

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BENEFIT, EMPLOYMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
RFI# HMS-302-21-05-H**

Infant and Toddler Care for Teen Parents attending Kealakehe High School

The Department of Human Services (DHS), Benefit Employment & Support Services Division (BESSD), requests information and recommendations from the general public, private sector, community-based organizations, and interested community members, regarding plans to enter into a competitive procurement process for an organization to provide Infant and Toddler Care for Teen Parents attending Department of Education's (DOE) Kealakehe High School.

Target population: Teen parents residing in West Hawaii, including those with limited English proficiency, who need child care to complete and graduate high school.

Geographic coverage: West Hawaii

Service description:

- 1) Develop and sustain collaboration and coordination between other community programs/organizations and the Kealakehe High School staff involved with the Department of Education's (DOE) Graduation Reality and Dual Role Skills (GRADS) program or with the alternate on-campus program that provides educational and parenting support services for pregnant and parenting teens;
- 2) Operate a child care center that is located on campus and licensed by DHS for infants and toddlers (from the age of six weeks to three years) of teen parents attending Kealakehe High School to enable the teen parents to remain in high school, and/or to be promoted to the next grade and/or graduate from high school;
- 3) Fully utilize childcare slots over time;
- 4) Provide services when DOE school is in session, and open 45 minutes before the school day begins, and stay open up to 45 minutes after the school day ends;
- 5) Identify student parents that would benefit from utilizing the child care program, the organization's parenting activities, and the DOE's support services;
- 6) Engage and involve and participation of teen fathers and mothers as well as parents of the teen parents in the child care program activities;
- 7) Track for reduction of subsequent full-term teen pregnancies while participating in the program;
- 8) Provide regular staff training opportunities;
- 9) Provide activities for parents as appropriate to increase parenting competencies, to learn life skills and child development skills, and to ensure a healthy and safe environment for their child, including increased attention related to the circumstances during emergency crises such as the COVID-19 public health pandemic;
- 10) Manage and supervise the program components; and
- 11) Provide quality control and self-evaluation of program progress.

Probable funding amount: \$95,429.00 in federal funds per contract year.

Probable period of availability: July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 with the option to extend for four (4) additional 12-month periods, not to exceed June 30, 2026.

Form of response requested: Interested parties are requested to reply in writing or email to the RFI contact person noted below.

Deadline for response: Responses to the RFI are to be submitted no later than January 29, 2021, 4:30 PM, Hawaii Standard Time (HST).

RFI Contact Person: Alethia Johnson, Program Specialist
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Note:

Participation in this RFI process is optional and is not required to respond to any subsequent procurement action a purchasing agency may take.

The Department reserves the right to incorporate in a solicitation, if issued, for such a contract, any information and recommendations submitted in response to this request for information. Neither the Department nor any respondent to the request for information bears any obligation under this request for information.

Cathy Betts
Director