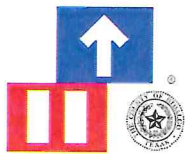


**Advertise/Approval of Statement of
Qualifications, Requirements and
Scope of Services for Medical/Dental
and Mental Health Providers**



Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council Agenda

DATE: April 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Discussion/Approval to Advertise and Approval of Statement of Qualifications, Requirements and Scope of Services for the Following:

- 1) Medical & Dental Providers
- 2) Mental Health Providers

RATIONALE/NEED: Administration needs to obtain medical/dental and mental health services for the Head Start children and families for school year 2025-2026.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends approval

COST: As specified on services required

RELATED INFORMATION INCLUDED: Qualifications, Requirements and Scope of Services

INITIATED BY: Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director *A. Tovar*

REVIEWED BY: Dr. Nereyda Cantu, Assistant Program Director for Operations *N. Cantu*

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL: *[Signature]* _____.



Hidalgo County Head Start Program

April 16, 2025

Participant's/Bidder's name

Address

City

State, Zip Code

RE: HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
Request for Qualifications – “Medical and Dental Providers”
RFQ No. 2025-004-04-29

Dear Ladies / Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) packet. Modifications and new requirements have been added and implemented. Carefully read and review all instructions, requirements and specifications.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program welcomes and appreciates your participation in the Request for Qualifications process.

If any further assistance is required, please call me the Purchasing Department (956) 383-0706.

Sincerely,

Ambrosio Tovar,
Procurement Director

Enclosures



HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
1901 W. State Highway 107
McAllen, Texas 78504
(956) 383-0706/ Fax: (956) 381-0439

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HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
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RFQ NO: 2025-004-04-29

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The above mentioned items shall be found in this Request for Qualifications–RFQ packet that is attached herewith. Should you find that any of the listed items are not attached in its entirety, please contact Purchasing by calling (956) 383-0706 or e-mail, to advise us of the missing documentation, and Purchasing will forward information either through facsimile, e-mail or by U.S. Mail.

Thank you.

Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director

Date

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

(Including all funding sources)

“Medical and Dental Providers”

RFQ NO: 2025-004-04-29

Acceptance Due Date: May 30, 2025

Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Procurement Department

Project Contact Person:

Angelica Salinas,
Procurement Manager
(956) 383-0706
angelica.salinas@hchsp.org

LEGAL NOTICE

- 1) Sealed qualifications will be received for **“Hidalgo County Head Start - “Medical and Dental Providers”** in accordance with the requirements attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**. Qualifications should address all requirements set forth. Respondents may suggest substitutions of features which they feel would be in the best interest of Hidalgo County Head Start Program (Program). A strong rationale must be presented for any deviation from the specifications. Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall bid.
- 2) **One (1) original, (pages one-sided-clearly marked ORIGINAL), three (3) copies of all bids and one (1) USBs in PDF Format** are required with the bidders name and return address clearly typed and or/printed on upper left-hand corner and the proper notation clearly typed/printed on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope and/or package: RFQ No.: 2025-004-04-29 **“Medical and Dental Providers”** and at County's Purchasing Department with a physical address: 1901 W. State Hwy 107, McAllen, TX 78504 and a mailing address: P . O . B o x 0 1 1 7 , Edinburg, Texas, 78540 on or before 2:00 P.M, Friday May 30, 2025. NO FACSIMILES, EMAILS OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY QUALIFICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND WILL BE RETURNED. OVERNIGHT MAIL MUST ALSO BE PROPERLY LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF EXPRESS ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE WITH REFERENCE TO: “Hidalgo County - RFQ No.: 2025-004-04-29 – “Medical and Dental Providers” Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all bids and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bids considered the best and most advantageous to Hidalgo County.

Additionally, all forms listed below must be properly executed and included with your bid:

1. Legal Notice (See page 9);
 2. Bid Page- (See Exhibit “B”);
 3. Insurance pages with Acknowledgment Forms (See Exhibit “C” pages 3 & 4);
 4. Form CIQ-Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (See Exhibit “D”);
 5. Vendor Bidder Application & W-9 forms (See Exhibit “E”);
 6. Certification Regarding Debarment (See Exhibit “F”); and
 7. SAMS.gov Registration Acknowledgement (See Number 16 below).
- 3) Hidalgo County reserves the right to A. separate and accept, or eliminate any item(s) listed under this qualification that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; B. reject any or all bids submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid for approval; C. award the bid to one bidder or to multiple bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so; D. award the contract to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid. "Lowest and best" means a bid or offer providing the best value considering associated direct and indirect costs, including transport, maintenance, reliability, life cycle, warranties, and customer service after a sale.
 - 4) The Bidder shall not substitute items named in the bid without the express written consent of Hidalgo County. Failure of the delivered item to perform as specified or failure to meet the stated delivery schedule shall release Hidalgo County from all obligations to the contracting party with regard to the item(s) in question. In such event, County may elect to award the contract to the next-lowest responsible bidder or to reject all bids and re-advertise.
 - 5) For work to be performed at a County owned or operated location, each bidder shall, in its sole discretion, visit the job site before preparing the bid and thoroughly familiarize himself/herself with existing conditions.

Bidder should take field dimensions and note all circumstances which affect the dollar amount of the qualification

- 6) Descriptive specifications are referenced in this document to indicate the general kind and quality of equipment desired by Hidalgo County. Due to various styles and models of equipment, bidders are required to include illustrations, specifications, explanation of warranties, and service data with their bid including catalogue numbers and any necessary references.
- 7) Proposed prices are to remain firm for a minimum of ninety (90) days after RFQ opening.
- 8) Any interpretations, amendments, corrections or changes to this R F Q document must be in a written addendum and signed by the County Judge or his designee. Addenda will be mailed to all who are known to have received a copy of the Request for Bids. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda as a part of their bid.
- 9) Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to accept or reject any or all RFQ.
- 10) Costs are to be net F.O.B., County Prepaid.
- 11) The County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax, State Tax, and Local Tax. Do Not include tax in cost figure. If it is determined that tax was included in the cost figures it will not be included in the tabulation of any awards. Tax exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.
- 12) Funds for this procurement have been provided through the County budget for this fiscal year only. County, on an annual basis, has the right to reconsider a contract during the budget process for ensuing years if financial resources of County are insufficient to meet the liabilities of said contract. The award of a bid or contract hereunder will not be construed to create a debt of the County which is payable out of funds beyond the current fiscal year.
- 13) DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS
 - No deliveries accepted after 3:00 P.M., Monday-Friday.
 - At least seventy two (72) hours prior notice of delivery must be given to Ambrosio Tovar Procurement Director before delivery will be accepted.
 - If you need additional information call the office listed below:

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
(956) 383-0706

14) BILLING AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

- Invoices must include:
 - a) Name and address of successful respondent
 - b) Name and address of receiving department or official
 - c) Purchase Order Number (if any)
 - d) Notation-“Hidalgo County Head Start Program - RFQ No.: 2025-004-04-29- “Medical and Dental Providers” Descriptive information as to the items or services delivered, including product code, item

number, quantity, etc.

e) Contract number must be indicated on all invoices

- Discount payments will be considered when offered.
- Contact person for Billing and Payment questions:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Finance Department
1901 W. State Hwy 107
McAllen, TX 78504
(956) 383-0706

15) SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Bid Opening,	<u>May 30, 2025</u>
Award of Contract	<u>August 1, 2025</u>
Commence Work or Deliver Products	<u>TBA</u>

16) HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM HOLIDAYS

2025 YEAR	
New Year's Day	01/01/2025
Martin Luther King Day	01/20/2025
President's Day	02/17/2025
Good Friday	04/18/2025
Memorial Day	05/26/2025
Juneteenth	06/19/2025
Independence Day	07/04/2025
Labor Day	09/01/2025
Columbus Day	10/13/2025
Veteran's Day	11/11/2025
Thanksgiving Day	11/24-11/28
Christmas Day	12/25 & 12/26
New Year;	12/31/2025

(There are also different holidays for each school district)

17) ~~BID OR PERFORMANCE BOND AND DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION; PAYMENT UNDER CONTRACT~~

- ~~If the contract proposed is for the construction of public works or is for a contract for goods & services exceeding \$100,000, all bidders shall furnish a good and sufficient bid bond in the amount of five percent of the total contract price. A bid bond must be executed with a surety company authorized to do business in Texas.~~
- All bidders are also required to furnish a certification or acknowledgment stating that the contractor

or vendor is free from suspension or debarment pursuant to federal regulation 45CFR Part 76. Register at SAMs System for Award Management @ www.sam.gov.

- ~~Together with the signing of a contract or issuance of a purchase order following the acceptance of a bid, and prior to commencement of the actual work, the bidder shall furnish a performance bond to the County for the full amount of the contract, if that contract exceeds \$50,000.~~
- ~~If the contract is for \$50,000 or less, no money will be paid to the contractor until completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County, and, if applicable, the receipt by County of satisfactory evidence that all subcontractors and material men have been paid.~~
- ~~If a contract is for the construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works, the contractor shall provide a payment bond for a contract in excess of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), as required by Tex. Govt. Code Ch. 2253.~~
- ~~For requirements contracts, bond requirements are determined by applying the proposed unit price to the estimated quantities included in the specifications.~~

18) TITLE VI NOTICE/ NONDISCRIMINATION

- a) "The County of Hidalgo, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat.252, 42 U.S.C. §§2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award."
- b) The appropriate clauses of Appendices "A" through "E" as delineated in the USDOT Standard Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurances-Specific Assurances are hereby incorporated by reference as applicable. Title VI Appendices "A" through "E" are attached as **Exhibit "G"**.
- c) Bidder will attach all applicable notices to which it is obligated to provide or submit as part of the bid, including Form FHWA 1273 to be submitted by all contractors and subcontractors in relation to construction contracts.

19) ETHICAL STANDARDS

- It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give or agree to give any elected official, department head or employee, or former elected official, department head or employee, of the County, or for any elected official, department head or employee or former elected official, department head or employee of the County, to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, entity or organization, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore pending before any department or agency of the County.

- It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for the County, or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.
- No public official shall have an interest in a contract awarded hereunder except in accordance with Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Chapter 171.

NOTICE:

All communications by a vendor to the county, its officials, and department heads regarding this procurement shall be done through the Hidalgo County purchasing department.

20) DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Effective January 1, 2016, 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 requirement applies to a person or business who contracts 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 successful bidder fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged 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.

Completed Form CIQ must be submitted to the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office located at 100 N. Clossner, Edinburg, Texas 78539 - Hidalgo County Courthouse.

Completion and submission of form CIQ is the sole responsibility of the prospective respondent. Questions regarding compliance should be directed to your legal counsel.

21) CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES (FORM HB 1295)

- As of January 1, 2016, to comply with Texas Government Code Section §2252.908, and the rules issued by The Texas Ethics Commission found in Title 1, Section 46.1, 46.3 and 46.5 of the Texas Administrative code, we have updated and revised our RFQ packet. In accordance with these requirements, a business must submit a completed Certificate of Interested Parties Form 1295 to the County before the County may enter into a contract with the business entity. In box 3 of Form 1295, you will provide the RFQ Project No. (2025-004-04-29), as shown on the packet. Once completed and filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, Form 1295 must be printed, filled out, signed and submitted to our office either by facsimile transmission to (956) 292-7612 or via email to angelica.salinas@hchsp.org. Hidalgo County cannot enter into a contract until Form 1295 is submitted, therefore, failure to timely submit a completed Form 1295 may result in the delay of award. Full instructions for completion and submittal of Form 1295 may be found on the Texas Ethics Commission website:

<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/tec/1295-Info.htm>

The awarded vendor will have thirty (30) days from the date the Hidalgo County Commissioner's court approves this agreement, to submit the signed Form 1295. Hidalgo County cannot enter into a contract until Form 1295 is submitted.

