mail Address: vicki.robinson@dhr.alabama.gov Website: http://www.dhr.alabama.gov		Issuing Division:			
INST	<b>FRUCTIONS</b>	S TO VENDORS			
Electronic Submission to: Vicki Cooper-Robinson, Procurement M Resource Management Division/SDHR H Email, below:	_	Label Envelope/Package: RFP Title/Number: 2023-100-01.1 Montgomery Intensive Residential Services Proposal Due Date: May 11, 2023,			
sdhr.procurement@dhr.alabama.gov		Special Instructions:			
VENDOR INFORMATION  (Fill in the information fields below and return this form with RFP response)					
Vendor Name/Address: (no P.O. Boxes)		Authorized Vendor Signatory:			
DUNS NUMBER:		(Please print name and sign in ink)			
Vendor Phone Number: ( )		Vendor FAX Number: ( )			
Vendor Federal I.D. Number:		Vendor E-mail Address:			
Indicate whether this proposal is an original or a copy.   Original Copy					
Total number of proposal pages:					
Trade Secret Declarations: (reference se	ction/page(s)	of trade secret declarations)			

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#### **VENDOR'S RFP CHECKLIST**

1	Read the <u>entire</u> document. Note critical items such as: mandatory requirements; supplies/services required; submittal dates; number of copies required for submittal; licensing requirements; contractual requirements (i.e., contract performance security, insurance requirements, performance and/or reporting requirements, etc.).
2.	Note the procurement officer's name, address, phone numbers and e-mail address. This is the only person you are allowed to communicate with regarding the RFP.
3.	Attend the pre-proposal conference if one is offered. These conferences provide an opportunity to ask clarifying questions, obtain a better understanding of the project, or to notify the Department of any ambiguities, inconsistencies, or errors in the RFP.
4	Take advantage of the "question and answer" period. Submit your questions to the procurement officer by the due date listed in the Schedule of Events and view the answers given in the formal "addenda" issued for the RFP. All addenda issued for an RFI are posted on the Department's website at <a href="www.dhr.alabama.gov">www.dhr.alabama.gov</a> and will include all questions asked and responses concerning the RFP.
5.	Follow the format required in the RFP when preparing your response. Provide point-
6.	by-point responses to all sections in a clear and concise manner.  Provide complete answers/descriptions. Read and answer all questions and requirements. Don't assume the Department or evaluation committee will know what your company's capabilities are or what items/services you can provide, even if you have previously contracted with the Department. The proposals are evaluated based solely on the information and materials provided in your response.
7.	_ Use the forms provided, i.e., cover page, budget forms, certification forms, etc.
8.	Check the Department's website for RFP addenda. It is the vendor's responsibility to check the Department's website at <a href="www.dhr.alabama.gov">www.dhr.alabama.gov</a> for any addenda issued for this RFP, no further notification will be provided.
9.	Review and read the RFP document again to make sure that you have addressed all requirements. Your original response and the requested copies must be identical and be complete. The copies are provided to the evaluation committee members and will be used to score your response.
10.	Submit your response on time. Note all the dates and times listed in the Schedule of Events and within the document, and submit all required items on time. Late proposal responses are <i>never</i> accepted.

This checklist is provided for assistance only and should not be submitted with Vendor's response.

#### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

The following RFP Schedule of Events represents the Department's best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. Unless otherwise specified, the time of day for the following events shall be between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., Central Time. The Department reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust this schedule, as it deems necessary. Notification of any adjustment to the Schedule of Events shall be posted on the Department's website at <a href="www.dhr.alabama.gov">www.dhr.alabama.gov</a> as detailed in Section 1.5.3 of this RFP. Vendors should refer to the website periodically for changes to the RFP.

EVENT	<u> DATE</u>
RFP Issue Date	April 17, 2023
Deadline for Receipt of Written Questions	April 20, 2023
Deadline for Posting of Written Responses to Questions	April 27, 2023
Proposal Due Date	May 11, 2023
Evaluation of Proposals and Selection of Vendors	May 23-26, 2023
Intended Date for Notice of Intent to Award a Contract	June 9. 2023

#### SECTION 1: PROJECT OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, (hereinafter referred to as "the Department"), seeks qualified vendors to provide at least forty (20 female and 20 male) slots of *Intensive Residential Services* for children in the custody of the Department. Additional slots may be awarded for this procurement based upon needs of the Department. The facility (ies) where services are provided will be in Montgomery County. These services must be provided in a congregate care setting, and must consist of room, board and an expansive array of services for children with serious and/or chronic emotional and/or behavioral management problems that adversely impact their ability to function in a family, school and/or community setting outside of a residential environment. Proposals to provide treatment for children or youth who have a need for treatment for sexual aggression or reactive behaviors should not be submitted in this category. A more complete description of the services sought for this project is provided in Section 3, Scope of Project. Proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must comply with the instructions and procedures contained herein.

#### 1.1 ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Eligible entities may include governmental agencies, faith-based organizations, non-governmental public or private organizations and individuals who: 1) are legally authorized to conduct business within the State of Alabama; 2) possess a high degree of professional skill in service described in this document; 3) possess the skills needed to perform the services described in this RFP; and 4) meet the terms and conditions of the RFP. In addition, applicants must demonstrate the ability to manage Department funds in accordance with Federal and State regulations and guidelines.

#### 1.2 REQUIRED LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION/CREDENTIAL

There are no licensure, certification or credential requirements for this procurement.

#### 1.3 CONTRACT TERM

The initial contract term is for a period of **one** (1) year beginning *October 01,2023* and ending, *September 30,2024*. Selected vendors must be fully operational on *October 01,2023*.

#### 1.4 POINT OF CONTACT

From the date this Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued until the vendor selection is announced, all communication must be directed to the procurement officer in charge of this solicitation. **Vendors must not communicate with any Department staff or officials regarding this procurement with the exception of the procurement officer.** Any unauthorized contact will disqualify the vendor from further consideration. Contact information for the point of contact is as follows:

Vicki Cooper-Robinson, Procurement Manager SDHR Procurement, Resource Management Division Alabama Department of Human Resources Gordon Persons Building, Second Floor-Room Q3-012 50 Ripley Street Montgomery, AL 36130-4000 Telephone Number: (334) 353-2471

E-mail Address: vicki.robinson@dhr.alabama.gov

#### 1.5 REQUIRED REVIEW

#### 1.5.1 REVIEW RFP

Vendors should carefully review the instructions, mandatory and general requirements, project specifications, and the standard terms and conditions in this RFP. After a thorough review of the RFP, if the vendor identifies any ambiguity, inconsistency, unduly restrictive specifications, or error, promptly notify the procurement officer identified above in writing, via e-mail or courier by the deadline for receipt of questions as stated in the Schedule of Events.

#### 1.5.2 VENDOR'S QUESTIONS

Vendors with questions or requiring clarification regarding any section of this RFP must reference the RFP by title and number and submit written questions via e-mail or courier to the procurement officer referenced above by 3:00 p.m. (CST) **April 20, 2023**. Each question must reference the section, page, and item in question. Vendors must submit all questions posed in a single email message to the procurement officer. Questions received after the deadline will not be considered.

#### 1.5.3 DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSES

The Department will provide an official written answer by *April* 27, 2023, to all questions received by the deadline on **April** 20, 2023. The Department's response will either provide clarification of the applicable issue or be in the form of a correction to this RFP. Vendor questions and the Department's responses, as well as any formal written addendum will be posted on the Department's website at <a href="www.dhr.alabama.gov">www.dhr.alabama.gov</a> by the close of business on the date listed.

#### 1.6 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Vendors are expected to respond to all the requirements described in this document. The Department will determine whether a vendor's proposal meets the terms of the requirements. Proposals that do not meet all requirements listed in this RFP may be subject to point reductions during the evaluation process or may be deemed non-responsive. Proposals that do not meet the requirements 1.6.1 through 1.6.8 will be deemed non-responsive and no other consideration will be given. **DO NOT ALTER ANY OF THE FORMS LISTED BELOW OR OTHERWISE INCLUDED/REQUIRED IN THIS DOCUMENT.** 

## 1.6.1 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must adhere to the format requirements and must be received by the deadline for receipt of proposals as specified in the Schedule of Events and Section 1.8.1 *Required Copies and Deadline for Receipt of Proposals*.

#### 1.6.2 W-9 LEGAL STATUS LETTER OR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FORM

Vendors must include a legible copy of their legal status letter from the Internal Revenue Service. If the legal status letter is not available, a completed and signed copy of the "Request for Taxpayer Identification Number" form (*Appendix B*) must be included.

#### 1.6.3 DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Act 2001-955 requires the disclosure statement to be completed and filed with all proposals, bids, contracts, or grant proposals to the State of Alabama in excess of \$5,000. Disclosure Statements are available for completion on the Attorney General's web site at <a href="www.ago.alabama.gov">www.ago.alabama.gov</a> under *Publications and Forms*. Vendors may also click on the following links for a copy of the Disclosure Statement: (online fill-in) <a href="http://www.ago.alabama.gov/File-AL-Vendor-Disclosure-Statement">http://www.ago.alabama.gov/File-AL-Vendor-Disclosure-Statement</a> when connected to the internet. Vendors must include a completed copy of the Disclosure Statement in their proposals.

#### 1.6.4 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Vendors must submit a completed, signed copy of the certificate of compliance (*Appendix D*) with their proposals.

