

Exhibit "A"
"EXPANSION of SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM GROUP THERAPY"

Request for Proposals
RFP NO: 2009-330-08-19-MEG

OVERVIEW

Hidalgo County is seeking sealed proposals for Licensed & Certified Therapist to provide "**EXPANSION of SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM GROUP THERAPY**" for a two (2) year period, with the County's sole discretion to extend the contract for an additional one (1) year. The Hidalgo County Purchasing Department will receive sealed envelopes containing proposals for the provision of "**EXPANSION of SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM GROUP THERAPY**" as specified herein. Sealed proposals will be accepted until **9:30 A.M., Wednesday, AUGUST 19, 2009**. **ANY RFP RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED.**

Deliver Submittal to:

RFP No.: 2009-330-08-19-MEG
Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
New Administration Building
2802 So. Business Hwy 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539

The Submittal Envelope Must Show:

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The following outlines the Request for Proposal:

SECTION I - GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Hidalgo County is requesting that sealed proposals be routed to Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, at 2802 So. Business Hwy 281, New Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas 78539. All inquiries must be directed to Hidalgo County Purchasing Agent, Martha L. Salazar. Hidalgo County will asset Hidalgo County Community Supervision & Corrections Department in addressing any and all inquiries. All responses will be distributed through Hidalgo County Purchasing Department. Proposers are through the Hidalgo County Purchasing Department. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE BY NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009, at 5:00 P.M.** at (956) 318-2629. Responses will be sent to all applicants via facsimile by **Friday, AUGUST 14 2009, 2009 AT 5:00P.M.. TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** This project will be an "Expansion" to the existing services. Any proposals and/or negotiations to this request will be equivalent to existing rates.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Effective January 1, 2006, Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code requires that any vendor, person, consultant or contractor considering doing business with Hidalgo County ("the County") to disclose in the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (the "CIQ") attached as **Exhibit D**, the vendor, person consultant or contractor's affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest with the County. By law, the CIQ must be filed with the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office no later than the seventh business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require that statement to be filed. The disclosure

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requirement applies to a person or business who contract or seeks to contract with Hidalgo County for the sale or purchase of property, goods or service. Any purchase order or contract resulting from this process shall be considered null and void if the Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encourage to refer to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 for the details of this law. An offense under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Please submit complete CIQ forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office locate at 100 N. Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse **COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER.**

NON-COLLUSION: Submitters, by submitting a signed submission, certify that the accompanying submission is not the result of, or affected by, any unlawful act of collusion with any other person or company engaged in the same line of business or commerce, or any other fraudulent act punishable under Texas or United States law.

NON-DISCRIMINATION: Submitters, during the performance of this contract, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin or disability except where religion, sex, national origin or disability is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor.

PROCESSING TIME FOR PAYMENT: Submitters are advised that a minimum of thirty (30) days is required to process invoices for payment.

ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF BIDS: Hidalgo County's Purchasing Department will not accept telegraphic or electronically transmitted submissions.

PROOF OF FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS CAPABILITY: Submitters must, upon request, furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability to furnish products or services in accordance with the terms and conditions of these requirements. Hidalgo County will make the final determination as to the submitter's ability.

SUBMITTER DEFAULT: Hidalgo County reserves the right, in case of submitter default, to procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the defaulting submitter responsible for any excess costs occasioned thereby.

RESTRICTIVE OR AMBIGUOUS REQUIREMENTS: It is the responsibility of the submitter to review the Request for Proposal (RFP) packet and to notify the Purchasing Department if the requirements are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. Any such protest or question regarding the requirements or proposers procedures must be received in the Purchasing Department not less than seventy-two hours prior to the time set for the opening. These criteria also apply to requirements that are ambiguous.

PROPOSAL DELIVERY: Hidalgo County requires submitters, when hand delivering proposals, to have a Purchasing Department representative time/date stamp and initial the envelope when dropping RFP off.

SIGNING OF PROPOSALS: In order to be considered all submittals **must** be signed. Please sign the original in **blue** ink.

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WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES: Hidalgo County reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County.

SUBCONTRACTING: The successful submitter may not subcontract the award without the written consent of the Board of Judges of Hidalgo County.

Additional Information to Terms and Conditions: All costs and expenses with the preparation and submission of (bids, proposals and/or quotes) shall be the responsibility of the proposer and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed onto Hidalgo County.

Any contract awarded to a successful proposer will be in effect until (a) the contract expires, (b) delivery and acceptance of products and/or performance of services ordered, or (c) terminated by County with thirty day's written notice prior to cancellation.