- 22) If during the life of any contract or bid awarded, the successful bidder's net prices generally available to other customers for items awarded herein are reduced below the contracted price, it is understood and agreed that the benefits of such reduction shall be extended to the County.
- 23) Qualifications and all bids, goods and services provided hereunder shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning this type(s) of goods and/or services.
- 24) Minimum Standards for Responsible Prospective Bidders: A prospective bidder must affirmatively demonstrate bidder's responsibility. A prospective bidder, by submitting a bid, represents to County that it meets the following requirements:
 - Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under the bid;
 - Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery schedule;
 - Have a satisfactory record of performance;
 - Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics;
 - Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
- 25) Successful bidder will pay or cause to be paid, without cost or expenses to County, all FICA, FUTA/SUTA and Federal Income Withholding Taxes of all employees, and all wages and benefits as required by Federal or State law. Successful bidder's officers, agents and/or employees will not be entitled to any benefits of an employee or elected official of County, including, but not limited to, benefits associated with County's civil service system.
- 26) Any contract award to a successful bidder 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.
- 27) County reserves the right to enforce performance of any contract awarded hereunder in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the County in the event of breach or default by successful bidder; County reserves the right to terminate any contract immediately in the event a successful bidder fails to:
 - a) Meet schedules;
 - b) Pay any required fees or taxes; or
 - c) Otherwise, perform in accordance with the specifications.
- 28) Successful respondent shall warrant that all items/services shall conform with the specifications and/or all warranties provided under the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and the like. Items supplied under a contract pursuant to this Request for Bids shall be subject to County's approval. Items found to be defective or not meeting specifications shall be replaced by successful bidder within two business days at no expense to County. Items not picked up within one (1) week after notification shall be deemed a donation to County and may be used or disposed of at County's discretion and without waiver of any other rights of County as to the item's nonconformity.

29) This document and any disputes arising hereunder shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the State of Texas and will be performable exclusively in Hidalgo County, Texas.

30) The successful bidder shall not assign, sell, transfer or convey its rights under any awarded contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County.

31) CONTRACTS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL AWARD:

- The procurement standards of 2 CFR, Part 200, including, but not limited to 2 CFR 200.317-200.326, and applicable Hidalgo County Purchasing Policy (found at <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/805/County-Administrative-Policies>) address the County's requirements, as a non-Federal entity, is required to include into contracts subject to federal award, the applicable provisions and contract clauses described in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200, the provisions of Appendix II to 2 CFR 200 and the required contract clauses found in **Exhibit "H"** are incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement.
- In addition, should the County's contracts under Federal award be subject to assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FEMA requires the inclusion of contract terms in addition to those under Appendix II to 2 CFR 200. **If applicable**, the additional contract clauses required by FEMA are found in Exhibit "H" and incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement. Should the contract be subject to assistance from FEMA, it is the County's intention to comply with FEMA requirements; therefore, any conflict in terms should be resolved as such.
- **If applicable**, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.319, Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. (See 2 CFR 200.219). Additionally, Hidalgo County policy provides that for federal road projects, engineers, engineering firms, and/or a subsidiary, affiliate, or a consultant of the engineer or engineering firm who has received compensation from the County, that assist in the development of, or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals, will be excluded from competing for such procurements (i.e....subsequent construction engineering/management and/or inspection/testing) for all other phases of the project. (See Hidalgo County Policy: "Procedures for Selection and Contracting of Professional Service Providers for Federal Road Projects" found at <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/805/County-Administrative-Policies>, which, if applicable, is incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement for all purposes).

32) HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS/DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES: The County is committed to ensuring that Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) such as small business enterprises (SBE), minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) receive a fair and equal opportunity for participation in the County's procurement process. The County encourages the use of these enterprises both as prime and subcontractors. (See Exhibit "E" for requirements).

When federal funds are expended by the County, the County will take affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321 to assure that small, minority, men-owned businesses and labor surplus area owned firms are used when possible. Pursuant to 2 CFR 321, the County requires that a prime contractor who uses sub-contractors take affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321, including:

- a) Placing qualified small and minority business and women's business enterprises on solicitation

lists;

- b) Assuring that small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- c) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- d) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises; and
- e) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

Nothing in this section is to be construed to require the County to award a contract other than as required by law and Hidalgo County policies and procedures.

- 33) Respondents must provide all documentation requested with this Qualification in their response. Failure to provide this information may result in rejection of the qualification as non-conforming.

REQUEST FOR BID LEGAL NOTICE
For
HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

“Medical and Dental Providers” RFQ No.: 2025-004-04-29

To: Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
Physical Address: 1901 W. State Hwy. 107,
McAllen, TX. 78504
Postal Address: P.O. Box 0117, Edinburg, Texas 78540

In accordance with the Specifications, and subject to all laws and regulations of the United States and state and local laws, the undersigned bidder proposes and commits to furnish all labor, equipment, material, software, and services as set forth in the documents hereinbefore mentioned. The undersigned bidder further agrees, upon acceptance of its bid, to execute a contract and/or Purchase Order issued by Hidalgo County for performing and completing the work described in the Specifications within the time stated and for the prices proposed in the documents attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Bidder acknowledges receipt of all of the pages of the documents referenced in the Invitation to Bid Checklist presented in connection with this procurement. Bidder understands that Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid.

Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, as contained in the Specifications.

Respectfully submitted,

Firm: _____

Address: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

EXHIBIT A REQUIREMENTS

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”

RFQ 2025-004-04-29

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
FOR
HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”
RFQ 2025-004-04-29**

We, as an interested party, agree to the criteria and the requirements of the RFQ and have submitted our statement of qualifications as requested.

All costs involved in submitting this statement to Hidalgo County Head Start Program shall be borne in full by the RFQ Company.

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX NO. _____

E-MAIL: _____

DATE: _____

The Hidalgo County Head Start Program will be accepting Statements of Qualifications from qualified State of Texas registered Medical and Dental firms in order to establish a pre-qualified pool of **Providers** on an “As needed Basis” by the Hidalgo County Head Start Program as set forth in the requirements. Upon approval and acceptance by Hidalgo County Commissioners’ Court, the term of the pre-qualified pool of **Providers** will be for a period starting August 1, 2025 and ending July 31, 2025. The Hidalgo County Head Start Program- Procurement Department will receive sealed envelopes containing Statements of Qualifications for the provision on **“Medical & Dental Providers” RFQ #2025-004-04-29 “Hidalgo County Head Start Program” “Request of Qualifications”** as specified herein. Statements of Qualifications will be accepted until **2:00 p.m., Friday May 30, 2025. Any RFQ received after that time will not be opened and will be returned.**

The following outlines the Request for Qualifications:

SECTION I GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RFQ DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL/DELIVERY:

A total of one (1) original (pages one-sided, clearly marked **ORIGINAL**), one (2) copies, and an USB in PDF Format of RFQs should be submitted as part of your response.

Respondents must complete and include in their response, all documentation requested in this RFQ. Refer to enclosed RFQ Check List for documents to be included with your response.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program is requesting that statement of qualification responses be sealed, clearly marked and/or labeled with the Company’s name, RFQ No.: 2025-004-04-29 “Medical and Dental Providers”, Opening Date: Friday May 30, 2025, and be delivered to Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director, at:

<u>US Postal Mail Address:</u> Hidalgo County Head Start Program Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director P.O. Box 0117 Edinburg, TX 78540-0117	<u>Physical Address:</u> Hidalgo County Head Start Program Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director 1901 West State Highway 107 McAllen, TX 78504
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DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Effective January 01, 2016, 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 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 successful bidder fails to comply with the Texas Local Governmental Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged 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.

Completed Form CIQ must be submitted to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office located at 100 N. Closner, Edinburg, TX 78539 --- Hidalgo County Courthouse.

COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER. Questions regarding compliance should be directed to your legal counsel.

PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT:

Respondents to this RFQ must submit a signed Proposer's Affidavit (attached herein Exhibit J) certifying that the submission is (1) not the result of Collusion as described in the Proposer's Affidavit, (2) that the Respondent does not have a Conflict of Interest as described in the Proposer's Affidavit, or that the Respondent has not and will not attempt to lobby directly or indirectly as described in the Proposer's Affidavit.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Respondents, 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 Head Start Program Procurement 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 Head Start Program will make the final determination as to the vendor's ability.

RESPONDENT DEFAULT:

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

RESTRICTIVE OR AMBIGUOUS QUALIFICATIONS AND/OR REQUIREMENTS:

It is the responsibility of the submitter to review the request for qualifications (RFQ) packet and to notify the Procurement Department if the requirements are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. These criteria also apply to requirements that are ambiguous.

RFQ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Any protest(s) or question(s) regarding the requirements or request for qualifications procedures must be received in the Procurement Department via e-mail to angelica.salinas@hchsp.org **BY NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025, AT 4:00 p.m. Responses will be sent to all applicants by TUESDAY MAY 27, 2025. Telephone INQUIRES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

SIGNING OF QUALIFICATIONS:

In order to be considered, all submittals **must** be signed. **Please sign the original in blue ink.**

WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County Head Start Program.

SUBCONTRACTING:

The successful submitter may not subcontract the award without the written consent of the Commissioner's Court of Hidalgo County.

TERM OF POOL:

The pool term is for a period of one (1) year, or upon completion of the project(s) unless project specific for more than one (1) year.

DAVIS BACON ACT (if applicable)

All selected and awarded firms are required, if applicable, to adhere to the Davis-Bacon Act.

SECTION II: RFQ REQUIREMENTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFQ are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will/may result in disqualification of the submitted RFQ.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT:

This section should demonstrate the respondents understanding of the project needs, the work required, and any local issues or concerns. This description should be concise, candid, and limited to three (3) pages in length.

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS:

The Hidalgo County Head start Program is seeking to contract with Medical and Dental Providers registered and licensed to practice in the State of Texas that has had experience in, but not limited to the following areas:

- Providing complete pediatric medical and dental services to children up to the age of five (5) years,
 - Additionally, this section should include, but not restricted to the following information:
 - A. Firm name, address, phone number, and person(s) to contact regarding the Statement of Qualifications.

B. Qualifications and recent experience of the firm and key personnel relative to the performance of similar services for public entities. This should also include the following information:

1. Number of available staff providing services,
2. Names of the associates who will be providing the services,
3. Copy of current professional license with the state seal,
4. Include copy of Texas Driver's License of professional providing services,
5. Copy of criminal background check of professional providing services,
6. Résumés of professional providing services,
7. Proof of Tuberculin Skin Test,
8. Office sites and locations. Provide a list of the office sites/locations throughout Hidalgo County. **NOTE:** Head Start does not provide space accommodations at the centers for the provision of services.
9. Include copy of appropriate insurance as required by Federal, State and Local laws will be retained for all professionals providing services to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program as well as those described herein in Exhibit "C."
10. Provide a sample copy of a comprehensive Medical & Dental Evaluation for three (3) to five (5) year old children,
11. Attach two (2) "Letters of References" from past and present organizations or programs in either the public or private sector with whom you have worked. Include address and telephone numbers,
12. Describe other information you would consider pertinent to the Head Start Program in reviewing your Statement of Qualifications,
13. Provide a self-contained mobile vehicle, which includes all pertinent equipment to perform health related tasks. This mobile vehicle will be driven to the various centers to provide the services required to meet the 30 – 45 – 90 day deadlines.
14. Provider must deliver notification of site visits to Health Services Department prior to services rendered.

- All Medical & Dental Providers will be responsible to be knowledgeable of all current Medicaid regulations pertaining to reimbursement for services rendered to Head Start children.