#### 1.6.5 E-VERIFY MOU

Vendors must submit e-verify memorandum of understanding/registration documentation with their proposals.

#### 1.6.6 IMMIGRATION STATUS FORM

Vendors must submit immigration status form documentation with their proposals.

#### 1.6.7 AUTHORIZED VENDOR SIGNATORY

Vendors must provide an original proposal using the format described, with an original signature of person(s) legally authorized to bind the applicant to the proposal.

#### 1.6.8 DUNS NUMBER

Vendors must include their Dun & Bradstreet, or D-U-N-S, Number, a unique nine-digit identification number for each physical location of your business.

#### 1.7 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### 1.7.1 ACCEPTANCE OF STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By submitting a response to this RFP, vendors agree to acceptance of the standard terms and conditions of this RFP. Requests for additions or exceptions to the standard terms and conditions including any necessary licenses, or any added provisions must be submitted to the procurement officer by the due date for receipt of written questions and must be accompanied by an explanation of why the exception is being sought and what specific effect it will have on the vendor's ability to respond to the RFP or perform the contract.

**Note:** The Department reserves the right to not enter a new contract with a current vendor who is under a corrective action plan until all corrective requirements have been met.

#### 1.7.2 UNDERSTANDING OF SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

By submitting a response to this RFP, vendors agree to an understanding of and compliance with the specifications and requirements described in this RFP.

#### 1.7.3 PRIMARY VENDOR/SUBCONTRACTORS

The primary vendor if a contract is awarded shall be responsible, in total, for all work of any subcontractors. All subcontractors, if any, must be listed in the proposal. The vendor shall not assign, transfer or subcontract any portion of the contract without the written consent of the Department. The vendor shall be responsible to the Department for the acts and omissions of all subcontractors or agents and of persons directly or indirectly employed by such subcontractors, and for the acts and omissions of persons employed directly by the vendor. Any awards made as a result of this document will create a contractual relationship between the vendor and the Department, not the subcontractor.

#### 1.7.4 VENDOR'S SIGNATURE

An individual authorized to legally bind the organization submitting the proposal must sign the original proposal in ink. The vendor's signature on a proposal in response to this RFP guarantees that the offer has been established without collusion that would preclude the Department from obtaining the best possible service for the best possible price.

#### 1.8 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

#### 1.8.1 REQUIRED COPIES AND DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Vendors must submit one (1) original proposal, with the Vendor's name and the RFP title and number to:

Vicki Cooper-Robinson, Procurement Manager Resource Management Division/SDHR Procurement Alabama Department of Human Resources Gordon Persons Building, Second Floor-Room Q3-012 50 Ripley Street Montgomery, AL 36130-4000 Proposals must subscribe to the section/subsection headings and numbering format (i.e., **4.2.5.1 Vendor Qualifying Information**) as specified in *Section 4 Proposal Format and Instructions*. Proposals must be submitted electronically to <u>sdhr.procurement@dhr.alabama.gov</u> with the vendor information form completed with signature indicating that they are in response to the *RFP# 2023-100-01.1 (Montgomery Intensive Residential Services)*. *Proposals must be received by electronic submission by May 11, 2023,12:00 p.m. CST*.

#### 1.8.2 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH INSTRUCTIONS

Vendors failing to comply with these instructions may be deemed non-responsive or subject to point deductions. The Department may also choose to not evaluate, and disqualify from further consideration any proposals that do not follow the format described in Section 4: *Proposal Format and Instructions*, are difficult to understand or read, or are missing any requested information.

#### 1.8.3 COST PROPOSAL FORMS

Vendors *must* respond to this RFP by utilizing the cost proposal forms found in *Appendix F*. These forms will be used as the primary representation of each Vendor's cost, and will be used extensively during proposal evaluations. Additional information should be included as necessary to explain in detail the Vendor's cost.

#### 1.8.4 TIMELY SUBMITTED PROPOSALS

All timely submitted proposals and materials received in response to this RFP become the property of the Department and will be incorporated into any formal documentation and/or contract resulting from this RFP between the Department and the Vendor.

#### 1.8.5 LATE PROPOSALS

Regardless of the cause, late proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the Vendor's sole risk to assure delivery at the receptionist's desk at the designated office by the designated time. Late proposals will not be opened and may be returned to the Vendor at the expense of the Vendor or destroyed if requested.

#### **SECTION 2: STANDARD INFORMATION**

#### 2.0 AUTHORITY

This RFP is issued under the authority of Section 41-16-72 of the Alabama Code (Act 2001-956, 2001 3<sup>rd</sup> Sp. Sess., p 817, §1.). Any awards resulting from this RFP will be made based on stated evaluation criteria. The weight assigned to each criterion denotes the relative importance of that criterion. No criteria, other than that identified in this RFP, will be used.

#### 2.1 VENDOR COMPETITION

In accordance with 45 CFR 74.43, the Department encourages free and open competition among Vendors. Whenever possible, the Department will design specifications, proposal requests, and conditions to accomplish this objective, consistent with the necessity to satisfy the Department's need to procure technically sound, cost-effective services and supplies.

#### 2.2 NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with 45 CFR 74.44, no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, be discriminated against in the admission or access to, or be discriminated against in treatment or employment in the Department's contracted programs or activities on the grounds of handicap and/or disability, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political beliefs or any other classification protected by Federal or Alabama State Constitutional or statutory law; nor shall they be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of contracts with the Department or in the employment practices of the Department's contractors. Accordingly, all Vendors entering contracts with the Department shall, upon request, be required to show proof of such nondiscrimination and to post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.

#### 2.3 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE AND E-VERIFY

Only U.S. citizens or foreign citizens who have the necessary authorization to legally work in the United States may be employed to work under any contract with the Department. Vendors must agree to not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien, and must provide to the Department a certificate of compliance with the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act (*Appendix D*).

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (<u>www.uscis.gov</u>) provides E-Verify, an internet-based system that allows companies to determine their employees' eligibility to work in the United States. Vendors must participate in the E-Verify program and verify every employee that is required to be verified according to the applicable federal rules and regulations. Vendors must provide documentation to the Department establishing that they are enrolled in the E-Verify program.

Vendors must agree to not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ a subcontractor to perform work under a contract that knowingly employs, hires for employment, or continues to employ an unauthorized alien. Any subcontractor hired to perform work under a contract must attest to such by affidavit signed before a notary. Subcontractors must also enroll in the E-Verify program prior to performing any work on a project and must attach to the affidavit documentation establishing that the subcontractor is enrolled in the E-Verify program.

#### 2.4 NO BOYCOTT CLAUSE

In compliance with Act 2016-312, vendors must attest that it is not currently engaged in, and will not engage in, the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with which this state can enjoy open trade.

#### 2.5 TERMINATION/ALTERNATIVE RESOLUTION

For all disputes arising under the terms of any contract resulting from this procurement, vendors hereto agree, in compliance with the recommendations of the Governor and Attorney General, when considering settlement of such disputes, to utilize appropriate forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution including but not limited to, mediation by and through the Attorney General's Office of Administrative hearings or where appropriate, private mediators.

#### 2.6 MERIT SYSTEM EXCLUSION

The vendor is not to be considered a merit system employee and is not entitled to any benefits of the State Merit System.

#### 2.7 IMMIGRATION CLAUSE

By responding to this procurement, the vendor affirms, for the duration of any contract resulting from this procurement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowing employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama and any other location. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the contract and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom. (Appendix E)

#### 2.8 DUNS NUMBER

Vendors must obtain a Dun & Bradstreet, or D-U-N-S, Number, a unique nine-digit identification number for each physical location of your business. D-U-N-S Number assignment is free for all businesses required to register with the federal and state government for contracts or grants.

#### 2.9 PROPOSAL EFFECTIVE PERIOD

All proposals submitted in response to this RFP shall be effective for a 180-day period following the deadline for receipt of proposals as specified in the Schedule of Events and may not be modified, withdrawn or canceled by the Vendor during this period.

#### 2.10 TRADE SECRETS

As part of the initial evaluation, the procurement officer in charge of this solicitation will review proposals received in response to this RFP, for any information deemed a "trade secret" by the vendor and separate identified parts of proposal from public viewing providing the following conditions have been met: (1) confidential information is clearly marked and separated from the rest of the proposal; (2) the proposal does not contain confidential material in the cost or price section; and (3) an affidavit from a Vendor's legal counsel attesting to and explaining the validity of the trade secret claim is attached to each proposal containing trade secrets. If applicable, the Vendor's Legal Counsel must use the Department of Human Resources "Affidavit for Trade Secret Confidentiality" form when requesting the trade secret claim. The affidavit form (*Appendix C*) is included in this document.

Information separated out under this process will be available for review only by the procurement officer, the evaluation committee members, and limited other designees. Vendors must be prepared to pay all legal costs and fees associated with defending a claim for confidentiality in the event of a "right to know" (open records) request from another party.

#### 2.11 PRE-SCREENING AND EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

#### 2.11.1 PRE-SCREENING

During the pre-screening, proposals will be reviewed to ensure compliance with all general and mandatory requirements. Upon completion of this initial review, they will be classified "responsive" or "non-responsive". However, proposals may be found non-responsive at any time during the evaluation process if the proposal does not meet the formatting requirements specified in the RFP; if any of the required information is not provided; or the submitted price is found to be excessive or inadequate as measured by criteria stated in the RFP. Proposals declared non-responsive, will not receive further consideration.

