

**LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL**  
Solicitation of Proposals for the  
**First-Responder Tactics, Approaches and Resources Initiative**

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (Council) is soliciting proposals from community partners to establish and support pilot programs on first-responder tactics, approaches and resources in fostering relationships with and dealing with individuals with developmental disabilities and training for people with developmental disabilities on how to interact with first responders.

**Project Purpose**

The Council seeks innovative approaches to build a model program for first responders to approach and address the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members and ensure people with developmental disabilities have access to training on how to interact with first responders. The goal of the first responder pilot should be to build resources within various departments and agencies to ensure:

- first responder agencies establish policies and protocols on addressing people with developmental disabilities to reduce arrest and physical escalations;
- utilization of resources and/or specialized personnel with expertise and training in serving people with developmental disabilities to achieve positive outcomes;
- first responder training on understanding and treating people with developmental disabilities; and,
- training for people with developmental disabilities on how to interact appropriately with first responders.

The selected entity will serve to coordinate at least one initial pilot program within at least one first responder department during FFY2021. Proposals should indicate plans for expanding the pilot to additional areas of the state and over time. Proposals may indicate multiple years of projected activities; however, currently Council funding is only committed for FFY2021.

**Project Timeline**

The initial year of this project will be from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

**Project Funding**

A maximum of \$50,000 has been allocated for the initial year of funding for this project. Indirect costs associated with this project shall not exceed eight percent (8%) of actual project expenditures.

**Project Responsibilities**

Reimbursable costs responsibly billed by the selected agency will include, but are not limited to, all expenses associated with conducting training sessions, supporting technical assistance efforts, and developing resources to support first responder departments toward enhancing tactics, approaches and resources related to individuals with developmental disabilities.

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Anticipated administrative support responsibilities of the selected agency include, but are not limited, to:

- Developing memorandums of understanding with first responder departments and other agencies or other entities with expertise related to people with developmental disabilities.
- Coordination, arrangements, and of any relative training events and technical assistance provided by or to First Responder departments, individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members; and,
- Evaluation of activities and short-term and long-term outcomes.

In-Kind Contributions: The project shall identify any in-kind contributions, including but not limited to, development of training and coaching content for this project, time commitment of Alliance partner members, or other contributions which fulfill the purpose of this initiative.

### **Contractor Requirements**

Selection will be determined by the applicant's demonstrated ability to meet the following requirements:

1. Understanding and commitment to the principles of full inclusion for persons with disabilities, including those with the most intense support needs.
2. Successful experience in first responder programs and programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.
3. Coordinating and hosting training sessions to a variety of groups including to first Responders, individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members.
4. Fiscal stability and capacity to manage contract dollars and reporting requirements.

### **Information Requested**

1. Cover Sheet and Information Packet
  - a) Application for Funding Cover Sheet (online)
  - b) W-9 tax form (online)
  - c) Board Resolution or Disclosure of Ownership (online)
2. Summary of Qualifications - clearly demonstrate Contractor Requirements above.
3. Proposal/Work Plan (maximum of 5 pages)
  - a) Activities
  - b) Timelines
  - c) Methods of Evaluation
  - d) Budget Details<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Note: If significant changes occur in the COVID-19 pandemic status which impact projected in-person activities the vendor selected for this initiative may seek to renegotiate proposed activities and subsequent budget details with the Council.

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4. Diversity Inclusion – Describe how you or your organization intend(s) to conduct outreach and assure inclusive participation among diverse communities relative to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, and all marginalized communities.
5. Letters of Support (no less than 2)

#### **Reply Procedure**

For consideration, submissions must be emailed to [Courtney.Ryland2@la.gov](mailto:Courtney.Ryland2@la.gov), no later than **4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2020**.