Scope of Services: The Hidalgo County Head Start Program, as stated previously herein, is seeking interested and qualified firm(s) or organizations to submit Statement of

Qualifications. Engagement for rendering services would include, but not be limited to the following:

I. Scope of Medical Services (as mandated by State-Medicaid and Federal Guidelines) include, but may not be limited to the following:

- A. Family profile and health
- B. Nutrition
- C. Development according to age and child's health
- D. Allergies
- E. Mental Health
- F. Health Education
- G. Physical Examination – A complete physical examination to check all body systems and regions beginning at the time of enrollment (example: appearance, head, skin/nodes, eyes, ears, nose, mouth/throat, teeth, neck, chest/breast, heart, pulses, abdomen, genitalia/anus, spine, extremities, muscle tone, etc.) will include the following:
 - 1. Height-Weight
 - 2. Blood Pressure
 - 3. Vision Screen (as mandated by Medicaid). A basic eye chart screen. For example, the Tumbling E, HOTV.
 - 4. Hearing Screen (as mandated by Medicaid). A basic screen done by an audiometer.
 - 5. Hemoglobin/Hematocrit – A procedure to determine iron deficiency anemia.
 - 6. Lead screening – A procedure to determine lead levels in the blood.
 - 7. Immunizations – All or any immunizations required to update the child's health record.
 - 8. Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test – An intra-dermal test consisting of 0.1cc tuberculin for proof of T.B. with date result and signature of person providing the test.
 - 9. Strabismus Testing – A procedure to determine if child lacks strength, eye coordination.
 - 10. Dental Screen – A visual exam to determine the category of a child's dental exam (Example: Needs Attention Soon, Needs Routine Care).
- H. Final Diagnosis, assessment and/or Plan.
- I. Referral – If an abnormal physical exam arises and the provider is unable to treat condition, a referral should be made at once. Parent will be notified as soon as abnormality is found or detected.

NOTE: **The provider may be required to provide copies, in lieu of originals, notarized records/affidavits on each individual record documentation, promptly and at no cost.**

Confidentiality: Providers must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child's parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Compliance.

II Scope of Dental Health Services (as mandated by Medicaid Guidelines) include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. A complete and comprehensive dental examination – on the initial examination the dentist will provide a complete examination as agreed to by Medicaid every twelve (12) months. The examination will consist of:
 - 1. A visual examination
 - 2. X-Rays
 - 3. Prophylaxis (cleaning)
 - 4. Nutritional counseling
 - 5. Behavior management, if necessary
- B. Periodic Oral Examination- Every six (6) months the child must receive a periodic oral examination as agreed to by Medicaid guidelines.
- C. Referral – If an abnormality arises and provider is not able to treat the condition, the parent will be notified as soon as abnormality is found or detected, and the parent will be given the opportunity to select a specialist (if such an option is available) in the appropriate dental field from a roster of recommended "List of Providers" by the dental provider.

NOTE: **The provider may be required to provide copies, in lieu of originals, notarized records / affidavits on each individual record documentation, promptly and at no cost.**

Confidentiality: Providers must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child's parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in HIPAA Compliance.

SUBMITTERS ARE NOT TO PROVIDE A FEE PROPOSAL WITH THIS SUBMITTAL: The fee will be negotiated in accordance with the Professional Services Procurement Act, Tex. Govt. Code Ann 2254.001, et seq.

SECTION III – SELECTION/EVALUATION

SELECTION/EVALUATION PROCESS:

The evaluation system consists of a 100-point system.

1. **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF PROJECT TEAM:**

The firms should provide information on their proposed professional team members, i.e. applicable certifications/registrations and other pertinent information that demonstrates their qualifications to perform the contract. The professional team members shall have experience in performing various types of contracts for counties, cities, or other clients as stated in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Varied experience gained through other clients should be substantiated by reference. A list of, and scope of, the various projects, for comparative purposes, shall be included in an appendix.

2. **EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT TEAM/ABILITY TO COMMIT RESOURCES:**

In addition to the Project Manager and the Professional Team Member(s), the provider shall designate experienced therapist staff to completely and efficiently perform the work. The designated individuals may not be replaced during the project unless approved by the County. The proposal shall identify the project team composition, project leadership, reporting responsibilities and address how sub-providers, if any, will fit into the management structure. Résumés of the key technical staff members, limited to two (2) pages per person must be included in an appendix, as well as narrative descriptions of projects proposed as similar work experience. Also, in this section, outline the firm's contingency plans for servicing the project in the event that one or more key personnel are not available for any reason during the period of performance.

3. **METHODOLOGY:**

The RFQ should provide a description of the firm's approach to the methodology and management to the Scope of Services for the project.

4. **UNDERSTANDING OF PROJECT/SIMILAR PROJECTS:**

The statement of qualifications shall include the following:

- demonstrate an understanding of the scope of services
- address appropriate Federal/State/Local regulations and policies
- identify information to be gathered or obtained

Responsiveness to RFQ:

- Response is Clear
- Response is Well Organized
- Easy to Evaluate
- Appropriate to this RFQ

Minimum Qualifications

The firms should provide as much background information as to its experience in providing similar services to State, City, County or any other Governmental Agencies. Reference information should be as current as possible, especially contact persons and telephone numbers. ** The RFQ must address the proposed approach to complete the scope and identify information to be gathered or obtained and how it will be used in addition to the minimum qualifications.

5. **FAMILIARITY WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

The RFQ should indicate through past experience of the proposed Team that they possess sufficient knowledge of governmental regulations, appropriate codes, guidelines, professional standards and policies (as required).

STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS RANKING:

Departmental Committees will evaluate and rank the written RFQs on a per project basis upon approval of Roster by Hidalgo County Commissioners Court. After the RFQs have been ranked, the department will make a recommendation to the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS:

If negotiations prove unsuccessful, the next highest ranked firm will be contacted. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFQs.

RFQ SCORING AND RANKING:

- A. The Evaluation Committee will review, score and evaluate the written Request for Qualification received in response to this Hidalgo County Head Start Request for Qualifications.
- B. After the RFQs have been reviewed, scored and evaluated, the Evaluation Committee will then make a recommendation to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council and Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS: After ranking has been finalized, a fee proposal will be requested from the top-ranked firm. After an agreement is reached and negotiation efforts are successful, a contract in an approved County format will be drafted and executed with this firm for the required services. If negotiations prove unsuccessful, Commissioner's Court will terminate negotiations with this firm and will contact next highest ranked firm to open negotiations. This process will continue until negotiation efforts are successful. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFQs.

EXHIBIT B

EVALUATION CRITERIA

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”

RFQ # 2025-004-04-29

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The respondent's RFQ will be evaluated based on the criteria presented below. These criteria will be scored on the scales shown on the enclosed "RFQ Evaluation Form."

1. STAFFING OF PROJECT TEAM (20)

The firms should provide information on their proposed professional team members i.e. applicable certifications/registrations and other pertinent information that demonstrates their qualifications to perform the contract. The professional team members shall have experience in performing similar contracts for counties or other clients as stated in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Similar experience gained through other clients should be substantiated by reference. A list of, and scope of, the various projects, for comparative purposes, shall be included in an appendix.

2. EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT TEAM/ABILITY TO COMMIT RESOURCES (25)

The provider shall designate experienced therapy staff to completely and efficiently perform the work. The designated individuals may not be replaced during the project unless approved by the County. The proposal shall identify the project team composition, project leadership, reporting responsibilities and address how sub-providers, if any, will fit into the management structure. Résumés of the key technical staff members, limited to two (2) pages per person must be included in an appendix, as well as narrative descriptions of projects proposed as similar work experience. Also, in this section, outline the firm's contingency plans for servicing the project in the event that one or more key personnel are not available for any reason during the period of performance.

3. METHODOLOGY (20)

The RFQ should provide a description of the firm's approach to the methodology and management to the scope of services for the project.

4. UNDERSTANDING OF PROJECT/SIMILAR PROJECTS (25)

The proposal shall include the following:

- demonstrate an understanding of the scope of services
- address appropriate Federal/State/Local regulations and policies
- identify information to be gathered or obtained

The firms should provide as much background information as to its experience in providing similar services to State, City, County or any other governmental agencies. Reference information should be as current as possible, especially contact persons and telephone numbers.

5. FAMILIARITY WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS (10)

The RFQ should indicate through past experience of the proposed Team that they possess sufficient knowledge of governmental regulations, appropriate codes, guidelines, professional standards and policies (as required).

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS
RFQ № 2025-004-04-29

<u>Selection Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Score</u>
1. Professional Qualifications of Team Comments/Rationale for Points: _____ _____ _____	20	_____
2. Experience of Project Manager Comments/Rationale For Points: _____ _____ _____	25	_____
3. Experience/Availability of Project Manager Comments/Rationale For Points: _____ _____ _____	20	_____
4. Understanding of Project Comments/Rationale For Points: _____ _____ _____	25	_____
5. Familiarity with Applicable Rules and Regulations Comments/Rationale For Points: _____ _____ _____	10	_____

Provider: _____

Evaluator(s): _____ Date: _____

CERTIFICATION

Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility

As is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 76, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, in the applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- b. Are registered at <http://www.sam.gov> for verification of debarment and/or suspension.
- c. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, theory, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- d. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated herein; and
- e. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application had one or more public transactions terminated of cause or default

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Date: _____

Business Name: _____

Duns Number: _____

If the proposer is unable to certify to all of the statements in this Certification, such proposer should attach an explanation to this proposal.

EXHIBIT C

INSURANCE REQUIRMENT

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”

RFQ 2025-004-04-29

EXHIBIT “C”

Insurance Requirements Professional Services

The proposer/applicant awarded the contract shall furnish proof of insurance, which will also include any subcontractor that is subcontracted by the Bidder in at least the following limits, to be in place prior to providing any services under this Contract and to continue at all times in force in effect during the term of this Contract:

1. Professional liability insurance policy with limits of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence, or limited to claims made, include at least a five (5) year extended reporting period.
2. A Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) Comprehensive General Liability insurance policy providing additional coverage to all underlying liabilities of County.
3. Automobile liability insurance policy with limits of at least Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per person and Five hundred thousand (\$500,000.00) per occurrence, consistent with potential exposure to County under the Texas Tort Claims Act. Coverage should include injury to or death of persons and property damage claims (with limits up to \$500,000.00) arising out of the services provided to County hereunder;
4. Uninsured/Underinsured motorist coverage in an amount equal to the bodily injury limits set forth immediately above;
5. Workers compensation insurance in amounts established by Texas law, unless the respondent is specifically exempted from the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Texas Labor Code Chapter 401, et. seq.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program will only accept certificates of insurance on an Acord form. Certificates of insurance naming Hidalgo County Head Start Program as an additional insured shall be submitted to County for approval prior to any services being performed by Contractor. Each policy of insurance required hereunder shall extend for a period equivalent to, or longer than the term of the Contract, and any insurer hereunder shall be required to give at least thirty (30) days written notice to the County prior to the cancellation of any such coverage on the termination date, or otherwise. This Contract shall be automatically suspended upon the cancellation, or other termination, of any required policy of insurance hereunder, and such suspension shall continue until evidence adequate replacement coverage is provided to County. If replacement coverage is not provided within thirty (30) days following suspension of the Contract, this Contract shall automatically terminate.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, _____, authorized representative for _____,
Company/Vendor

Hereby acknowledge receipt of the County's required insurance limits. Said requirements:

- ☐ will be acquired within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid awarded by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court; (*An insurance certificate for the required insurance limits shall be provided to the Purchasing Department in order to qualify for award of bid and to execute a contract between our Company and the County.)
- ☐ will acquire additional amount needed to meet the County's requirements within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid awarded by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court; currently carry the following:

Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions): \$ _____

Automobile Liability: \$ _____ General Liability: \$ _____
- ☐ have already been met, see attached copy of insurance certificate.