#### 2.11.2 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

All responsive proposals will be evaluated against the stated criteria. However, this does not preclude the Department from any discussions/negotiations or requests for a best and final offer that it may deem necessary to assist in determining the Vendor. In scoring against stated criteria, the Department may consider such factors as accepted industry standards and a comparative evaluation of all other qualified RFP responses in terms of differing price, quality, and contractual factors to determine the most advantageous offering to the Department.

## 2.12 DISCUSSION/NEGOTIATION AND/OR ORAL PRESENTATION/PRODUCT DEMONSTRATION

After receipt of all proposals and prior to the determination of the award, the Department may initiate discussions with one or more Vendors should clarification or negotiation be necessary. Vendors may also be required to make an oral presentation and/or product demonstration to clarify their RFP response or to further define their offer. In either case, Vendors should be prepared to send qualified personnel to **Montgomery**, **Alabama**, to discuss technical and contractual aspects of the proposal. Oral presentations and product demonstrations, if requested, shall be at the Vendor's expense.

#### 2.13 BEST AND FINAL OFFER

The Department reserves the right to request a "best and final offer" for this RFP based on price/cost alone, from one or more Vendors if additional information is required to make a final decision. Vendors may be contacted asking that they submit their "best and final offer," which must include all discussed and/or negotiated changes.

#### 2.14 PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

All information received in response to this RFP, including copyrighted material, is deemed public information and will be made available to the public upon requests shortly after the signing of a contract(s) with the exception of: (1) trade secrets meeting the requirements of the Alabama Trade Secrets Act, that have been properly marked, separated, and documented; and (2) any financial information requested by the Department, unless prior written consent has been given by the Vendor.

#### 2.15 COST OF PREPARING A PROPOSAL

The Department is not liable for any expense incurred by the Vendor in the preparation and presentation of their proposal, or any other costs incurred by the Vendor prior to execution of a contract. All costs are the responsibility of the Vendor.

#### 2.16 DEPARTMENT'S RIGHTS RESERVED

While the Department has every intention to award a contract as a result of this RFP, issuance of the RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the Department to award and execute a contract. Upon determination such actions would be in its best interest, the Department, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to the following:

#### 2.16.1 PRE-SELECTION DISCRETION

The Department reserves the right at its sole discretion, at any time and for any reason, to reject any or all the proposals submitted in response to this RFP, or to cancel this RFP, if it is deemed by the Department to be in its best interest to do so.

#### 2.16.2 POST-SELECTION DISCRETION

Upon selection of a proposal, the Department reserves the right, at its sole discretion, at any time and for any reason, to change its decision with respect to the selection and to select another proposal, or to cancel the RFP, if it is deemed by the Department to be in its best interest to do so.

#### **2.16.3 WAIVERS**

Notwithstanding the amendment provisions otherwise set forth herein, the Department reserves the right at its sole discretion, to waive any minor irregularity in an otherwise valid proposal which would not jeopardize the overall program and to award a contract on the basis of such a waiver in the event the Department determines

that such award is in the best interest of the Department. Minor irregularities are those which will not have a significant adverse effect on the overall program cost or performance.

#### 2.16.4 **NEGOTIATIONS**

The Department reserves the right to negotiate with any vendor whose proposal is within the competitive range, as specified in the RFP with respect to technical plan and cost, as well as to select a vendor other than the vendor offering the lowest price.

#### 2.16.5 ADOPTION OF IDEAS

The Department reserves the right to adopt to its use all or any part, of a vendor's proposal and to use any idea or all ideas presented in a proposal.

#### 2.16.6 ORAL PRESENTATIONS

The Department reserves the right to require some or all the vendors to provide oral presentations of their proposals.

#### **2.16.7 AMENDMENTS**

The Department reserves the right to amend the RFP. Except as provided above with respect to "WAIVERS" made by the Department, all amendments to the RFP will be made by written addendum issued by the Department and posted to the web at www.dhr.alabama.gov under this RFP link.

#### 2.16.8 NO GUARANTEE OF CONTRACT

Selection of a proposal shall not be binding upon the Department and may or may not, at the Department's sole discretion, result in the Department entering a contract with the vendor if it is in the best interest of Department not to proceed with contract execution.

#### 2.16.9 RIGHT TO INVESTIGATE AND REJECT

The Department may make investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the Vendor to perform the services specified. The Department reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, the Vendor fails to satisfy the Department that the Vendor is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract. This includes the Department's ability to reject the proposal based on negative references.

#### 2.16.10 DISCLAIMER

Issuance of this RFP does not constitute a commitment by the Department to select any proposal submitted in response to the RFP, or to award a contract to any vendor who responds to this RFP.

#### **SECTION 3: SCOPE OF PROJECT**

#### 3.0 SCOPE OF PROJECT

Intensive placement services are for children with a DSM-V diagnosis within the range of 290-316 requiring active treatment which means implementation of a professionally developed and supervised individual plan of care for individuals who have been prior approved and certified by an independent team as meeting medical necessity for this level of care. Facilities must be certified to participate in Medicare/Medicaid programs, be in compliance with Title VI and VII, seclusion and restraint requirements of 42 CFR, Part 483, staffing and medical record requirements and have an approved utilization review plan. Intensive residential placements should be limited to children whose needs cannot be met in their own home, traditional foster home, therapeutic foster care, intensive or moderate residential care, or children whose treatment goals cannot be met in a less restrictive setting.

Children eligible for this program level must have a Diagnostic & Statistical Manual, Fifth Edition (DSM-V) diagnosed mental illness or be identified by a mental health professional as having serious emotional and/or behavioral problems and need treatment in a highly structured, therapeutic environment. These problems must pose a severe level of impairment to overall functioning in multiple areas. These children have been unwilling or unable to commit to a healthier lifestyle and who need intensive support and/or interventions to cultivate new, more appropriate methods of coping and behaving.

These children may be delinquent, chronic runaways, display manipulative behaviors, have difficulty maintaining self-control, display poor self-esteem, and have difficulty in accepting authority. Children with significant substance abuse needs, which require intensive treatment, are also eligible. This population may exhibit significant disruptive behaviors such as persistent or unpredictable aggression, and moderate to serious risk of causing harm to themselves or others.

These children have not responded successfully to less intensive interventions and therapy, or have been denied admission or been discharged from various placements because of their emotional and behavioral problems. There is a need for constant adult supervision and intense treatment, which could include the use of psychotropic medication. Children that receive psychotropic medication should be monitored and maintained on the lowest dosage of medication. The provider will follow the Federal Psychotropic Drug protocol regarding the appropriate use and monitoring of psychotropic medications. DHR staff will provide diligent and thoughtful oversight of medical care, particularly about the use of psychotropic medication.

Vendors are required to present a positive discipline approach to their program. A troubled youth's ability of learning and moving forward is always greatest when he or she is in a structured environment with professionals who care about their success. The behavior management programs need to provide the youth with options to make positive choices. Positive behavior supports need to be the focus of the program with the discipline consequences as secondary. The supports need to be individualized for each child on their developmental level.

Ineligible children include those who are actively homicidal, actively suicidal, or those children who have a psychosis not controlled with medication or a diagnosis that is in the exclusionary category from DMH licensed facilities. Youth who have displayed major acts of violence or aggression such as rape, arson, and assault with deadly weapon, murder, and attempted murder within the past six (6) months are also ineligible for the program. Children or youth who have a need for treatment for sexual aggression or reactive behaviors should not be served in this category.

Vendors, who propose to provide more than one level of service at a single location, must provide each level of service in a separate building or a clearly identified separate wing closed off from other wings providing a

different level of service. There must be adequate staff to serve the different levels of service, and staff may not be shared during the same work shift. SDHR must approve the plan if the services are to the provided within the same physical building.

Note: All placements in facilities categorized as "Intensive" will require prior approval of State DHR, Resource Management Division and must have a completed certificate of need.

#### 3.1 PLANNING RESPONSIBILITY

The State Office or County Department of Human Resources that has planning responsibility for a child has the responsibility to provide appropriate documentation including services relating to the Individual Service Plan (ISP). *All services provided must be authorized on an ISP*. If a service authorization document is not provided within ten (10) days from the date of placement, the vendor should notify the State DHR-Division of Resource Management of such deficiencies.

## 3.2 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Vendors must attest that they will meet all the requirements identified below, to be considered for a contract. Vendors must:

A. Be licensed by DHR or the Department of Mental Health. Vendors who do not have a current license, must include a copy of their application for licensure with their proposal. All applications for licensure must be submitted by 12:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, May 11, 2023, to:

Jodie Nata, Resource Management Division-Office of Licensing Alabama Department of Human Resources Gordon Persons Building 50 Ripley Street, Room Q3-008 Montgomery, AL. 36130-4000 Telephone number: 334-242-1650 Email: Jodie.nata@dhr.alabama.gov

- B. Complete the Certificate of Need (CON) on emergency placements.
- C. Screen referrals to ensure referral is within acceptable diagnosis range of 290-316 to ensure they meet the criteria listed in Section 3.0. All children meeting the criteria shall be considered for placement. Rejections shall be reported to the county and to SDHR-Resource Management Division on a weekly basis.
- D. Assess each child's mental, behavioral and emotional functioning in its living environment, school and community using a standardized assessment tool on admission, quarterly thereafter and upon discharge. Submit or share the assessment with the DHR social worker for the ISP process, to develop goals and strategies to specifically address the preparation of the child for discharge into a less restrictive living environment.
- E. Fully participate and/or provide meaningful input in the ISP process with the family, DHR and other providers, including to schedule and coordinate the child's treatment plan in conjunction with the family's ISP and the child's Individual Education Program (IEP); the discharge plan to be developed at the time of placement; and the initial treatment plan to be developed within ten (10) days from the date of placement and a review to be held every thirty (30) days. The treatment plan must include goals that are measurable and address the reduction of duration, frequency, and intensity of symptoms, and what interventions will be used to meet each goal.
- F. Create a behavioral management plan for the child or youth with input and collaboration with the family's ISP Team; implement and monitor the child's behavior management plan. The plan should be individualized and positive and promote developmentally appropriate behavior growth.