SECTION II - RFP REQUIREMENTS

Request for Proposal: The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFP are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will result in disqualification of the submitted RFP. A total of **one (1) original and seven (7) copies** of the RFP shall be submitted to the address on the cover letter.

Contents: The required contents for the RFP are presented below in the order they should be incorporated into the submitted document.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT:

This section should demonstrate the firms understanding of the project needs, the work required, and any local issues or concerns. Briefly explain how long you have been organized and your corporate business objectives. Explain how long you have been in business. This description should be concise, candid, and limited to 3 pages in length.

Personnel and Staffing: The firm should provide an organizational chart for the project and a summary paragraph of the project work to be performed by each proposed staff member. Biographic summaries that highlight the experience relevant to the specific project responsibilities should be provided for all proposed personnel. There is a one (1) page limitation for each biographic summary provided. Information regarding the firm's credentials, education and experience with other government entities is required and will be scored accordingly during the evaluation process.

Required Certificates and Submittal: This section will contain any licenses, registrations and certifications as required by the STATE OF TEXAS and HIDALGO COUNTY that you possess that deem you as a qualified provider.

If proposer/company cannot meet any of the following services/responsibilities, such exceptions must be noted on the company's cover letter.

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DURATION OF CONTRACT: The initial term of the contract shall be for two (2) year period, September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2011, (24-months), with the County’s option to renew for additional one (1) year term. In addition, any renewal must be delivered to the County of Hidalgo ninety (90) days prior to renewal.

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: Hidalgo County requires **one (1) original submittal and seven (7) copies**.

SECTION IIA-SCOPE OF SERVICES

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFP are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will result in disqualification of the submitted RFP. A total of **one (1) original and seven (7) copies** of the RFP shall be submitted to the address on the cover letter. If proposer/PARTICIPANT cannot meet any of the following services/responsibilities, such exceptions must be noted on the company’s cover letter.

If, during the life of the contract, the successful proposer’s net prices generally available for items awarded are reduced or below the contracted price, it is understood and agreed that the benefits of such reduction be extended to the County.

The intent of this solicitation is to acquire the services of a licensed & certified therapist on as-needed and emergency basis. EXPANSION of SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM GROUP THERAPY may include therapy on a one-to-one basis.

This project will be an “**Expansion**” to the existing services. Any proposals and/or negotiations to this request will be equivalent to existing rates.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- The licensed & certified therapist must have a Master’s level degree and be certified by the State of Texas as a Sex Offender Therapy Provider in good standing.

SERVICES:

The PARTICIPANT shall, in accordance with all terms of this agreement, provide all necessary personnel, equipment, materials, supplies, facilities, and services (except as may be furnished by the department as specified in writing as part of this AGREEMENT) and do all things necessary for, or incidental to, the provision of the services listed as follows:

Provide Group therapy which utilizes cognitive-behavioral treatment approaches for the clients referred by the Sex Offender Program Community Supervision Officer and/or Specialized Caseload Section Supervisor.

Prepare and submit the following to the Community Supervision Officer:

1. A verification of a signed treatment contract;
2. Provide a written evaluation and a treatment plan to the Supervision Officer within 30 days after the sex offender is enrolled in a treatment program and an updated treatment plan, as needed;
3. A report, by the 15th day of each month, stating the total number of counseling session attended by the client and his/her progress/regress;

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4. Notify the Community Supervision Officer of the following by the end of the next business day;
 - a. Any failure to attend treatment. Serious non-compliance with the treatment program, such as continued non-compliance or refusal to complete homework assignments, inappropriate or aggressive behaviors, poor participation and failure to pay treatment fees.
 - b. When the need arises to unsuccessfully terminate or suspend the offender from treatment. Termination shall not occur without communication with the Community Supervisor Officer.
 - c. A change in treatment provider shall not occur without communication with the Community Supervision Officer.
 - d. Engaging in high-risk behavior and/or violating supervision condition or treatment rules.

A report or summary detailing the reasons for termination or suspension from the treatment program and recommendations for further case management.

Provide on-going consultation to the Community Supervision Officer as may be deemed necessary by Department, PARTICIPANT or Community Supervision Officer. The CSCD will provide facilities to hold such group sessions.

DAVIS BACON ACT (IF APPLICABLE):

All selected and awarded firms are required to include the Davis-Bacon Act when advertising and developing specifications.