Authorized Representative

Date

Notice to Proposer/Applicant:

A certificate of insurance for the required insurance limits shall be provided to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program – Procurement Department in order to qualify for award to execute a contract between your Company and the County.

Failure to provide Certificates of Insurance to Procurement Department will cause the bid award to be rescinded and then awarded to next lowest bidder. Certificates of Insurance will be monitored/verified on a quarterly basis to ensure coverage policy is in place. It is the Company's obligation to maintain the appropriate insurance coverage throughout the term of the contract.

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY BID PACKET

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This is to certify that I, _____, possess all of the APPLICABLE;

1. Licenses: _____
2. Bonds: _____
3. Certificates: _____
4. Permits: _____
5. Other: _____

necessary to carry out the required project. Furthermore, I am providing copies of the required documentation so that, if my company is awarded this bid, I may be eligible to enter into a contract with Hidalgo County Head Start Program and proceed to complete the project in a timely manner.

* Any licenses, bonds, certificates, and permits, etc. which are required must be presented as part of the bid packet in order to expedite the bid evaluation process. Failure to provide said documentation will result in the disqualification of your bid.

Authorized Signature

Date

Company

Address

City, State, Zip

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY BID PACKET

EXHIBIT D

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

RFQ 2025-004-04-29

EXHIBIT D

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 Hidalgo County Head Start Program. 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 requirement applies to a person or business that contracts 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 successful participant fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractor and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County Head Start Program are encouraged 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 completed forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office located at 100 North Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse.

COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTICIPANT

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

FORM CIQ

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with chapter 176 of the Local Government Code by a person doing business with the governmental entity.

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local government not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

A person commits an offense if the person violates Section 176.006 Local Government Code. An Offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of person doing business with local governmental entity.

2 ☐ Check this box if you are filling an update to a previously filed questionnaire.

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer with whom filer has employment or business relationship.

Name of Officer

This section (item 3 including subparts A,B, C & D) must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has an employment or other business relationship as defined by Section 176.001 (1-a), Local Government Code. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income other than investment income from the filer of the questionnaire?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not received from the local government entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

C. Is the filer of the questionnaire employed by a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

☐ Yes ☐ No

D. Describe each employment or business relationship with the local government officer named in this section.

4

Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 ☐ Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 ☐ Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;

or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

EXHIBIT D-2

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES FORM 1295 SAMPLE

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES**FORM 1295**

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

OFFICE USE ONLY

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the goods or services to be provided under the contract.

4 Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of Interest (check applicable)	
		Controlling	Intermediary

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party. ☐

6 AFFIDAVIT

I swear, or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above disclosure is true and correct.

Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said _____, this the _____ day
of _____, 20 _____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY

EXHIBIT E

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MEDICAL & DENTAL PROVIDERS”

PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT

RFQ 2025-004-04-29

**EXHIBIT “E”
PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT**

PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND ANTI-LOBBYING FOR “MEDICAL & DENTAL SERVICE PROVIDERS”

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO

Affiant, _____, being first duly sworn, deposes that:

- (1) Affiant does hereby state neither the Proposer nor any of the Proposer’s officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees, or parties in interest, has in any way colluded, conspired, agreed, directly or indirectly with any person, firm, corporation, or other proposer, or potential proposer, to provide any money or other valuable consideration for assistance in procuring or attempting to procure a contract or fix the prices in the attached proposed or the proposal of any other proposer, and further states that no such money or other reward will be hereinafter paid.
- (2) Affiant further states they have neither recommended or suggested to Hidalgo County or any of its officials or employees, any of the terms or provisions set forth in their Request for Proposal and subsequent agreement, except at a meeting open to all interested proposers, of which proper notice was given.
- (3) Affiant, further states their officers, employees, or agents have not, and will not attempt to lobby, directly or indirectly, the Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court between proposal submission date and award by the Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court.
- (4) Affiant further States no officer, or stockholder of the Proposer is a member of the staff, or related to any employee of the Hidalgo County except as noted herein below:

Signature/ Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__

Notary Public _____

My Commission expires: _____, 20__

HIDALGO COUNTY Respondent/Vendor Application

Complete in print or type. Please return this application to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program – Procurement Department thru Facsimile: (956) 381-0439, in person: 1901 West State Highway 107, McAllen, TX 78504 or mailed: P. O. Box 0117, Edinburg, TX 78540

Company Name:		Telephone Name: ()	
dba Name:			
Legal Name:			
Mailing Address:		Fax Name: ()	
Physical Address:			
City, State, Zip:		Tax I.D. №	
Remit to Address:		City, State, Zip	
E-Mail Address:			
Representative(s) Name(s) & Title(s)			
Type of Organization(check one): ___ Individual ___ Partnership ___ Corporation ___ Non-Profit ___ LLC ___ Sole Proprietor ___ Other, Specify _____			
State Identification №: _____(Please attached completed W-9 form with this application)			
Federal Identification № or (if individual) SS № _____			
Type of Business (check one): ___ Manufacturer ___ Wholesaler ___ Retailer ___ Broker ___ Distributor ___ Service Organization ___ Other, Specify _____			
Name & Title of Person(s) Authorized to Sign Bids, Proposals, and/or Contracts: 			
Small and/or Disadvantaged Business Information (check application criteria) Small Business: Disadvantaged Business (At Least 51% Ownership) Less than 125,000 annual gross receipt ___ Black American ___ Native American ___ Less than 250,000 annual gross receipt ___ Hispanic American ___ Women ___ Less than 499,000 annual gross receipt ___ Asian Pacific American ___ Other ___ Have you been certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source?: YES__ NO__ Indicate Certification №(s): _____ or are Certificate(s) attached?: YES__ NO__			
What type of product(s) is/are solicited by your company?: _____ Would you like to be provided with specifications for procurements of such products ? : YES__ NO__			
To Be Completed by Head Start: Rec'd by (Procurement): _____ Date Rec'd by (Procurement): _____			
Date Forwarded Information to Finance Office: _____ Entry Date: _____ Vendor №: _____			

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) DECLARATION

The primary objective of the Hidalgo County HUB Program is to ensure Historically Underutilized Businesses receive a fair and equal opportunity for participation in the County's procurement process. This fact holds true for Services (Professional & Non-Professional), Commodities, and Construction contracts and any subcontracts thereto. The program strongly encourages Prime Contractors to provide subcontracting opportunities to Certified Hub Contractors/Vendors. Our goal for HUB contractor/vendor participation, as well as HUB subcontractor participation is 30%. To be considered as a "Certified HUB Contractor/Vendor" the contractor/vendor must have been certified by, and hold a current and valid certification with any of the three agencies listed below.

Have you been certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source? ☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, by whom? ☐ State General Services Commission ☐ Other _____

Indicate Certification No(s): _____ or Are Certificate(s) Attached?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

LIST OF CERTIFIED HUB SUBCONTRACTORS

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

What percentage of the Bid, RFP, or RFQ is to be subcontracted with Certified HUB sources?: _____%(List HUB Subcontractor information below).

HUB Contractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____

Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

**CONTRACT FOR SERVICES
MEDICAL AND DENTAL
C-25-004-08-01-XX**

STATE OF TEXAS &
 &
COUNTY OF HIDALGO &

THIS CONTRACT (The “**Contract**”) is made effective the **1st** day of **August, 2025** by and between Hidalgo County, Texas acting by and through the **HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM**, (hereinafter the “**Program**”) a federally funded program under the auspices of **HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**, a political subdivision of the State of Texas and _____
_____ (hereinafter “**Provider**”) to serve at the pleasure of the Program.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Program requires certain services which **Provider** is licensed to provide, such services more particularly described on Exhibit “A” attached hereto, and incorporated herein for all purposes (the “**Services**”);

WHEREAS, the **Provider** has agreed to provide the **Services** to the **Program**;

WHEREAS, the **Program** is the recipient of certain federal funds to be utilized for the provision of **Services** to the participants of the **Program**;

WHEREAS, Program participants may be examined and treated by the **Provider**;

WHEREAS, the **Provider** will examine and treat the program participants on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the **Provider** and the **Program** mutually desire to outline their individual responsibilities with respect to the use and /or disclosure, safeguarding, and transmission of Protected Health Information (“PHI”) and electronic Protected Health Information (“ePHI”), as mandated by the Privacy Rule and Security Rule (jointly referred to as “the Rules”) under HIPAA and its implementing regulations at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 and 164.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the following **Provider** and **Program** agrees as follows:

1. The term of this **Contract** shall commence on **August 1, 2025** and shall terminate on the **31st day of July, 2026** unless extended or earlier terminated as provided herein. This **Contract** may be extended for an additional one year on the same terms and condition if Program elects to do so by providing written notice to **Provider** as provided elsewhere herein.
2. **Provider** represents that **Provider** is licensed by the State of Texas, if required by law to perform the **Services**, is qualified to perform and provide the **Services** described on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein at this point for all purpose. If such license is suspended or revoked, this **Contract** shall automatically be terminated. **Provider** shall immediately notify the **Program** of such suspension or revocation.
3. The **Provider** shall prepare, maintain and submit all records which are designated, required or prescribed by the **Program**, federal grantor agency, or County of Hidalgo. In addition, the **Provider** shall permit the **Program**, the Department of Health and Human **Services** and the County of Hidalgo to audit and inspect records and reports, review services and /or evaluate the performance of the **Services** provided hereunder at any reasonable time. The **Provider** shall

provide access to all its records, books, reports and other pertinent data and information needed to accomplish review of its activities, services and expenditures billed to the **Program**.

4. In consideration for the above and foregoing, the **Provider** shall submit a monthly billing statement to the **Program** at:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Attn: Mrs. Elma Carrera, CFO
P.O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas, 78540

Said statement must provide an itemized list of **Services** rendered to the **Program** during the statement period. Upon receipt of said statement, the **Program** will process the requisition for payment in the usual customary manner utilized by the **Program**. The **Provider** shall be compensated based on the **Program's** fee schedule, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "B" hereto.

5. The **Provider** must comply with all applicable **Program** and Hidalgo County policies.

Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, the **Provider** represents and maintains that **Provider** is an independent contractor and is not an employee of the **Program** or Hidalgo County, Texas, or any agency thereof, and further represents and warrants that **Provider** does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of the **Program** or Hidalgo County, Texas, and/or any agency thereof, including, but not limited to benefits associated with Hidalgo County's civil service program. The **Provider** agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding or social security tax liability which might arise from payments received pursuant to this **Contract**.

6. The **Program** and the **Provider** agree that **Program** may terminate this **Contract** at any time for any reason or no reason at all upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the **Provider**.

7. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, all notices, demands, requests or communication required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County: Irma Peña, Executive Director
Hidalgo County Head Start Program
P.O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas 78540-0117

If to Provider: _____

8. **Provider** agrees to at all times be insured for professional liability, general liability, premises liability, auto liability insurance, and worker's compensation insurance covering **Provider and Provider's** employee's activities and services to the **Program** in coverage limits not less than the minimum amounts prescribed by the Texas Tort Claims Act, §101.001, et seq., Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code. **Provider** shall furnish the **Program** a certificate issued by their insurer that such insurance is in full force and effect.

9. Except as otherwise herein provided, the **Provider** may not assign the obligation or rights under this **Contract** to any person without the prior written consent of the **Program**.

10. The **Provider's** employees, if any, who perform services for the **Program** under this **Contract** shall be bound by the provisions of the terms of this **Contract**. At the request of the

Program, the **Provider** shall provide adequate evidence that such persons are the **Provider's** employees.