- G. When the treatment plan includes the use of psychotropic medication, informed consent is required. Informed consent requires that the prescribing physician inform the child and legal guardian (county DHR worker) of the risks and benefits of the proposed treatments and the risks and benefits of alternative treatments, including no treatment. This includes information about the potential benefits of the medication, the possible risks, and the range of doses. Information about serious adverse effects and how to contact the physician must be discussed. Staff and DHR workers should be given ample time for questions and discussion before consent is requested.
- H. Ensure that staff (rotating and awake) will be available for children 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
- I. Offer staff the training recommended in Minimum Standards for Residential Child Care Facilities on pages 18-19.

The Minimum Standards for Residential Child Care Facilities are available on the Departments website at www.dhr.alabama.gov, click on Foster Care under Quick Links, then Services and Resource Management Division. Additional staff training provided by the facility (i.e., psychotropic medications, diagnoses of mentally/behaviorally disturbed children and adolescents, positive reinforcement of behaviors, etc.) must be

documented in personnel files.

- J. Provide monthly reports to referring county DHR describing services provided during the month and the child's
  - progress toward achieving the goals outlined in the treatment plan. Progress notes shall be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> day
  - of the following month outlining goals achieved from the previous month's treatment plan.
- K. Complete the Length of Stay over 300 days form each month and send to SDHR, Resource Management Division, Office of Utilization.
- L. Ensure that children are receiving needed educational services, including homework assistance (not tutoring), participation in and follow-up on children's IEP's, weekly contact with the schools of the residents, monthly site visits with the schools of residents, transportation to school, and access to alternative educational settings as identified in the ISP. (This only applies to off campus school).
- M. Ensure that child receives routine and emergency medical care. Please see DHR responsibility #4 for additional information.
- N. Submit outcome data in a format prescribed by SDHR, as required.
- O. Complete a survey (at discharge) with the child, family, and DHR social worker to assess satisfaction with services, care and treatment. At six weeks, the survey must be repeated with the same individuals. The surveys must be maintained in the individual child's file at the facility. A quarterly summary of survey results must be submitted and include any program changes instituted as a result of the survey.

#### 3.3 CORE SERVICES FOR INTENSIVE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Vendors must attest that they will provide all the services identified below, to be considered for a contract. Vendors must:

- A. Provide ongoing psychiatric, medical, psychological, social and educational assessment.
- B. Provide a diagnosis from these ongoing assessments.
- C. Provide local transportation to appointments identified in the ISP (i.e., physicians, family visits, extracurricular activities, etc.). The county DHR is responsible for transportation that is not local. The county DHR is responsible for assessing the progress or lack of progress of family visits. If a provider is supervising visits the worker should be reviewing the reports of the visits and periodically

## observe the interactions themselves due to required court testimony to support any recommendation made by the county.

- D. Provide treatment planning with a treatment team.
- E. Provide an active treatment program in a therapeutic milieu.
- F. Provide psychiatric services/medication management following the DHR Psychotropic Medication/Monitoring policy.
- G. Provide clinical therapy services, including family therapy and any behavioral programming such as anger management, social skills, relationships, coping skills, creative expression, forgiveness and self-esteem.
- H. Provide routine medical care.
- I. Provide education program for the child/youth including GED preparation if high school graduation is no longer in the ISP plan.
- J. Provide vocational and recreational therapy which teaches the youth to participate in organized groups and learn a valuable trade or craft.
- K. Provide independent living skills.
- L. Provide a minimum of \$5-\$10 per week allowance based on the child's age and the ISP. Allowances may not be used to recoup for damages or restitution. If additional monies are earned, recoupment for damages and payments for restitution may be made from them.
- M. Provide up to \$50.00 per month for special needs and occasions, e.g., haircuts, feminine hygiene products, oral and body hygiene products, over-the-counter medications, gifts for birthdays, Christmas or other special occasions, etc. Anything above \$50.00 per month must be paid by the county DHR office.
- N. Provide supportive services to the family as agreed in the ISP, i.e., parenting training and education. This may include but not limited to supervision of family visitation, providing space where the family can visit comfortably, and flexibility of program structure that allows family contact at times that work for them. Agree to follow all policies developed by DHR regarding family contact and visitation. (See C for additional information about family visits.)
- O. Provide State DHR, Resource Management Division, Office of Licensing any incident report on a child in DHR custody. The incidents listed below shall be reported to that Office of Licensure within 24 hours after occurrence or the first workday following the occurrence, whichever is sooner. This includes reports that are made to DMH from an approved licensed DMH facility.
  - Any injury requiring professional medical treatment of any child or staff person while at the facility or away from the facility activities.
  - Any illness occurring at the facility or during away from the facility activities which requires emergency medical treatment.
  - Any death occurring at the facility or during away from the facility activities.
  - Major damage to the facility.
  - Any litigation involving the facility.
  - Any traffic accident involving facility children using transportation provided by the facility.
  - Any arrest or conviction of the licensee or any staff person.
  - Final disposition of any child abuse/neglect investigation involving the facility, the licensee, or any staff person.
  - Any incident occurring which places the health, welfare or safety of a child at risk.

A written explanation is to be provided to the Department within five (5) days.

P. Any staff person is required by law to report any known or suspected child abuse or neglect allegations to the County Department of Human Resources or the local chief of police or county sheriff. The report shall be made immediately by telephone or direct oral communication, followed by a written report, containing all known information.

The Executive Director of the facility shall advise the State Department of Human Resources (SDHR), Resource Management Division, Office of Licensing, about the report no later than the first workday following the alleged incident.

For more information regarding items O and P, please see the Minimum Standards for Residential Child Care Facilities.

- Q. Encourage the child's relationship with family, peers and other significant persons, including, but not limited to, the supervision of family visitation as agreed in the ISP/treatment plan, including the family's participation in treatment planning, providing a space for quality visitation at the facility, ensuring that the structure of the treatment program does not limit family contact unless identified in the ISP, agreeing to follow all policies developed by DHR regarding family contact and visitation, etc..
- R. Consistent with the ISP, provide a minimum of two (2) hours per week of tutoring by a person qualified to offer specialized assistance in a certain subject; monitor the tutoring for the achievement of outcomes in the child's educational setting.

Note: All services provided above and beyond the core services listed, <u>must</u> be authorized by the ISP and on a DHR-1878 to authorize payment of such services.

All services billed <u>must</u> be in compliance with Chapter 33 of the Medicaid Provider Manual. The parties understand and acknowledge that the vendor may, in rare circumstances and in accordance with the county department's procedures, bill the county department for certain ancillary services. The parties understand and acknowledge that the vendor will directly bill Medicaid and receive payments for all Medicaid eligible children directly from Medicaid. Payments for non-Medicaid eligible children will be made by the Department of Human Resources at the same rate paid for Medicaid eligible children. The vendor will be responsible for any charge backs on Medicaid eligible children and non-Medicaid eligible children.

#### 3.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

- A. DHR is responsible for visiting each child at least once a month. Additional visits could be warranted if directed in the ISP or if a child's status changes
- B. DHR is responsible for conducting ISPs per policy and distributing a copy of the plan within the required ten (10) days.
- C. DHR is responsible for participating in the treatment plan when possible and reviewing the child's treatment plan and incorporating into the ISP.
- D. DHR is responsible for all aspects of a child's medical care. This includes the following:
- 1) Prescription medications the county is responsible for ensuring that each child receives prescribed medication through Medicaid, payment through child's earmarked funds, payment through flex funds etc. No child should be without medicine due to lack of funds. If a child is prescribed psychotropic medications the county department is responsible for monitoring these medications and following the Oversight of Psychotropic Medication for Children in Foster Care; Title IV-B Health Care Oversight & Coordination Plan (<a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/im1203.pdf">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/im1203.pdf</a>) that is mandated by the Federal government.