DIAGNOSIS:

In its treatment or provision of services to Defendants, PARTICIPANT shall:

- a. Provide appropriate treatment or services as designated by department;
- b. Coordinate with department to identify needs of Defendants that are beyond the scope of PARTICIPANT’s Services and make appropriate referrals in such circumstances; and
- c. Develop and implement procedures for Services (or referrals) for Defendants with dual diagnosis and/or mental and physical disabilities.

PARTICIPATION:

In order to ensure maximum participation of Defendants in its program, PARTICIPANT shall:

- a. Contact department within twenty-four (24) hours whenever any Defendant fails to comply with his or her recommended treatment or participation in services, including failure to show for initial appointment or unauthorized departures;
- b. Document on a weekly basis the Defendant’s level of participation and compliance with treatment or service goals and objectives; and
- c. The PARTICIPANT must maintain a signature log of all face-to-face contacts with the Defendant. The log must contain what service was performed, the time, date and be signed by the counselor and the Defendant.

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DISCHARGE:

The discharge of any Defendant shall be made in accordance with the following:

- a. Prior to discharge, PARTICIPANT shall schedule and coordinate with Defendant's community supervision officer or designee to evaluate if any additional services are required for Defendant. A copy of each Defendant's discharge plan and discharge summary shall be submitted to department within three (3) days of such discharge; and
- b. Under no circumstances may PARTICIPANT discharge any Defendant without having furnished department with prior written notification thereof.

REFERRALS

The department retains control over the Defendants referred to PARTICIPANT for the provision services. If the Defendant is determined to be in need of additional or different services, the Defendant is to be referred back to the department for further action. The process by which this action will occur will be addressed in the Operations Plan.

NO SHOWS

Department will not pay the full rate to PARTICIPANT for Defendants who fail to attend sessions or meetings.

COURT TESTIMONY

PARTICIPANT agrees to provide testimony in court, if required, at no additional cost to the department.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The services for Defendants shall include policies and procedures for admission and discharge, discharge planning, participation in treatment, transportation (as necessary), safety and security, clinical supervision, referral activities, house management and government (as applicable), documentation of Services, and incident reporting and resolution, which shall be in writing and available to department prior to implementation. PARTICIPANT shall notify the department in writing of deviations from such policies and procedures, whether temporary or permanent.

COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT

PARTICIPANT shall coordinate the following tasks with the department:

- a) Develop alternatives to be utilized for incidents of non-compliance with program rules;
- b) Submit progress reports on each Defendant, indicating progress and compliance/non-compliance with program;
- c) Participate in meetings as the department directs; and
- d) Comply with department operational policies and procedures as set forth by the department Program and/or the State program.

The PARTICIPANT shall submit the billing statement to the CSCD, PO Box 970 Edinburg, Texas 78540, only after the service has been rendered. The PARTICIPANT shall ensure that the billing statement be received by the 10th day of each month.

The PARTICIPANT shall treat the client's record as confidential in accordance with federal regulations and state laws. The PARTICIPANT shall release information as indicated in the Release of Confidential Information.

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The PARTICIPANT shall adopt and implement workplace guidelines concerning persons with AIDS and HIV infection and shall also develop and implement guidelines regarding confidentiality of AIDS and HIV related medical information for employees of said PARTICIPANT and for clients, inmates, patients and residents served by the PARTICIPANT in accordance with the provision found in Acts 1989, 71st Leg., Ch.1195, Section 5.03 and Section 5.04.

SECTION III - SELECTION AND SCHEDULES

SELECTION PROCEDURES: The RFP shall be submitted according to the schedule below. The County of Hidalgo is not required to select the proposal with the lowest rates/fees, but shall take into consideration other factors, including past experience, evidence of good organization, references, ability to provide requested services, and any other factors found necessary for quality service.

Proposal Ranking: COMMUNITY SUPERVISION & CORRECTION DEPARTMENT (CSCD) and Purchasing Department will evaluate, score and rank.

Negotiation Process: The number one ranked firm will be contacted to submit a draft contract for negotiation. If negotiations prove unsuccessful, the next highest ranked company will be contacted. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs.

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO: **An original and seven (7) copies** of RFPs should be submitted to:

Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
New Administration Building;
2802 So. Business Hwy 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539

RFPs must be submitted by **no later than 9:30 a.m. on AUGUST 19, 2009.**

EVALUATION: The firms will be ranked after evaluation. RFP submittal evaluation will be based on the criteria outlined in Exhibit B.