11. The **Provider** will indemnify and hold harmless and defend the **Program** and the County of Hidalgo from any and all claims, actions, liability, and expenses including all cost of judgments, settlements, court cost, and attorney's fees regardless of the outcome of such claim(s) or action(s) caused by, resulting from, or alleging negligent or intentional acts or omission(s) or any failure to perform any obligation(s) undertaken or any covenant(s) in this **Contract**, and further, whether such act, omission, or failure to perform any obligation undertaken or any covenant in this **Contract** was the **Provider's** or that of any person providing services hereunder through or for **Provider**. Upon written notice from Hidalgo County and the **Program**, **Provider** will resist and defend at its own expenses, and by counsel reasonably satisfactory to Hidalgo County and/or Program, any such claim(s) or action(s).

12. **THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AND ALL OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES CREATED HEREUNDER ARE PERFORMABLE IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

13. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this **Contract** shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this **Contract** shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

14. **Contract Extension.** Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to extend this **Contract** for one year from the date of termination of the **Contract** period on the same rate, terms and conditions as stated herein. If the **Program** elects to extend this **Contract**, **Program**

shall provide ninety (90) days written notice of intention to extend this **Contract** to **Provider** prior to the expiration of this **Contract**.

15. **No amendment**, modification or alteration of the terms hereof shall be binding unless the same be in writing, dated subsequent to the date hereof and duly executed by the parties hereto.

16. **Commitment of Current Revenues Only**. In the event that, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of the **Program** under this **contract**, the **Program** may terminate this Contract upon ninety (90) days written notice to **Provider**. **Program** agrees, however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this **Contract** at the expiration of each budget period of **Program** pursuant to the provision of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. '271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1996).

17. **Provider** will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or handicap in providing the **Services** under this **Contract** or in the selection of associates, employees, or independent providers.

18. **Provider** will perform its **Services** at all times in compliance with federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations, the policies, rule and regulations of the **Program**, and all currently accepted and approved methods and practices of the professional specialty relating to the **Services**.

19. **Provider** must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child's parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in HIPPA Compliance. **Provider** shall comply with all HIPPA laws and regulations stated in 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164.

20. Entire Contract. This **Contract** contains the entire contract between the parties hereto, and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representation or **agreement** in connection with this content not specifically set forth herein. This **Contract** may be modified or amended only by an **agreement** in writing executed by **Program** and **Provider** and not otherwise.

21. Immunities. Nothing in this Contract is intended to and **Program** does not hereby waive, release or relinquish any right to assert any of the defenses **Program** enjoys by virtue of the state or federal constitution, laws, rules or regulations, and any sovereign, official or qualified immunity available to **Program** as to any claim or action of any person, entity, or individual against **Program**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused their names to be hereunto

subscribed personally or by a duly authorized officer or agent of each party, effective the day and year first written above. EXECUTED as of the day and year first written above.

PROVIDER:

BY: _____

HIDALGO COUNTY

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

BY: _____
Richard Cortez, County Judge

BY: _____
Irma Peña, Executive Director

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

Approved as to form:

Ricardo Gonzalez, PC dba
Oxford & Gonzalez

By: _____
Ricardo Gonzalez

Approved by Policy Council:

Approved by Commissioner's Court:

HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE ADDENDUM

This Business Associate Addendum (“Addendum”) is a part of the Contract effective as of August 1, 2025 between _____ (the “Provider”) and the Hidalgo County Head Start Program (the “Program”). For purposes of this Addendum the Program is referred to as “Covered Entity” or “CE” and the Provider is referred to as “Associate”. Unless the context clearly requires a distinction between the Contract document and this Addendum, all references herein to “the Contract” or “this Contract” include this Addendum.

RECITALS

- A. CE wishes to disclose certain information to Associate pursuant to the terms of the Contract, some of which may constitute Protected Health Information (“PHI”) (defined below).
- B. CE and Associate intend to protect the privacy and provide for the security of PHI disclosed to Associate pursuant to this Contract in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. § 1320d-1320d-8 (“HIPAA”) as amended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (“ARRA”)/HITECH Act (P.L. 111-005), and its implementing regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164 (the “Privacy Rule”) and other applicable laws, as amended.
- C. As part of the HIPAA regulations, the Privacy Rule requires CE to enter into a contract containing specific requirements with Associate prior to the disclosure of PHI, as set forth in, but not limited to, Title 45, Sections 160.103, 164.502(e) and 164.504 (e) of the Code of Federal Regulations (“C.F.R”) and contained in this Addendum.

The parties agree as follows:

- 1. Definitions.
 - a. Except as otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms in this Addendum shall have the definitions set forth in the HIPAA Privacy Rule at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164, as amended. In the event of any conflict between the mandatory provisions of the Privacy Rule and the provisions of this Contract, the Privacy Rule shall control. Where the provisions of this Contract differ from those mandated by the Privacy Rule, but are nonetheless permitted by the Privacy Rule, the provisions of this Contract shall control.

- b. "Protected Health Information" or "PHI". means any information, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium: (i) that relates to the past, present or future physical or mental condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and (ii) that identifies the individual or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual, and shall have the meaning given to such term under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to 45 C.F.R. Section 164.501.
- c. "Protected Information" shall mean PHI provided by CE to Associate or created or received by Associate on CE's behalf. To the extent Associate is a covered entity under HIPAA and creates or obtains its own PHI for treatment, payment and health care operations, Protected Information under this Contract does not include any PHI created or obtained by Associate as a covered entity and Associate shall follow its own policies and procedures for accounting, access and amendment of Associate's PHI

2. Obligations of Associate.

- a. Permitted Uses. Associate shall not use Protected Information except for the purpose of performing Associate's obligations under this Contract and as permitted under this Addendum. Further, Associate shall not use Protected Information in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Rule if so used by CE, except that Associate may use Protected Information: (i) for the proper management and administration of Associate; (ii) to carry out the legal responsibilities of Associate; or (iii) for Data Aggregation purposes for the Health Care Operations of CE. Additional provisions, if any, governing permitted uses of Protected Information are set forth in Attachment A to this Addendum. Associate accepts full responsibility for any penalties incurred as a result of Associate's breach of the Privacy Rule.
- b. Permitted Disclosures. Associate shall not disclose Protected Information in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Rule if disclosed by CE, except that Associate may disclose Protected Information: (i) in a manner permitted pursuant to this Contract; (ii) for the proper management and administration of Associate; (iii) as required by law; (iv) for Data Aggregation purposes for the Health Care Operations of CE; or (v) to report violations of law to appropriate federal or state authorities, consistent with 45 C.F.R. Section 164,502(j)(l). To the extent that Associate discloses
- c. Appropriate Safeguards. Associate shall implement appropriate safeguards as are necessary to prevent the use or disclosure of Protected Information other than as permitted by this Contract. Associate shall comply with the requirements of the Security Rules, 164.308, 164.310, 164.312, and 164.316. Associate shall maintain a comprehensive written information privacy and security program that includes

administrative, technical and physical safeguards appropriate to the size and complexity of the Associate's operations and the nature and scope of its activities.

- d. Reporting of Improper Use or Disclosure. Associate shall report to CE in writing any use or disclosure of Protected Information other than as provided for by this Contract within five (5) business days of becoming aware of such use or disclosure.
- e. Associate's Agents. If Associate uses one or more subcontractors or agents to provide services under the Contract, and such subcontractors or agents receive or have access to Protected Information, each subcontractor or agent shall sign an Contract with Associate containing substantially the same provisions as this Addendum and further identifying CE as a third party beneficiary with rights of enforcement and indemnification from such subcontractors or agents in the event of any violation of such subcontractor or agent Contract. Associate shall implement and maintain sanctions against agents and subcontractors that violate such restrictions and conditions and shall mitigate the effects of any such violation.
- f. Access to Protected Information. Associate shall make Protected Information maintained by Associate or its agents or subcontractors in Designated Record Sets available to CE for inspection and copying within ten (10) business days of a request by CE to enable CE to fulfill its obligations to permit individual access to PHI under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to 45, C.F.R. Section 164.524.
- g. Amendment of PHI. Within ten business (10) days of receipt of a request from CE for an amendment of Protected Information or a record about an individual contained in a Designated Record Set, Associate or its agents or subcontractors shall make such Protected Information available to CE for amendment and incorporate any such amendment to enable CE to fulfill its obligations with respect to requests by individuals to amend their PHI under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, 45 C.F.R. Section 164.526. If any individual requests an amendment of Protected Information directly from Associate or its agents or subcontractors, Associate must notify CE in writing within five (5) business days of receipt of the request. Any denial of amendment of Protected Information maintained by Associate or its agents or subcontractors shall be the responsibility of CE.
- h. Accounting Rights. Within ten (10) business days of notice by CE of a request for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Information, Associate and its agents or subcontractors shall make available to CE the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures to enable CE to fulfill its obligations under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, 45 C.F.R. Section 164.528. As set forth in, and as limited by 45 C.F.R. Section 164.528, Associate shall not provide an accounting to CE of disclosures: (i) to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations, as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.506;(ii) individuals of Protected Information about them as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.502; (iii) pursuant to an authorization as provided in

45 C. F. R. Section 164.508; (iv) to persons involved in the individual's care or other notification purposes as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.510; (v) for national security or intelligence purposes as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.512(k)(2); (vi) to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.512 (k)(5); (vii) incident to a use or disclosure otherwise permitted by the Privacy Rule; (viii) as part of a limited data set under 45 C.F. R. Section 164.514(e); or (ix) disclosures prior to April 14, 2003. Associate agrees to implement a process that allows for an accounting to be collected and maintained by Associate and its agents or subcontractors for at least six (6) years prior to the request, but not before the compliance date of the Privacy Rule. At a minimum, such information shall include: (i) the date of disclosure; (ii) the name of the entity or person who received Protected Information and, if known, the address of the entity or person; (iii) a brief description of Protected Information disclosed; and (iv) a brief statement of purpose of the disclosure that reasonably informs the individual of the basis for the disclosure, or a copy of the individual's authorization, or a copy of the written request for disclosure. In the event that the request for an accounting is delivered directly to Associate or its agents or subcontractors, Associate shall within five (5) business days of the receipt of the request forward it to CE in writing. It shall be CE's responsibility to prepare and deliver any such accounting requested. Associate shall not disclose any Protected Information except as set forth in Section 2(b) of this Addendum.

- i. Governmental Access to Records. Associate shall make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Information available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the "Secretary"), in a time and manner designated by the Secretary, for purposes of determining CE's compliance with the Privacy Rule. Associate shall provide to CE a copy of any Protected Information that Associate provides to the Secretary concurrently with providing such Protected Information to the Secretary.
- j. Minimum Necessary. Associate (and its agents or subcontractors) shall only request, use and disclose the minimum amount of Protected Information necessary to accomplish the purpose of the request, use or disclosure, in accordance with the Minimum Necessary requirements of the Privacy Rule including, but not limited to 45 C.F.R. Sections 164.502(b) and 164.514 (d).
- k. Data Ownership. Associate acknowledges that Associate has no ownership rights with respect to the protected Information.
- l. Retention of Protected Information. Except upon termination of the Contract as provided in Section 4(d) of this Addendum, Associate and its subcontractors or agents shall retain all Protected Information throughout the term of this Contract and shall continue to maintain the information required under Section 2(h) of this Addendum for a period of six (6) years.