- 2) Doctor's appointments the county is responsible for ensuring that each child receives the required medical treatment needed.
- 3) Surgery the county is responsible for being present when a child is having surgery of any type when that is planned. The county is responsible for the decisions and the follow up. The county is responsible for discharge planning. The Code of Alabama gives the Department full authority to make health and medical decisions without court approval. The county may sign health forms as agent of DHR consenting to medical procedures. For children in the Department's permanent custody, the adoption consultant should be notified of new information such as medical changes/issues per Adoption Policy section on Termination of Parental Rights page 11.
- 4) Emergency treatment providers will initiate emergency attention and treatment for a child requiring immediate medical attention, but the county is responsible for seeing the child as soon as possible and determining that appropriate care is being received. The county is responsible for follow up and discharge planning.
- 5) The county department is responsible for ensuring the child's eligibility for Medicaid and or private insurance coverage if not eligible for Medicaid.
- 6) The county department is responsible for the EPSDT periodic screening and inter-periodic screenings for children in custody. The county department is responsible for the initial medical exam which can be obtained through the periodic screening.
- 7) Psychological a current psychological is required for placement in TFC, Moderate, Intensive or Intensive Enhanced types of placements. The psychological should be updated every two years after the initial placement, which should support either step down or movement up in intensity of care.
- E. VISITATION/TRANSPORTATION Core services requires that the provider assist with local transportation. The county is responsible for transportation that is not local. The county is responsible for assessing the progress or lack of progress of family visits. If a provider is supervising visits the worker should be reviewing the reports of the visits and periodically observe the interactions themselves due to required court testimony to support any recommendation made by the county.
- F. CLOTHING The county department is responsible for ensuring that the child has the required initial clothing and works with the provider to address any specific clothing needs over the time of the placement, such as for extracurricular activities, school requirements, etc. Community resources should be accessed if there are no private earmarked funds or other funding sources to cover the expenditures needed for the child.
- G. EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Consistent with the ISP, ensure the child's involvement in at least one extra-curricular activity of the child's or youth's own choosing, e.g., band, karate, various sports, Boy or Girl Scouts, etc. DHR will be responsible for payment of the activity, while the contracting agency will provide the transportation and support for the child's participation. The Department can use a child's private earmarked funds, the foster care trust fund, ILP funds, or flex funds to pay for items such as musical instruments, lessons, sports equipment, etc. The ISP should address the activity for the child.
- H. Provide up to \$50.00 per month for special needs and occasions, e.g., haircuts, feminine hygiene products, oral and body hygiene products, over-the-counter medications, gifts for birthdays, Christmas or other special occasions, etc. **Anything above \$50.00 per month must be paid by the county DHR office.**
- I. The county is responsible for requesting to exceed the Medicaid limits from State DHR, Family Services Division, and Office of Child Welfare Consultation (OCWC) if the child requires that level of services.

#### 3.5 REJECT/DISCHARGE POLICY

Each proposal must define how the program will meet the following criteria for rejections and discharges within the program. (Just a statement that they will not occur will not suffice for explanation of how these requirements will be met.)

- Rejections: A Vendor will be able to reject no more than 10% of the referrals appropriate for IRP
  (as determined by DHR) in any program year, except when it can be documented that there are no
  available slots.
- Discharges: A Vendor will be allowed to request case discharge if it can be demonstrated that the child is not benefitting from the program's treatment milieu. Any immediate closures by the program must either be an ISP team decision or approved by SDHR. An unusually high discharge rate (more than 5%) for other than successful discharge, will result in discussion about the continued viability of the contract agreement.

#### 3.6 OUTCOMES

It is expected that all outcomes will be directly related to safety, permanency and well-being. General outcomes that will be measured by all Vendors are:

- The percentage of the children stabilized and stepping down to a less restrictive placement within nine (9) months of program entry.
- The percentage of the children served annually that maintain or increase their level of functioning as measured by the Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF) or the Modified Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (MGAF) (75% or better, is the expectation). Other possible outcomes that could enhance the Vendor's response to this section would include outcomes addressing:
- Safety and risk reduction
- Permanency/stability of living situation
- Supportive and healthy peer relationships
- Education and life-skill status
- Outcome measures of child well-being

Proposals must indicate what remedial measures a program will take if these outcomes are not attained, as well as how the program will ensure that successes in placements will improve above this threshold once the program has become operational. Vendors accomplishing a higher rate of stabilization may receive additional slots, if needed; and Vendors not meeting this threshold may receive a reduction in the contracted slots that they may provide.

## 3.7 QUALITY ASSURANCE

Vendors must clearly identify the quality assurance process that will be utilized in the delivery of IRP services. The process must include staff that will be used in quality assurance assessment, as well as what model will be used. Vendors must submit a copy of their quality assurance plan with their proposals.

#### 3.8 TRACKING

Each vendor must affirm capacity to capture relevant data and demonstrate how the vendor will track the children or youth who have received services through their program. Critical data to capture includes, but is not limited to number of referrals; number of cases accepted; number of cases rejected (reason for rejection); number of children served; number of children (cases) closed (reason for discharge); average length of stay (in days/aggregate); and successful discharges. Vendors must indicate additional areas that will be tracked and what

outcomes are expected in each of the areas. Selected vendors will be required to provide all reports to county and State DHR that are required in case management and tracking for service utilization monthly.

Each vendor must define how the program will meet the following criteria for rejections and discharge within the program. (Just a statement that they will not occur will not suffice for explanation of how these requirements will be met.)

- Rejections: Vendors will be able to reject no more than 10% of the referrals appropriate for TFC (as
  determined by DHR) in any program year, except when it can be documented that there are no available
  slots.
- Discharge: Vendors will be allowed to request case discharge if it can be demonstrated that the child is not benefitting from the agency's treatment milieu. Any immediate discharge by the program must either be an ISP team decision or approved by SDHR, Resource Management Division, Office of Utilization and Review. An unusually high discharge rate (more than 5%) for other than successful discharge, will result in follow up conversations about the continued viability of the contract agreement.

#### SECTION 4: PROPOSAL FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIONS

#### 4.0 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must meet all requirements as specified in this RFP. Proposals must incorporate the specified structure and format; must be clear, detailed, and complete as to fully demonstrate that the prospective Vendor has a thorough understanding of the requirements for providing the services for this procurement. Statements that the Vendor understands, acknowledges, or can comply with the requirements/specifications and statements paraphrasing the specifications are considered inadequate as are phrases such as "industry standards will be adhered to" and/or "standard procedures will be implemented", or "research-based models will be used". Proposals must clearly and adequately describe the concepts and methodologies to be implemented by the Vendor. Information must be clear, succinct, and easily understandable.

#### 4.1 COMPLETENESS OF PROPOSALS

Selection(s) and award(s) will be based on the Vendor's proposal and other items described in this RFP. Proposals should not include references to information located elsewhere, such as Internet websites. Information or materials presented by Vendors outside the formal response or subsequent discussion/negotiation or "best and final offer," if requested, will not be considered, will have no bearing on any award, and may result in the vendor being disqualified from further consideration.

#### 4.2 PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposals must not exceed **one hundred** (100) **pages**, including attachments and must be single-spaced, incorporating 1-inch margins, typed using Times New Roman (font), size 12, black print. Proposals must be printed/copied onto one side of standard (8½ x 11) white typing/copier paper. *Paragraphs must be double-spaced*. All proposals (the original and copies) must include labeled tabs that correspond with the bolded sections and subsections (titles and numbers) to which the information pertains as specified in Section 4 of this document. *Do not use adhesive tabs* (on pages of the proposal), tabs with paper inserts, sheet protectors, rings or prong fasteners. Vendors should avoid the use of elaborate presentations and binding materials beyond that which is sufficient to present complete and effective proposals. **Proposals that do not adhere to the specified format may be deemed non-responsive.** 

#### 4.2.1 COVER SHEET

The first page of each proposal must be the completed **Cover Sheet** (RFP cover sheet) with an original ink signature of the person(s) legally authorized to bind the vendor to the proposal. **Proposals without signatures of persons legally authorized to bind the vendor to the proposal will be rejected.** The cover sheet must also include the name of the contact person and contact information of the person authorized to act on behalf of the vendor (do not number this page). Vendors must also provide their federal employer identification number and DUNS number. Also, denote the original proposal and copies by placing a check in the appropriate box on the cover sheet.

#### 4.2.2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Cover Sheet should be followed by the "Table of Contents", which should list all sections, subsections and page numbers. Numbering of the proposal pages should begin with page 1 of the Table of Contents. Page numbers should be placed in the right corner of the bottom margin.

## 4.2.3 W-9 AND THE LEGAL STATUS LETTER/CP575 OR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

The Table of Contents must be followed by a copy of W-9 and the **Legal Status Letter** or a **CP575.** These forms are issued by the IRS and denote an organization's legal status (i.e., non-profit, for-profit, corporation, etc.) and include the Federal Employee Identification Number (FEIN). If neither the Legal Status Form nor the CP575 are available, a completed and signed copy of the "**Request for Taxpayer Identification Number**" form (Appendix B) must be included. All items on this form must be completed.

#### 4.2.4 LICENSES/CERTIFICATES/CREDENTIALS

The W-9 and Legal Status Form or Request for Taxpayer Identification Number Form should be followed by a copy of all required **Licenses**, **Certificates**, **and Credentials** or a copy of a completed license application form submitted by the deadline specified in this RFP.

#### 4.2.5 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Copies of Licenses/Certificates/Credentials, if applicable should be followed by the **Technical Proposal**. The Technical Proposal must prescribe to sections **4.2.5.1** through **4.2.5.4.6** below.

#### 4.2.5.1 VENDOR QUALIFYING INFORMATION

### 4.2.5.1.1 Vendor Profile and Experience

Vendor must specify how long it has been in the business of providing services similar to those requested in this RFP and under what company name. Also list all names it has used when conducting business. Vendors must explain their expertise or history in the provision of such services or identify a nationally recognized model that has proven to be successful that will be used in the provision of services under this RFP. Vendors must provide an organizational profile including number of employees, and form of business (e.g., individual, sole proprietor, corporation, non-profit corporation, limited liability company.).

