

Questions & Answers

Q	Bidder Question	DHS Answer	Section	Pg.
1.	Page 3: Is the \$1.25 million total for all three counties? Or is that amount per award?	<i>The \$1.25 Million is total funding for all the RFP.</i>	I	3
2.	Page 5 indicates "Ideally, after working with the behavioral health team, targeted individual's would be eligible to seek admission into a current or newly created voluntary mental health diversion program track that is integrated with the County Prosecutor's office and courts. The attached Framework shows an example of possible integrations for consideration." Is there a framework we can view?	<i>Please see the attached example framework, Q & A Attachment B</i>	II	5
3.	Page 7 indicates "Ensure defendants are linked to community-based treatment and support services for the needs identified in the SDOH Initial Screening Tool which may be found in the appendix and jail mental health screen as early as possible, and for the urgent needs indicated in the SDOH questions #1-6 within 15 business days." Is there a specific SDOH Initial Screening Tool we would be expected to utilize and if so, can we be given a copy?	<i>Please see the attached SDOH screening tool, Q&A Attachment A</i>	IV	7
4.	On Page 7 of the RFP it is stated that "Defendants who do not meet legal criteria, do not have a serious mental illness or do not want to enter the current or newly created voluntary mental health diversion program track, will be successfully linked to services identified in their SDOH screening prior to disengaging from the provider." Who is responsible for the linkage of individuals who do not meet criteria, do not have a mental illness, or do not voluntarily agree to be part of the Diversion program?	<i>The successful bidder.</i>	IV	7
5.	Page 7 of the RFP also references the SDOH Initial Screening Tool which it says can be found in the appendix; however, this tool doesn't seem to be in the appendix. Can the DMHAS provide a copy of this tool?	<i>The reference SDOH screening tool is attached, Q & A Attachment A</i>	IV	7

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6.	Page 7: Is there a specific SDOH Screening Tool that should be used?	<i>See the attached SDOH screening tool, Q & A Attachment A</i>	IV	7
7.	Page 8: Does the qualified licensed mental health professional need to be independently licensed?	<i>Yes, licensed mental professional means a fully clinically licensed professional, LPC, LCSW, Licensed Psychologist, etc.</i>	IV, VII - Staffing	8
8.	Page 13: What is the level of service expected for the clients per year? Is there an anticipated number for each category listed on #8 on page 13?	<i>The bidder will provide information in their proposal regarding contact.</i>	VII	13
9.	On Page 13 of the RFP three categories are outline in which individuals with mental illness will fall into. What would an organization's responsibility be to individuals that fall within the following two categories? Furthermore, if these individuals don't meet the program criteria, would an awarded organization have to explain how these individuals will be helped? · individuals who do not qualify to continue services with the behavioral health team or do not qualify for admission into a current or newly created voluntary mental health diversion program track integrated with the County Prosecutor's office and the AOC/Judiciary. · individuals who qualify for continued services with the behavioral health team and are not admitted into a current or newly created voluntary mental health diversion program track integrated with the County Prosecutor's office and the AOC/Judiciary.	<i>For individuals who do not meet the criteria it will be the awarded bidder who provides referral to services the individual qualifies for and provide justification clinical justification as to why the individual doesn't meet criteria; also what services, referrals the individual is provided.</i>	VII	13
10.	On Page 14 of the RFP it asks bidders to "Explain how individuals with or without a serious mental illness will be successfully linked to services identified in their SDOH initial screening." Does this mean that even if an individual does not have a serious mental illness, organizations awarded these grant funds will be responsible for linking these individuals to services?	<i>Yes, individuals with or without an SMI, will be referred and or linked to services needed base on SDOH.</i>	VII	14

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11.	Is telehealth permitted?	<i>The bidder will indicate in their proposal how clinical services will be provided in order to offer the best possible clinical services.</i>	VII - Narrative	
12.	Will space be provided within the jail for meeting with the client prior to their release?	<i>The bidder will indicate in their proposal the steps it will take in order to operationalize this award.</i>	VII - Narrative	
13.	Is an external evaluator allowable? Is there a ceiling on the amount of funding that is permitted towards evaluation efforts?	<i>The RFP amount of funding is \$1.25 million. The bidder will indicate the total costs for their proposal in their budget.</i>	VII	15
14.	How many times can you meet with the client prior to their release? How soon prior to release will the bidder know to initiate the reentry planning?	<i>The bidder, in their proposal, will indicate the interactions with the consumer pre and post release, in their proposal.</i>	VII - Narrative	
15.	Are client assistance funds permitted? Is there a restriction or limitation on wraparound service funding for clients? Is there a per person limit on what you can spend?	<i>The bidder, in their proposed budget, will indicate any need for assistance funds.</i>	VII - Budget	
16.	How do you determine when services should end for the clients?	<i>The bidder, in their proposal, will indicate services and discharge for consumers.</i>	VII - Narrative	
17.	Are there aftercare requirements for clients who transition out of services?	<i>The bidder will indicate the follow up care for consumers in their proposal.</i>	VII - Narrative	
18.	How many individuals are estimated to be screened in each county (Camden, Middlesex, Essex)? Of those, is there an estimate of how many are anticipated to volunteer for a full assessment and treatment?	<i>Bidder will create a relationship with the local criminal justice entities to secure this information.</i>		

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19.	If applying for all three counties, Camden, Middlesex, and Essex (1.25M, or \$416,667 per county), would each county need its own supervisor, licensed clinician, peer, and case coordinator? Can the grantee decide the staffing structure?	<i>The Bidder will determine the budget for each county they are applying too. A proposal for each county is required. The RFP lists the staffing structure for this initiative. Bidders will propose how staffing structure will operate.</i>	I, VII - Budget	
20.	Can the contractor provide a comprehensive behavioral health assessment within 72 hours with fully licensed clinicians (LPC, LCSW, Etc.) even if the contractor is not a DOH licensed provider? (Upon completion of the behavioral health assessment, the contractor would refer to an appropriate level of care at a DOH licensed mental health and/or co-occurring treatment provider based on the results of the assessment.)	<i>The bidder will reflect in their proposal who assessments will be completed and reflect in their budgets necessary consultants.</i>	V, VII - Budget	
21.	Upon notification of a grant award, when will upfront funds be available for recruitment costs?	<i>The awards are done in two steps; there's a preliminary notice of award, an appeal process, then final awards from the Assistant Commissioner; then contract negotiations and then funds are finalized and usable.</i>	V, IX	