- m. Associate Insurance. Associate shall maintain casualty and liability insurance to cover loss of PHI data and claims based upon alleged violations of privacy rights through improper use or disclosure of PHI. All such policies shall meet or exceed the minimum insurance requirements of the Contract (e.g. occurrence basis, combined single dollar limits, annual aggregate dollar limits, additional insured status and notice of cancellation).
- n. Notification of Breach. During the term of this Contract, Associate shall notify CE within two business days of any suspected or actual breach of security, intrusion unauthorized use or disclosure of PHI and/or any actual or suspected use or disclosure of data in violation of any applicable federal or state laws or regulations such notice shall include the identification of each individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been accessed, acquired or disclosed during the breach. Associate shall take (i) prompt corrective action to cure any such deficiencies and (ii) any action pertaining to such unauthorized disclosure required by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
- o. Audits, Inspection and Enforcement. Within ten (10) business days of a written request by CE, Associate and its agents or subcontractors shall allow CE to conduct a reasonable inspection of the facilities, systems, books, records, Contracts, policies and procedures relating to the use or disclosure of Protected Information pursuant to this Addendum for the purpose of determining whether Associate has complied with this Addendum; provided however, that: (i) Associate and CE shall mutually agree in advance upon the scope, timing and location of such an inspection; (ii) CE shall protect the confidentiality of all confidential and proprietary information of Associate to which CE has access during the course of such inspection; and (iii) CE shall execute a nondisclosure Contract, upon terms mutually agreed upon by the parties, if requested by Associate. The fact that CE inspects, or fails to inspect, or has the right to inspect, Associate's facilities, systems, books, records, Contracts, policies and procedures does not relieve Associate of its responsibility to comply with this Addendum, nor does CE's (i) failure to detect or (ii) detection, but failure to notify Associate or require Associate's remediation of any unsatisfactory practices, constitute acceptance of such practice or waiver of CE's enforcement rights under the Contract.
- p. Safeguards during Transmission. Associate shall be responsible for using appropriate safeguards to maintain and ensure the confidentiality, privacy and security of Protected Information transmitted to CE pursuant to the Contract, in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Privacy Rule, until such Protected Information is received by CE, and in accordance with any specifications set forth in Attachment A.
- q. Restrictions and Confidential Communications. Within ten (10) business days of notice by CE of a restriction upon uses or disclosures or request for confidential communications pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 164.522, Associate will restrict the use or

disclosure of an individual's Protected Information, provided Associate has agreed to such a restriction. Associate will not respond directly to an individual's requests to restrict the use or disclosure of Protected Information or to send all communication of Protected Information to an alternate address. Associate will refer such requests to the CE so that the CE can coordinate and prepare a timely response to the requesting individual and provide direction to Associate.

3. Obligations of CE.

- a. **Safeguards during Transmission.** CE shall be responsible for using appropriate safeguards to maintain and ensure the confidentiality, privacy and security of PHI transmitted to Associate pursuant to this Contract, in accordance with standards and requirements of the Privacy Rule, until such PHI is received by Associate, and in accordance with any specifications set forth in Attachment A.
- b. **Notice of Changes.** CE shall provide Associate with a copy of its notice of privacy practices produced in accordance with 45 C.F.R Section 164.520, as well as any subsequent changes or limitation(s) to such notice, to the extent such changes or limitations may affect Associate's use or disclosure of Protected Information. CE shall provide Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission to use or disclose Protected Information, to the extent it may affect Associate's permitted use or disclosure of PHI, CE shall notify Associate of any restriction on the use or disclosure of Protected Information that CE has agreed to in accordance with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.522. CE may effectuate any and all such notices of non-private information via posting on CE's website. Associate shall review CE's designated website for notice of changes to CE's HIPAA privacy policies and practices on the last day of each calendar quarter.

4. Termination.

- a. **Material Breach.** In addition to any other provisions in the Contract regarding breach, a breach by Associate of any provision of this Addendum, as determined by CE, shall constitute a material breach of this Contract and shall provide grounds for immediate termination of this Contract by CE pursuant to the provisions of the Contract covering termination for cause, if any. If the Contract contains no express provisions regarding termination for cause, the following terms and conditions shall apply:
 - (1) **Default.** If Associate refuses or fails to timely perform any of the provisions of this Contract, CE may notify Associate in writing of the non-performance, and if not promptly corrected within the time specified, CE may terminate this Contract. Associate shall continue performance of this Contract to the extent it is not terminated and shall be liable for excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods or services elsewhere.

- (2) Associate's Duties. Notwithstanding termination of this Contract, and subject to any directions from CE, Associate shall take timely, reasonable and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of Associate in which CE has an interest.
 - (3) Compensation. Payment for completed supplies delivered and accepted by CE shall be at the Contract price. In the event of a material breach under paragraph 4a, CE may withhold amounts due Associate as CE deems necessary to protect CE against loss from third party claims of improper use or disclosure and to reimburse CE for the excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods and services elsewhere.
 - (4) Erroneous Termination for Default. If after such termination it is determined, for any reason, that Associate was not in default, or that Associate's action/inaction was excusable, such termination shall be treated as a termination for convenience, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if this Contract had been terminated for convenience, as described in this Contract.
- b. Reasonable Steps to Cure Breach. If CE Knows of a pattern of activity or practice of Associate that constitutes a material breach or violation of the Associate's obligations under the provisions of this Addendum or another arrangement and does not terminate this Contract pursuant to Section 4(a), then CE shall take reasonable steps to cure such breach or end such violation, as applicable. If CE's efforts to cure such breach or end such violation are unsuccessful, CE shall either (i) terminate the Contract, if feasible or (ii) if termination of this Contract is not feasible, CE shall report Associate's breach or violation to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.
 - c. Judicial or Administrative Proceedings. Either party may terminate the Contract, effective immediately, if (i) the other party is named as a defendant in a criminal proceeding for a violation of HIPPA, the HIPPA Regulations or other security or privacy laws or (ii) a finding or stipulation that the other party has violated any standard or requirement of HIPAA, the HIPAA Regulations or other security or privacy laws is made in any administrative or civil proceeding in which the party has been joined.
 - d. Effective of Termination.
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, upon termination of this Contract, for any reason, Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Information that Associate or its agents or subcontractors still maintain in any form, and shall retain no copies of such Protected Information. If Associate elects to destroy the PHI, Associate shall certify in writing to CE that such PHI has been destroyed.

- (2) If Associate believes that returning or destroying the Protected Information is not feasible, Associate shall promptly provide CE notice of the conditions making return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual Contract of CE and Associate that return or destruction of Protected Information is infeasible, Associate shall continue to extend the protections of Sections 2(a)2(b), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) of this Addendum to such information and shall limit further use of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction of such PHI infeasible.
5. Injunctive Relief. CE shall have the right to injunctive and other equitable and legal relief against Associate or any of its subcontractors or agents in the event of any use or disclosure of Protected Information in violation of this Contract or applicable law.
6. No waiver of Immunity. No term or condition of this Contract shall be construed or interpreted as a waiver, express or implied, of any of the immunities, rights, benefits, protection, or other provisions of the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, CRS 24-10-101 *et seq.* or the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 2671 *et seq.* as applicable, as now in effect or hereafter amended.
7. Limitation of Liability. Any limitation of Associate's liability in the Contract shall be inapplicable to the terms and conditions of this Addendum.
8. Disclaimer. CE makes no warranty or representation that compliance by Associate with this Contract, HIPAA or the HIPAA Regulations will be adequate or satisfactory for Associate's own purposes. Associate is solely responsible for all decisions made by Associate regarding the safeguarding of PHI.
9. Certification. To the extent that CE determines an examination is necessary in order to comply with CE's legal obligations pursuant to HIPAA relating to certification of its security practices, CE or its authorized agents or contractors, may, at CE's expense, examine Associate's facilities, systems, procedures and records as may be necessary for such agents or contractors to certify to CE the extent to which Associate's security safeguards comply with HIPAA, the HIPAA Regulations or this Addendum.
10. Amendment.
- a. Amendment to Comply with Law. The parties acknowledge that state and federal laws relating to data security and privacy are rapidly evolving and that amendment of this Addendum may be required to provide for procedures to ensure compliance with such developments. The parties specifically agree to take such action as is necessary to implement the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule, the final HIPAA Security regulations at 68 Fed. Reg. 8334 (Feb 20,

2003), 45 C.F.R. § 164.314 and other applicable laws relating to the security or privacy of PHI. The parties understand and agree that CE must receive satisfactory written assurance from Associate that Associate will adequately safeguard all Protected Information. Upon the request of either party, the other party agrees to promptly enter into negotiations concerning the terms of an amendment to this Addendum embodying written assurances consistent with the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule or other applicable laws. CE may terminate this Contract upon thirty (30) days written notice in the event (i) Associate does not promptly enter into negotiations to amend this Contract when requested by CE pursuant to this Section or (ii) Associate does not enter into an amendment to this Contract providing assurances regarding the safeguarding of PHI that CE, in its sole discretion, deems sufficient to satisfy the standards and requirements of HIPAA and the Privacy Rule.

- b. Amendment of Attachment A. Attachment A may be modified or amended by mutual Contract of the parties in writing from time to time without formal amendment of this Addendum.

11. Assistance in Litigation or Administrative Proceedings. Associate shall make itself, and any subcontractors, employees or agents assisting Associate in the performance of its obligations under the Contract, available to CE, at no cost to CE up to a maximum of 30 hours, to testify as witnesses, or otherwise, in the event of litigation or administrative proceedings being commenced against CE, its directors, officers or employees based upon a claimed violation of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule or other laws relating to security and privacy or PHI, except where Associate or its subcontractor, employee or agent is a named adverse party.
12. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing express or implied in this Contract is intended to confer, nor shall anything herein confer, upon any person other than CE, Associate and their respective successors or assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities whatsoever.
13. Interpretation and Order of Precedence. The provisions of this Addendum shall prevail over any provisions in the Contract that may conflict or appear inconsistent with any provision in this Addendum. Together, the Contract and this Addendum shall be interpreted as broadly as necessary to implement and comply with HIPAA and the Privacy Rule. The parties agree that any ambiguity in this Contract shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that complies and is consistent with HIPAA and the Privacy Rule. This Contract supersedes and replaces any previous separately executed HIPAA addendum between the parties.
14. Survival of Certain Contract Terms. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, Associate's obligations under Section 4 (d) ("Effect of Termination") and Section 12 ("No Third Party Beneficiaries") shall survive termination of this Contract and shall be

enforceable by CE as provided herein in the event of such failure to perform or comply by the Associate. This Addendum shall remain in effect during the term of the Contract including any extensions.

15. Representatives and Notice.

- a. Representatives. For the purpose of the Contract, the individuals identified elsewhere in this Contract shall be the representatives of the respective parties. If no representatives are identified in the Contract, the individuals listed below are hereby designated as the parties' respective representatives for purposes of this Contract. Either party may from time to time designate in writing new or substitute representatives.
- b. Notices. All required notices shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered or given by certified or registered mail to the representatives at the address set forth below.

[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Program/Covered Entity Representative:

Name: Irma Peña
Title: Executive Director
Address: Hidalgo County Head Start Program
P. O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas 78539

Provider/Business Associate Representative

Name: _____
Title: _____
Department and Division: _____
Address: _____

Provider/Associate

**Program /Covered Entity
Hidalgo County Head Start Program**

By: _____
Print Name

By: _____
Irma Peña, Executive Director

Signature

Title

Exhibit A

Description of Services – Medical Service

The Provider agrees to provide any services deem necessary to evaluate any and all children referred to the Provider by Head Start.

The Provider agrees to continue such services until such time as the Executive Director of the Program (or designee) determine that there is no longer a need for the services.

Provider shall provide copies of records to Head Start for each child it affords services. Copies of these records shall be free of charge.