#### 4.2.5.1.2 Past and Present Contractual Relationships with the Department

Vendors must describe any past or present contractual relationship it may have or have had with the Department or any other state agency including colleges/universities during the past three years. If the vendor, its predecessor, or any party named in their responses to this section has contracted with any department within State Government during the past three years, identify the contract number and other information available to identify such contract(s). If no such contracts exist, so declare. If any party named in the vendor's response to this RFP was an employee of the State in the past two years, identify the individual(s) by name, agency by which employed, job title of position held, and separation date during the two-year period. If no such relationship exists, so declare.

#### 4.2.5.1.3 Contract Performance

If the vendor, or any proposed Subcontractor, has had a contract terminated for default during the past five years, all such instances must be described as discussed below. Termination for default is defined as notice to stop performance delivery due to the vendor's nonperformance or poor performance and the issue was either (a) not litigated due to inaction on the part of the vendor; or (b) litigated and such litigation determined the vendor to be in default. Submit full details of all terminations for default experienced by the vendor during the past five years, including the other party's name, address, and telephone number. Present the vendor's position on the matter. The Department will evaluate the facts and may, at its sole discretion, reject the vendor's Proposal if the facts discovered indicate that completion of a contract resulting from this RFP may be jeopardized by selection of the vendor. If the vendor has experienced no such terminations for default in the past five years, so declare. If at any time during the past five years, the vendor has had a contract terminated for convenience, non-allocation of funds, or any other reason, which termination occurred before completion of all obligations under the initial contract provisions, describe fully all such terminations including the name and address of the other contracting party and the circumstances surrounding the termination. If no such early terminations have occurred, so declare.

Failure to report on the foregoing or if the information furnished is determined to be inaccurate, whether by omission or commission, shall result in rejection of the vendor's Proposal.

No points will be assigned to proposals submitted by new or current vendors who have performed their contractual obligations satisfactorily. However, current vendors who have performed unsatisfactorily may experience point deductions up to a maximum of 10 points.

**Note:** The Department reserves the right to not enter a new contract with a current vendor who is under a corrective action plan until all corrective requirements have been met.

#### 4.2.5.1.4 Project Staff/Resumes/Job Descriptions

Vendors must submit a resume or job description detailing the level of education, experience, training, skills, etc. which emphasizes previous experience in the service area as described in this RFP for all key personnel who will be involved with the proposed project. Vendors must indicate that they have sufficient staff to perform the services required in this RFP. If sufficient staff is not currently available, describe how staff will be obtained to provide the services and the timeline for obtaining the needed staff. Indicate the number of anticipated staff for each position title. List all professional licenses held by the key staff.

#### 4.2.5.1.5 Staff Performance Evaluations and Training

Vendors must describe their staff development program regarding orientation, on-going staff evaluation and training that will be implemented throughout the contract period to ensure delivery of effective services that adhere to the Department's required performance standards.

### 4.2.5.1.6 Background Checks

Describe in detail the steps the vendor will take to ensure that no employee, regardless of their position, has been the subject of any incident or investigation which would call into question the propriety of that employee's working with the population indicated in this document and for this project. Describe your organization's general procedure for addressing occurrences when an incident or allegation is reported, founded or unfounded.

#### 4.2.5.2 VENDOR FINANCIAL STABILITY

Vendors must submit an audited financial statement for year 2021 and letters from the auditor(s) who performed the 2020 and 2019 financial audits. Vendors of newly formed organizations, who have been in business less than one year must submit copies of any official quarterly financial statements (from a financial institution) that have been prepared since the end of the period reported by your most recent annual report.

#### 4.2.5.3 METHOD OF PROVIDING SERVICES

#### 4.2.5.3.1 Service Delivery Approach

The Vendor must provide a detailed description of the work plan and the methods to be used that will convincingly demonstrate to the Department what the Vendor intends to do, the number of children/youth and/or families to be served, the timeframes necessary to accomplish the work, and how the work will be accomplished. *All requirements in Section 3: Scope of Project must be addressed in the Service Delivery Approach.* 

#### 4.2.5.3.2 Start-up Plan

All vendors must include a detailed project schedule that is comprised of the detailed work plan for the entire project. This section should also include any proposed additions to the tasks outlined in the Section 3: Scope of Work. Selected vendors must be fully operational on Sunday, October 1, 2023. Vendors who are not currently licensed by DHR must certify that they will be licensed by Sunday, October 1, 2023.

#### 4.2.5.3.3 Referral, Admission and Exclusion Policy

Vendors must describe the population of children that will be accepted into the proposed program; include, age, gender and type(s) of behavior. At a minimum, the children accepted into the proposed program must resemble the children described in section 3.0 of this document. Vendors must include a copy of their policies and procedures for admission and intake including criteria for referrals and acceptance into the program. Vendors must also describe specific criteria for exclusion from the program.

Note: Vendors must submit a brief explanation for denying any child entry into their program to the Resource Management Division-Office of Contracts monthly. The denial explanation must include: the date of request, name of county and worker making the request, information on the child(ren), and the date of denial and reason.

Selected vendors who deny entry to children who meet the criteria and descriptions as specified in this document may have their slots reallocated and their contracts terminated. Additional information will be provided post award.

#### 4.2.5.3.4 Children/Youth to be Served and Number of Slots Proposed

Vendors must identify the gender and age of the population to be served. In addition, vendors must also specify the number of slots (not units of service) they propose to serve. Also include license capacity per proposed site, per gender. Vendors who propose to provide this service at multiple sites or buildings must specify such and include staff and budgets for each site/building.

#### 4.2.5.3.5 Reject/Discharge Policy

Vendors must describe the process and criteria for reunification planning with children/families and coordination with the ISP Team; as well as pre-discharge and aftercare planning requirements. State the program's policy on discharge prior to program completion, including emergency discharges. Vendors must state the program's policy concerning re-admission of children. Provide an example of the program's process for moving children through the goals and objectives outlined in an ISP, to include provisions of "step down" to a less restrictive placement.

#### 4.2.5.3.6 Natural Disaster Evacuation/Pandemic Plans

Vendors must include a detailed description of their evacuation plan in case of natural disasters. Plans must clearly state where children will be relocated to if evacuation is necessary. The Department must be always aware of the location of the children in its custody. In addition, vendors must include a detailed description of their pandemic plans as they relate to program staff and children being served. Staffing/child ratios must be maintained at all times. All plans must be approved by State DHR.

#### 4.2.5.3.7 Assessment of Benefits and Impact

Describe the process that vendor will use to assess the proposed services to determine if the expected benefits and their impact have occurred. Include on-going plans to continuously assess and modify services to better meet the needs of the target population. The assessment methodology should provide the Department with meaningful indicators that funded projects are making satisfactory progress toward desired goals.

#### 4.2.5.3.8 Office Location

The vendor must provide the physical address of the vendor's office that will be responsible for maintaining records and performing services under a contract with the Department in the event the vendor is selected to provide these services.

#### 4.2.5.4 **VENDOR CERTIFICATIONS**

Vendors must submit a statement attesting that they warrant and represent to the Department that the vendor accepts and agrees with all certifications and terms and conditions of this RFP. Further, by submitting a response to this RFP, the vendor certifies to the Department that they are legally authorized to conduct business within the State of Alabama and to carry out the services described in this document.

#### 4.2.5.4.1 Revolving Door Policy

Vendors must attest that neither the vendor nor any of the vendor's trustees, officers, directors, agents, servants or employees is a current employee of the Department, and none of the said individuals have been employees of the Department in violation of the revolving door prohibitions contained in the state of Alabama ethics laws.

#### 4.2.5.4.2 **Debarment**

Vendors must attest that neither the vendor nor any of the vendor's trustees, officers, directors, agents, servants or employees (whether paid or voluntary) is debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension."

#### 4.2.5.4.3 *Open Trade*

The vendor must attest that it is not currently engaged in and will not engage in, the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with which this state can enjoy open trade.

#### 4.2.5.4.4 Standard Contract

The vendor must agree to the use of the Department's standard contract document. The vendor will further comply with all the terms and conditions of that document, including, but not limited to, compliance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Alabama Act No. 2000-775 (governing individuals in direct service positions who have unsupervised access to children), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) as applicable, and all other federal and state laws, rules and regulations applicable to receiving funds from the Department to carry out the services described in this RFP. Further, any contract executed pursuant to the RFP must be subject to review by the Department's legal counsel as to its legality of form and compliance with State contract laws, terms and conditions, and may further be subject to review by the Examiners of Public Accounts, the State Finance Director and the Office of the Governor.

## 4.2.5.4.5 Charitable Choice (applies to faith-based organizations only)

The vendor must attest that funds received as a result of this procurement will not be used for sectarian instruction, worship, proselytizing or for any other purely religious activities that are not directed toward the secular social goals related to the services described in this RFP. The vendor must agree to serve all eligible members of the public without regard to their religious beliefs and, further, must not require clients' active participation in any religious practice. (In carrying out the said services, the vendor will remain independent from federal, state and local governments; will retain control over the expression of its religious beliefs, and is NOT required to remove its religious writings or symbols or to alter its internal governance as a condition of doing business with the Department.)

#### 4.2.5.4.6 Financial Accounting

Vendors must agree that the vendor's accounting system will be consistent with General Accepted Governmental Accounting Principles (GAAP). The vendor must maintain sufficient financial accounting records documenting all funding sources and applicable expenditure of all funds from all sources.

#### 4.2.5.4.7 Vendor Work Product

The vendor must attest that the proposal submitted in response to this document is the work product of said vendor. If the proposal is determined not to be the work product of the vendor, the proposal may, at the Department's sole discretion, be rejected.

#### 4.2.5.5 ATTACHMENTS

Vendors must include all applicable forms identified below as attachments (i.e., Attachment A, B, C, etc.), applicable forms must follow the Technical Proposal. **DO NOT ALTER ANY OF THE FORMS LISTED BELOW OR OTHERWISE INCLUDED/REQUIRED IN THIS DOCUMENT.** 

#### 4.2.5.5.1. Disclosure Statement

The Technical Proposal must be followed by a completed copy of the **Disclosure Statement**.

#### 4.2.5.5.2 Trade Secret Affidavit

The Disclosure Statement must be followed by a completed copy of the **Trade Secret Affidavit** (*Appendix C*), if applicable.

#### 4.2.5.5.3 Certificate of Compliance

The Trade Secret Affidavit must be followed by a completed copy of the **Certificate of Compliance** (Appendix D). All proposals must include the Certificate of Compliance.

## 4.2.5.5.4 E-verify Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The Certificate of Compliance must be followed by a copy of the **E-verify MOU**. *All proposals must include the E-verify MOU*.

#### 4.2.5.5.5 Immigration Status Form

The E-verify MOU must be followed by a copy of the **Immigration Status Form**. *All proposals must include the Immigration Status Form*. (Appendix E)

#### **SECTION 5: COST PROPOSAL**

#### 5.0 COST PROPOSAL

The maximum daily rate for providing intensive residential service for children shall be \$352.00. Vendors must submit a fixed rate outlining the proposed daily rate for the program. Any proposal with a cost above this rate will not be considered for selection. If a vendor provides more than one level of service at a single location, each level of service must be provided in a separate building or wing. SDHR must approve the plan if the services are to be provided within the same physical building.

Vendors must submit an annual budget for the following period: 1) October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; for the total amount of compensation that will be required to provide this placement meeting the program requirements and the core services outlined in this document. The cost proposal form (Appendix F.) must be completed indicating a daily rate per child and the number of beds offered at the stated rate. The daily rate is subject to approval by the Department and Medicaid.

It is expected that all vendors, who are awarded contracts, as a result of this RFP, possess a thorough knowledge of Chapter 33 of the Medicaid Provider Manual. Vendors must certify that they have the capacity to bill Medicaid electronically and receive payments directly from Medicaid for all eligible children or submit with their response a letter of intent that states their plan to reach this goal prior to the awarding a contract for FY24. The Department will be billed directly for services rendered to children who are not eligible for Medicaid.

Note: A maximum rate is specified in this RFP document for provision of services, any proposal submitted exceeding the fixed rate will be deemed non-responsive and no further consideration will be given.

#### **SECTION 6: EVALUATION CRITERIA**

## 6.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation committee will review and evaluate the proposals according to the following criteria based on **a maximum possible value of 1,000 points**. Proposals failing to meet the requirements of this RFP may be deemed non-responsive or subject to point deductions. The point value assigned to each component of the **Technical Proposal and Cost Proposal** will be based on the following scoring scale.

	Category	RFP Section	Point Value
Vei	ndor Qualifying Information	35% of points for a	possible 350 points
A.	Vendor Profile and Experience	4.2.5.1.1	325
B.	Past and Present Contractual Relationships with the Department	4.2.5.1.2	0
C.	Contract Performance	4.2.5.1.3	To be Determined
D.	Project Staff/Resumes/Job Descriptions	4.2.5.1.4	10
E.	Staff Performance Evaluations and Training	4.2.5.1.5	5
F.	Background Checks	4.2.5.1.6	0
G.	Vendor Financial Stability	4.2.5.2	10
Me	thod of Providing Services 55	5% of points for a po	ssible 550 points
A.	Service Delivery Approach	4.2.5.3.1	525
B.	Start-up Plan	4.2.5.3.2	5
C.	Referral, Admission and Exclusion Policy	4.2.5.3.3	5
D.	Children/Youth to be Served and Number of Slots Propo	osed 4.2.5.3.4	0
E.	Reject/Discharge Policy	4.2.5.3.5	10
F.	Evacuation/Pandemic Plans	4.2.5.3.6	0
G.	Assessment of Benefits and Impact	4.2.5.3.7	10
H.	Office Location	4.2.5.3.8	0
I.	Vendor Certifications	4.2.5.4.	0
Cos	st Proposal	10% of points for a	possible 100 points
A.	Cost Proposal	5.0	100

#### APPENDIX A: STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

By submitting a response to request for proposal or acceptance of a contract, the vendor agrees to acceptance of the following Standard Terms and Conditions and any other provisions that are specific to this solicitation or contract.

**ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF PROPOSALS:** The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, wholly or in part, and to make awards in any manner deemed in the best interest of the Department. Proposals will be firm for 180 days, unless stated otherwise in the text of the request for proposal.

ACCESS AND RETENTION OF RECORDS: The contractor agrees to provide the Department, Legislative Auditor, or authorized agents, access to any records necessary to determine contract compliance. The contractor agrees to create and retain records supporting the services rendered or supplies delivered for a period of three years after either the completion date of the contract or the conclusion of any claim, litigation, or exception relating to the contract taken by the Department or third party.

**ALTERATION OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENT:** In the event of inconsistencies or contradictions between language contained in the Department's solicitation document and a vendor's response, the language contained in the Department's original solicitation document will prevail. Intentional manipulation and/or alteration of solicitation document language will result in the vendor's disqualification and possible debarment.

**ASSIGNMENT, TRANSFER AND SUBCONTRACTING:** The contractor shall not assign, transfer or subcontract any portion of the contract without the express written consent of the Department.

**AUTHORITY:** The following request for proposal, limited solicitation, or contract is issued under authority of Section 41-16-72 of the Alabama Code (Act 2001-956, 2001 3<sup>rd</sup> Sp. Sess., p 817, §1.)

**CHARGE BACKS:** The Alabama Department of Human Resources and Medicaid will deduct federal charge backs from future payments.

**COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** The contractor must, in performance of work under the contract, fully comply with all applicable federal, department, or local laws, rules and regulations, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any subletting or subcontracting by the contractor subjects' subcontractors to the same provision. The contractor agrees that the hiring of persons to perform the contract will be made on the basis of merit and qualifications and there will be no discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or national origin by the persons performing the contract.

**DEBARMENT:** The contractor certifies, by submitting this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction (contract) by any governmental department or agency. If the contractor cannot certify this statement, attach a written explanation for review by the Department.

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** The Department does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. Individuals, who need aids, alternative document formats, or services for effective communications or other disability-related accommodations in the programs and services offered, are invited to make their needs and preferences known to this office. Interested parties should provide as much advance notice as possible.

**FACSIMILE RESPONSES:** Facsimile responses will not be accepted for requested for proposals or limited solicitations.

**FAILURE TO HONOR PROPOSAL:** If a vendor to whom a contract is awarded refuses to accept the award (contract) or, fails to deliver in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the Department may, in its discretion, suspend the vendor for a period of time from entering into any contracts with the Department.

**FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither party shall be responsible for failure to fulfill its obligations due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, acts or omissions of government or military authority, acts of God, materials shortages, transportation delays, fires, floods, labor disturbances, riots, wars, terrorist acts, or any other causes, directly or indirectly beyond the reasonable control of the non-performing party, so long as such party is using its best efforts to remedy such failure or delays.

**FOREIGN CORPORATIONS (OUT-OF-STATE FIRMS):** Alabama law provides that a foreign corporation (out-of-state company/firm) may not transact business in the state until it obtains a certificate of authority from the Secretary of State, Section 10-2B-15.01, Code of Alabama 1975. To obtain form for a certificate of authority, contact the Secretary of State, Corporation Division, (334) 242-5324. Not having this certificate does not keep the vendor from registering.

**HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION:** The contractor agrees to hold the Department, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties as such, harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense thereof, arising in favor of the contractor's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death, or damage to property arising out of services performed or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts or omissions of the contractor and/or its agents, employees, representatives, assigns, subcontractors, except for acts of omission resulting from the sole negligence of the Department, under this agreement.

**IMMIGRATION CLAUSE:** By signing this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowing employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama and any location. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom.

**LATE PROPOSALS:** Regardless of cause, late proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be solely the vendor's risk to assure delivery at the designated office by the designated time. Late proposals will not be opened and may be returned to the vendor at the expense of the vendor or destroyed if requested.

**MERIT SYSTEM EXCLUSION:** The vendor must not to be considered a merit system employee and is not entitled to any benefits of the State Merit System.

**REGISTRATION WITH THE PURCHASING DIVISION:** Any business intending to transact business in Alabama must register with the Alabama Purchasing Division by completing the Vendor Disclosure Statement. A copy of the Vendor Disclosure Statement can be downloaded from the Purchasing website at www.purchasing.alabama.gov.

**SEVERABILITY CLAUSE:** A declaration by any court, or any other binding legal source, that any provision of the contract is illegal and void shall not affect the legality and enforceability of any other provision of the contract, unless the provisions are mutually dependent.

**SOLICITATION DOCUMENT EXAMINATION:** Vendors must promptly notify the Department of any ambiguity, inconsistency, or error, which they may discover upon examination of a solicitation document.

**TERMINATION OF CONTRACT:** Unless otherwise stated, the Department may, by written notice to the contractor, terminate the contract in whole or in part at any time the contractor fails to perform the contract.

#### TERMINATION/ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

For any and all disputes arising under the terms of any contract resulting from this procurement, vendors hereto agree, in compliance with the recommendations of the Governor and Attorney General, when considering settlement of such disputes, to utilize appropriate forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution including but not limited to, mediation by and through the Attorney General's Office of Administrative hearings or where appropriate, private mediators.

**UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDING:** The Department, at its sole discretion, may terminate or reduce the scope of the contract if available funding is reduced for any reason.

**U.S. FUNDS:** All prices and payments must be in U.S. dollars.

#### APPENDIX B: TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FORM

# STATE OF ALABAMA REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER STATE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

INSTRUCTIONS. In order to receive payment by the State of Alabama, a correct tax identification number, name and address must be on our files. To insure that accurate tax information is reported on Form 1099 for federal income tax purposes, please:

- 1. In PART 1 below provide your Tax Identification Number and check FEIN or SSN. Also provide the name and address to which payments should be sent. In addition, provide the name of the legal signatory authority for your organization (the individual authorized in your Constitution and/or By-laws to legally obligate the organization, for example, sign a contract on behalf of the organization).
- 2. Circle the business designation that identifies your type of trade or business in PART 2.
- 3. Sign and return this form as part of the response to the RFP:

**TITLE** 

PART	1 – TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION N	UMBER, NAME AND ADDRE	ESS.
IDEN'	TIFICATION NUMBER		
	one Federal Employer Id Social Security Num	dentification Number (FEIN)	
NAMI	E OF ORGANIZATION:		PHONE:
LEGA	L BUSINESS ADDRESS:		
FAX:		EMAIL:	
NAMI	E & TITLE OF LEGAL SIGNATORY A	UTHORITY:	
PART	2 – BUSINESS DESIGNATION. Circle	e the designation that identifies	your type of trade or business.
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 -	the laws of any state within the United NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION PARTNERSHIP, JOINT VENTURE, SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP OR SELF-NONCORPORATE RENTAL AGEN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY (City, CFOREIGN CORPORATION OR FOR (A corporation or other foreign entity temporarily in the United States who provided the state of the	I States)  ( (Section 501 (c) (3))  ESTATE OR TRUST  EMPLOYED (Identification nut)  County, State or U.S. Government  REIGN NATIONAL OR OTHER  y formed under the laws of a pays taxes as a citizen of a count  unt this form may subject you to	R FOREIGN ENTITY country other than the United States or an individual
	,	LARE THAT I HAVE EXAM	INED THIS REQUEST AND TO THE BEST OF MY
	SIGNATURE	DATE	TELEPHONE NUMBER (If different from above)

PLEASE INCLUDE FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON ALL INVOICES

## APPENDIX C: TRADE SECRET AFFIDAVIT

#### Alabama Department of Human Resources

#### AFFIDAVIT FOR TRADE SECRET CONFIDENTIALITY

DEPARTMENT OF	)	
County of	) ss.	
·	(Affiant) heing first duly sworn under eath, and representing	(hereafter
matter, and have full author	ey licensed to practice in the State of, representing the rity from the Vendor to submit this affidavit and accept the responsibilities stated h	e Vendor referenced in this erein.
Public ag	at the Vendor is submitting a proposal to the Alabama Department of Human Reso gencies in Alabama are required by Alabama law to permit the public to examine dogencies, other than those legitimately meeting the provisions of the Alabama Trade e Department is required to review claims of trade secret confidentiality.	ocuments that are kept or
	nd am familiar with the provisions of the Alabama Trade Secrets Act, am familiar with most and am familiar with the provisions of the Alabama Trade Secrets Act, am familiar with am familiar with a familiar with the provisions of the Alabama Trade Secrets Act, am familiar with the provisions of the Alabama Trade Secrets Act, am familiar with a famil	
(a)	trade secrets meeting the requirements of the Act; and	
(b)	information requested by the Department to establish vendor responsibility	
	unless prior written consent has been given by the vendor.	
	at in order for the Vendor to claim confidential material, this affidavit must be fully llowing conditions must be met by the Vendor:	completed and submitted to
(a)	information to be withheld under a claim of confidentiality must be clearly	
	marked and separated from the rest of the proposal;	
(b)	the proposal may not contain trade secret matter in the cost or price; and	
(c)	the Vendor's explanation of the validity of this trade secret claim is attached to	
	this affidavit.	
submitted materials will be concerned. I and the Vendo	dor accept that, should the Department determine that the explanation is incomplete treated as any other document in the department's possession, insofar as its examinar are solely responsible for the adequacy and sufficiency of the explanation. Once it to the Vendor if the Vendor disagrees with the Department's determination of the	nation as a public record is a proposal is opened, its
defense by the Department which the Vendor chooses liability and costs of any su will immediately withdraw The Department will inforr from receipt of the notice to in writing will waive the cl	f the Vendor, warrant that the Vendor will be solely responsible for all legal costs a of the Vendor's claim for trade secret protection in the event of an open records re to oppose. The Vendor will either totally assume all responsibility for the opposition the defense, thereby defending, protecting, indemnifying and saving harmless the Exits opposition to the open records request and permit the Department to release them the Vendor in writing of any open records request that is made, and the Vendor volumity the Department in writing whether the Vendor opposes the request or not. It aim of trade secret confidentiality, and allow the Department to treat the document	quest from another party on of the request, and all Department, or the Vendor documents for examination. will have five working days Failure to provide that notice is as a public record.
including any copyrighted	nion of the Department, do not meet all the requirements of the above will be availated materials.	ible for public inspection,
	Affiant's Signature	
Signed and sworn to before	e me on (date) by	
	(Affiant's name).	
Name of Notary Public:		for the
Department of:		
		<u>.</u>

## APPENDIX D: CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Sta	te of)
Cou	unty of )
	RTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE BEASON-HAMMON ALABAMA TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN PROTECTION ACT 2011-535, as amended by Act 2012-491)
DA	TE:
RF.	Contract/Grant/Incentive (describe by number or subject):
	by and between
	(Contractor/Grantee) and(State Agency, Department or Public Entity)
The	e undersigned hereby certifies to the State of Alabama as follows:
1.	The undersigned holds the position of with the Contractor/Grantee named above, and is authorized to provide representations set out in this Certificate as the official and binding act of that entity, and has knowledge of the provisions of THE BEASON-HAMMON ALABAMA TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN PROTECTION ACT (ACT 2011-535 of the Alabama Legislature, as amended by Act 2012-491) which is described herein as "the Act".
2.	Using the following definitions from Section 3 of the Act, select and initial either (a) or (b), below, to describe the Contractor/Grantee's business structure.
	BUSINESS ENTITY. Any person or group of persons employing one or more persons performing or engaging in any activity, enterprise, profession, or occupation for gain, benefit, advantage, or livelihood, whether for profit or not for profit. "Business entity" shall include, but not be limited to the following:  a. Self-employed individuals, business entities filing articles of incorporation, partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, foreign corporations, foreign limited partnerships, foreign limited liability companies authorized to transact business in this state, business trusts, and any business entity that registers with the Secretary of State.  b. Any business entity that possesses a business license, permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization issued by the state, any business entity that is exempt by law from obtaining such a business license, and any business entity that is operating unlawfully without a business license.  EMPLOYER. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, joint stock association, agent, manager, representative, foreman, or other person having control or custody of any employment, place of employment, or of any employee, including any person or entity employing any person for hire within the State of Alabama, including a public employer. This term shall not include the occupant of a household contracting with another person to perform casual domestic labor within the household.  (a)The Contractor/Grantee is a business entity or employer as those terms are defined in Section 3 of the Act.
	(b) The Contractor/Grantee is not a business entity or employer as those terms are defined in Section 3 of the Act.
<ol> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>	As of the date of this Certificate, Contractor/Grantee does not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama and hereafter it will not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama. Contractor/Grantee is enrolled in E-Verify unless it is not eligible to enroll because of the rules of that program or other factors beyond its control.  tified this day of
Cei	
	Name of Contractor/Grantee/Recipient
	By:
	Its
The	e above Certification was signed in my presence by the person whose name appears above, on
this	day of 20 WITNESS:
	Printed Name of Witness

## APPENDIX E: IMMIGRATION STATUS FORM

## **IMMIGRATION STATUS**

I hereby a	ttest that all	workers c	on this pr	oject are	either	citizens	of the	United	States of	or are	in a prop	er and	legal
immigrati	on status tha	t authoriz	es them	to be em	ployed	for pay	within	the Un	ited Sta	ites.			

Signature of Contractor

APPENDIX F: COST PROPOSAL FORM								
Contract Number:	D	HR USE ONLY	Taxpayer ID#:					
Agency:								
Address:								
Project Title:								
Budget Period:	October 01, 2023	to	<b>September 30, 2024</b>					

## I. RATE OF INFORMATION

A.	Number of Slots Propos	sed for FY 23/24	_ at <b>\$</b> _	Fixed Rate for
	\$	Total		