The services provided by the Provider will include the following and in addition all services will be provided on schedule with Head Start 1304:

1. The Provider will perform a complete physical examination (head to toe assessment) at his/her respective practice or center site on the initial visit. The form **“PROJECT HEAD START: PHYSICAL EXAM AND ASSESSMENT”** will be shown with date of exam, signature of the Provider, referral and or treatment.
2. Any “abnormal findings” or “not evaluated” will be accompanied by an explanation
3. Minor acute illnesses will be referred to their own family physician, if none is available, clients will be treated on site and follow-up appointment made for a later date.
4. Chronic illnesses or other abnormalities encountered will be referred for further evaluation or treatment.
5. ALL MEDICAID CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE AN EXAM AS PER THE EPSDT MEDICAL PROCEDURES SCHEDULED BY AGE. (Medicaid Provider Procedure Manual)
6. Physical findings, treatments and or referrals will be discussed with parents upon completion of examination.
7. Confidentiality of medical records will be maintained in accordance of examination.
8. Upon completion of **“HEAD START: PHYSICAL EXAM AND ASSESSMENT”** signature of provider and date will be written on the bottom page. RECOMMENDATIONS will be written accordingly. Remit a copy to the HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM, a copy for the Provider’s records and a copy to the parent. The same procedure will follow the same for a Texas Health Step exam.
9. The Provider’s statement, which lists the child’s name / center and the total cost of the exam provided, is to be returned to HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM for payment. Six (6) weeks may be required for processing payment.
10. The total number of children provided medical services will be submitted to the HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM with the Provider’s name after every examination day.
11. Provider must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child’s parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in HIPPA Compliance.

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM will be responsible to:

1. Encourage the child’s parent to be present during physical exam. If parent is unable to attend, a brief medical history will be obtained from parent.
2. Provide **“PROJECT HEAD START: PHYSICAL EXAM AND ASSESSMENT”** form with child’s name and address.
3. Schedule a minimum of twenty (20) patients for physical exams, when clinics are to be held at center site.

Form W-9 (Rev. December 2011) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification	Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.																												
Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)																													
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above																													
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: ☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C Corporation ☐ S Corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ ☐ Other (see instructions) ▶ _____																													
	☐ Exempt payee																													
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)																												
City, state, and ZIP code																														
List account number(s) here (optional)																														
Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>How to get a TIN</i> on page 3. Note, if the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.																														
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Part II Certification Under penalties of perjury, I certify that: 1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below). Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.																														
Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶ _____	Date ▶ _____																												
General Instructions Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted. Purpose of Form A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA. Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to: 1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued), 2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or 3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.																														
Note, if a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9. Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are: • An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien, • A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, • An estate (other than a foreign estate), or • A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7). Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.																														

Exhibit A

Description of Services – Dental Health Services (Continued)

The Provider agrees to provide any services deemed necessary to evaluate any and all children referred to the Provider by Head Start.

The Provider agrees to continue such services until such time as the Executive Director of the Program (or designee) determine that there is no longer a need for the services.

Provider shall provide copies of records to Head Start for each child it affords services. Copies of these records shall be free of charge.

The services provided by the Provider will include the following and in addition all services will be provided on schedule with Head Start 1304:

1. The Provider will perform a complete and comprehensive dental examination at this/her respective practice on the initial visit. The **“Dental Health Form”** will be shown with date of exam, signature of the Provider referral and or treatment done.
2. A complete and comprehensive dental examination-on the initial examination the dentist will provide a complete examination as agreed to by Medicaid every twelve (12) months. The examination will consist of:
 - a. A visual examination
 - b. X-Rays
 - c. Prophylaxis (cleaning)
 - d. Nutritional Counseling
 - e. Behavior management, if necessary.
3. Periodic Oral Examination-Every six (6) months the child must receive a periodic oral examination as agreed to by Medicaid guidelines.
4. Referral – if abnormality arises and Provider is not able to treat the condition, the parent will be notified as soon as abnormality is found or detected and the parent will be given the opportunity to select a specialist (if such an option is available) in the appropriate dental field from a roster of recommended “List of Providers” by the dental Provider.
5. Confidentiality of medical records will be maintained in accordance of examination.
6. Upon completion of **“HEAD START: Dental Health Form”** signature of Provider and date will be written on the bottom page. RECOMMENDATIONS will be written accordingly. Provider shall remit a copy to the HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM, retain a copy for the Provider’s records and provide a copy to the parent. The same procedure will follow for a Texas Health Step Exam.
7. The Provider’s statement, which lists the child’s name/center and the total cost of the exam provided is to be returned to HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM for payment. Six (6) weeks may be required for processing payment.
8. The total number of children provided dental services will be submitted to the HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM with the Provider’s name after every examination day.
9. Provider must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child’s parent or legal guardian. All Business associated must be in HIPPA compliance.

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM will be responsible to:

1. Encourage the child’s parent to be present during dental exam. If parent is unable to attend, a brief medical history will be obtained from parent.
2. Provide **“HEAD START: Dental Health Form”** with child’s name and address.

**Request for Taxpayer
Identification Number and Certification**

Give Form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: ☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C Corporation ☐ S Corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ ☐ Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	
	☐ Exempt payee	
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) City, state, and ZIP code List account number(s) here (optional)	Requester's name and address (optional)

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I Instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number								
				-				
Employer identification number								
				-				

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below).

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.

**Sign
Here**

Signature of
U.S. person ▶

Date ▶

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Purpose of Form

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

- Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued).
- Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
- Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

Note. If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.



Hidalgo County Head Start Program

April 16, 2025

Participant's/Bidder's name

Address

City

State, Zip Code

RE: HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
Request for Qualifications – "Mental Health Providers"
RFQ No. 2025-005-04-29

Dear Ladies / Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) packet. Modifications and new requirements have been added and implemented. Carefully read and review all instructions, requirements and specifications.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program welcomes and appreciates your participation in the Request for Qualifications process.

If any further assistance is required, please do not hesitate to call me the Purchasing Department (956) 383-0706

Sincerely,

Ambrosio Tovar,
Procurement Director

Enclosures



HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
1901 W. State Highway 107
McAllen, Texas 78504
(956) 383-0706/ Fax: (956) 381-0439

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”
RFQ NO: 2025-005-04-29

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The above mentioned items shall be found in this Request for Qualifications–RFQ packet that is attached herewith. Should you find that any of the listed items are not attached in its entirety, please contact Purchasing by calling (956) 383-0706 or e-mail, to advise us of the missing documentation, and Purchasing will forward information either through facsimile, e-mail or by U.S. Mail.

Thank you.

Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director

Date

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

(Including all funding sources)

“Mental Health Providers”

RFQ NO: 2025-005-04-29

Acceptance Due Date: May 30, 2025

Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Procurement Department

Project Contact Person:

Angelica Salinas,
Procurement Manager
(956) 383-0706
angelica.salinas@hchsp.org

LEGAL NOTICE

- 1) Sealed qualifications will be received for **“Hidalgo County Head Start - “Mental Health Providers”** in accordance with the requirements attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**. Qualifications should address all requirements set forth. Respondents may suggest substitutions of features which they feel would be in the best interest of Hidalgo County Head Start Program (Program). A strong rationale must be presented for any deviation from the specifications. Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall bid.
- 2) **One (1) original, (pages one-sided-clearly marked ORIGINAL), three (3) copies of all bids and one (1) USBs in PDF Format** are required with the bidders name and return address clearly typed and or/printed on upper left-hand corner and the proper notation clearly typed/printed on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope and/or package: RFQ No.: 2025-005-04-29 **“Mental Health Providers”** and at County's Purchasing Department with a physical address: 1901 W. State Hwy 107, McAllen, TX 78504 and a mailing address: P . O . B o x 0 1 1 7 , Edinburg, Texas, 78540 on or before 2:00 P.M, Friday May 30, 2025.
NO FACSIMILES, EMAILS OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY QUALIFICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND WILL BE RETURNED. OVERNIGHT MAIL MUST ALSO BE PROPERLY LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF EXPRESS ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE WITH REFERENCE TO: “Hidalgo County - RFQ No.: 2025-005-04-29 – “Mental Health Providers” Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all bids and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bids considered the best and most advantageous to Hidalgo County.
Additionally, all forms listed below must be properly executed and included with your bid:
 1. Legal Notice (See page 9);
 2. Bid Page- (See Exhibit “B”);
 3. Insurance pages with Acknowledgment Forms (See Exhibit “C” pages 3 & 4);
 4. Form CIQ-Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (See Exhibit “D”);
 5. Vendor Bidder Application & W-9 forms (See Exhibit “E”);
 6. Certification Regarding Debarment (See Exhibit “F”); and
 7. SAMS.gov Registration Acknowledgement (See Number 16 below).
- 3) Hidalgo County reserves the right to A. separate and accept, or eliminate any item(s) listed under this qualification that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; B. reject any or all bids submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid for approval; C. award the bid to one bidder or to multiple bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so; D. award the contract to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid. "Lowest and best" means a bid or offer providing the best value considering associated direct and indirect costs, including transport, maintenance, reliability, life cycle, warranties, and customer service after a sale.
- 4) The Bidder shall not substitute items named in the bid without the express written consent of Hidalgo County. Failure of the delivered item to perform as specified or failure to meet the

stated delivery schedule shall release Hidalgo County from all obligations to the contracting party with regard to the item(s) in question. In such event, County may elect to award the contract to the next-lowest responsible bidder or to reject all bids and re-advertise.

- 5) For work to be performed at a County owned or operated location, each bidder shall, in its sole discretion, visit the job site before preparing the bid and thoroughly familiarize himself/herself with existing conditions. Bidder should take field dimensions and note all circumstances which affect the dollar amount of the qualification
- 6) Descriptive specifications are referenced in this document to indicate the general kind and quality of equipment desired by Hidalgo County. Due to various styles and models of equipment, bidders are required to include illustrations, specifications, explanation of warranties, and service data with their bid including catalogue numbers and any necessary references.
- 7) Proposed prices are to remain firm for a minimum of ninety (90) days after RFQ opening.
- 8) Any interpretations, amendments, corrections or changes to this R F Q document must be in a written addendum and signed by the County Judge or his designee. Addenda will be mailed to all who are known to have received a copy of the Request for Bids. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda as a part of their bid.
- 9) Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to accept or reject any or all RFQ.
- 10) Costs are to be net F.O.B., County Prepaid.
- 11) The County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax, State Tax, and Local Tax. Do Not include tax in cost figure. If it is determined that tax was included in the cost figures it will not be included in the tabulation of any awards. Tax exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.
- 12) Funds for this procurement have been provided through the County budget for this fiscal year only. County, on an annual basis, has the right to reconsider a contract during the budget process for ensuing years if financial resources of County are insufficient to meet the liabilities of said contract. The award of a bid or contract hereunder will not be construed to create a debt of the County which is payable out of funds beyond the current fiscal year.

13) DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

- No deliveries accepted after 3:00 P.M., Monday-Friday
- At least seventy two (72) hours prior notice of delivery must be given to Ambrosio Tovar Procurement Director before delivery will be accepted.
- If you need additional information call the office listed below:

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
(956) 383-0706

14) BILLING AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

- Invoices must include:

- a) Name and address of successful respondent
- b) Name and address of receiving department or official
- c) Purchase Order Number (if any)
- d) Notation-“Hidalgo County Head Start Program - RFQ No.: 2025-005-04-29-
“Mental Health Providers” Descriptive information as to the items or services delivered,
including product code, item number, quantity, etc.
- e) Contract number must be indicated on all invoices

- Discount payments will be considered when offered.
- Contact person for Billing and Payment questions:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Finance Department
1901 W. State Hwy 107
McAllen, TX 78504
(956) 383-0706

15) SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Bid Opening,	<u>May 30, 2025</u>
Award of Contract	<u>August 1, 2025</u>
Commence Work or Deliver Products	<u>TBA</u>

16) HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM HOLIDAYS

2025 YEAR	
New Year’s Day	01/01/2025
Martin Luther King Day	01/20/2025
President’s Day	02/17/2025
Good Friday	04/18/2025
Memorial Day	05/26/2025
Juneteenth	06/19/2025
Independence Day	07/04/2025
Labor Day	09/01/2025
Columbus Day	10/13/2025
Veteran’s Day	11/11/2025
Thanksgiving Day	11/24-11/28
Christmas Day	12/24 & 12/25
New Year;	12/31/2025

(There are also different holidays for each school district)

~~17) BID OR PERFORMANCE BOND AND DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION; PAYMENT UNDER CONTRACT~~

- ~~• If the contract proposed is for the construction of public works or is for a contract for goods & services exceeding \$100,000, all bidders shall furnish a good and sufficient bid bond in~~

~~the amount of five percent of the total contract price. A bid bond must be executed with a surety company authorized to do business in Texas.~~

- All bidders are also required to furnish a certification or acknowledgment stating that the contractor or vendor is free from suspension or debarment pursuant to federal regulation 45CFR Part 76. Register at SAMs System for Award Management @ www.sam.gov.

- ~~• Together with the signing of a contract or issuance of a purchase order following the acceptance of a bid, and prior to commencement of the actual work, the bidder shall furnish a performance bond to the County for the full amount of the contract, if that contract exceeds \$50,000.~~

- ~~• If the contract is for \$50,000 or less, no money will be paid to the contractor until completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County, and, if applicable, the receipt by County of satisfactory evidence that all subcontractors and material men have been paid.~~

- ~~• If a contract is for the construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works, the contractor *shall* provide a payment bond for a contract in excess of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), as required by Tex. Govt. Code Ch. 2253.~~

- ~~• For requirements contracts, bond requirements are determined by applying the proposed unit price to the estimated quantities included in the specifications.~~

18) TITLE VI NOTICE/ NONDISCRIMINATION

- a) "The County of Hidalgo, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat.252, 42 U.S.C. §§2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award."
- b) The appropriate clauses of Appendices "A" through "E" as delineated in the USDOT Standard Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurances-Specific Assurances are hereby incorporated by reference as applicable. Title VI Appendices "A" through "E" are attached as **Exhibit "G"**.
- c) Bidder will attach all applicable notices to which it is obligated to provide or submit as part of the bid, including Form FHWA 1273 to be submitted by all contractors and subcontractors in relation to construction contracts.

19) ETHICAL STANDARDS

- It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give or agree to give any elected official, department head or employee, or former elected official, department head or employee, of the County, or for any elected official, department head or employee or former elected official, department head or employee of the County, to solicit, demand, accept or agree to

accept from another person, entity or organization , a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore pending before any department or agency of the County.

- It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for the County, or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.
- No public official shall have an interest in a contract awarded hereunder except in accordance with Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Chapter 171.

NOTICE:

All communications by a vendor to the county, its officials, and department heads regarding this procurement shall be done through the hidalgo county purchasing department.

20) DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Effective January 1, 2016, 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 requirement applies to a person or business who contracts 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 successful bidder fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged 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.

Completed Form CIQ must be submitted to the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office located at 100 N. Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539 - Hidalgo County Courthouse.

Completion and submission of form CIQ is the sole responsibility of the prospective respondent. Questions regarding compliance should be directed to your legal counsel.

21) CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES (FORM HB 1295)

- As of January 1, 2016, to comply with Texas Government Code Section §2252.908, and the rules issued by The Texas Ethics Commission found in Title 1, Section 46.1, 46.3 and 46.5 of the Texas Administrative code, we have updated and revised our RFQ packet. In accordance with these requirements, a business must submit a completed Certificate of Interested Parties Form 1295 to the County before the County may enter into a contract with

the business entity. In box 3 of Form 1295, you will provide the RFQ Project No. (2025-005-04-29), as shown on the packet. Once completed and filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, Form 1295 must be printed, filled out, signed and submitted to our office either by facsimile transmission to (956) 292-7612 or via email to angelica.salinas@hchsp.org. Hidalgo County cannot enter into a contract until Form 1295 is submitted, therefore, failure to timely submit a completed Form 1295 may result in the delay of award. Full instructions for completion and submittal of Form 1295 may be found on the Texas Ethics Commission website:

<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/tec/1295-Info.htm>

The awarded vendor will have thirty (30) days from the date the Hidalgo County Commissioner's court approves this agreement, to submit the signed Form 1295. Hidalgo County cannot enter into a contract until Form 1295 is submitted.

- 22) If during the life of any contract or bid awarded, the successful bidder's net prices generally available to other customers for items awarded herein are reduced below the contracted price, it is understood and agreed that the benefits of such reduction shall be extended to the County.
- 23) Qualifications and all bids, goods and services provided hereunder shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning this type(s) of goods and/or services.
- 24) Minimum Standards for Responsible Prospective Bidders: A prospective bidder must affirmatively demonstrate bidder's responsibility. A prospective bidder, by submitting a bid, represents to County that it meets the following requirements:
 - Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under the bid;
 - Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery schedule;
 - Have a satisfactory record of performance;
 - Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics;
 - Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
- 25) Successful bidder will pay or cause to be paid, without cost or expenses to County, all FICA, FUTA/SUTA and Federal Income Withholding Taxes of all employees, and all wages and benefits as required by Federal or State law. Successful bidder's officers, agents and/or employees will not be entitled to any benefits of an employee or elected official of County, including, but not limited to, benefits associated with County's civil service system.
- 26) Any contract award to a successful bidder 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.
- 27) County reserves the right to enforce performance of any contract awarded hereunder in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the County in the event of breach or default by successful bidder; County reserves the right to terminate any contract immediately in the event a successful bidder fails to:
 - a) Meet schedules;
 - b) Pay any required fees or taxes; or
 - c) Otherwise, perform in accordance with the specifications.
- 28) Successful respondent shall warrant that all items/services shall conform with the

specifications and/or all warranties provided under the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and the like. Items supplied under a contract pursuant to this Request for Bids shall be subject to County's approval. Items found to be defective or not meeting specifications shall be replaced by successful bidder within two business days at no expense to County. Items not picked up within one (1) week after notification shall be deemed a donation to County and may be used or disposed of at County's discretion and without waiver of any other rights of County as to the item's nonconformity.

29) This document and any disputes arising hereunder shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the State of Texas and will be performable exclusively in Hidalgo County, Texas.

30) The successful bidder shall not assign, sell, transfer or convey its rights under any awarded contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County.

31) CONTRACTS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL AWARD:

- The procurement standards of 2 CFR, Part 200, including, but not limited to 2 CFR 200.317-200.326, and applicable Hidalgo County Purchasing Policy (found at <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/805/County-Administrative-Policies>) address the County's requirements, as a non-Federal entity, is required to include into contracts subject to federal award, the applicable provisions and contract clauses described in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200, the provisions of Appendix II to 2 CFR 200 and the required contract clauses found in **Exhibit "H"** are incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement.
- In addition, should the County's contracts under Federal award be subject to assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FEMA requires the inclusion of contract terms in addition to those under Appendix II to 2 CFR 200. **If applicable**, the additional contract clauses required by FEMA are found in Exhibit "H" and incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement. Should the contract be subject to assistance from FEMA, it is the County's intention to comply with FEMA requirements; therefore, any conflict in terms should be resolved as such.
- **If applicable**, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.319, Contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals must be excluded from competing for such procurements. (See 2 CFR 200.219). Additionally, Hidalgo County policy provides that for federal road projects, engineers, engineering firms, and/or a subsidiary, affiliate, or a consultant of the engineer or engineering firm who has received compensation from the County, that assist in the development of, or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals, will be excluded from competing for such procurements (i.e....subsequent construction engineering/management and/or inspection/testing) for all other phases of the project. (See Hidalgo County Policy: "Procedures for Selection and Contracting of Professional Service Providers for Federal Road Projects" found at <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/805/County-Administrative-Policies>, which, if applicable, is incorporated by reference, whether specified explicitly or not, as part of this procurement packet and any resulting agreement for all purposes).

32) HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS/DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES: The County is committed to ensuring that Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) such as small business enterprises (SBE), minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) receive a fair and

equal opportunity for participation in the County's procurement process. The County encourages the use of these enterprises both as prime and subcontractors. (See Exhibit "E" for requirements).

When federal funds are expanded by the County, the County will take affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321 to assure that small, minority, men-owned businesses and labor surplus area owned firms are used when possible. Pursuant to 2 CFR 321, the County requires that a prime contractor who uses sub-contractors take affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321, including:

- a) Placing qualified small and minority business and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
- b) Assuring that small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- c) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- d) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises; and
- e) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

Nothing in this section is to be construed to require the County to award a contract other than as required by law and Hidalgo County policies and procedures.

- 33) Respondents must provide all documentation requested with this Qualification in their response. Failure to provide this information may result in rejection of the qualification as non-conforming.

REQUEST FOR BID LEGAL NOTICE
For
HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

“Mental Health Providers” RFQ No.: 2025-005-04-29”

To: Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director
Physical Address: 1901 W. State Hwy. 107, McAllen, TX 78504
Postal Address: P.O. Box 0117, Edinburg, Texas 78540

In accordance with the Specifications, and subject to all laws and regulations of the United States and state and local laws, the undersigned bidder proposes and commits to furnish all labor, equipment, material, software, and services as set forth in the documents hereinbefore mentioned. The undersigned bidder further agrees, upon acceptance of its bid, to execute a contract and/or Purchase Order issued by Hidalgo County for performing and completing the work described in the Specifications within the time stated and for the prices proposed in the documents attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Bidder acknowledges receipt of all of the pages of the documents referenced in the Invitation to Bid Checklist presented in connection with this procurement. Bidder understands that Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid.

Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, as contained in the Specifications.

Respectfully submitted,

Firm: _____

Address: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

**EXHIBIT A
REQUIREMENTS**

**HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD
START PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

RFQ 2025-005-04-29

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
FOR
HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM
“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”
RFQ NO. 2025-005-04-29**

We, as an interested party, agree to the criteria and the requirements of the RFQ and have submitted our statement of qualifications as requested.

All costs involved in submitting this statement to Hidalgo County Head Start Program shall be borne in full by the RFQ Company.

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX NO. _____

E-MAIL: _____

DATE: _____

The Hidalgo County Head Start Program will be accepting Statements of Qualifications from qualified State of Texas registered Mental Health firms in order to establish a pre-qualified pool of Therapist on an “As needed Basis” by the Hidalgo County Head Start Program as set forth in the requirements. Upon approval and acceptance by Hidalgo County Commissioners’ Court, the term of the pre-qualified pool of Therapist will be for a period of one (1) Year. The Hidalgo County Head Start Program- Procurement Department will receive sealed envelopes containing Statements of Qualifications for the provision on “**Mental Health Services Hidalgo County Head Start Program**” “**Request of Qualifications**” as specified herein. Statements of Qualifications will be accepted until **2:00 p.m., Friday May 30, 2025. Any RFQ received after that time will not be opened and will be returned.**

The following outlines the Request for Qualifications:

SECTION I GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RFQ DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL/DELIVERY:

A total of one (1) original (pages one-sided, clearly marked **ORIGINAL**), one (2) copies, and an USB in PDF Format of RFQs should be submitted as part of your response.

Respondents must complete and include in their response, all documentation requested in this RFQ. Refer to enclosed RFQ Check List from for documents to be included with your response.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program is requesting that statement of qualification responses be sealed, clearly marked and/or labeled with the Company’s name, RFQ No.: 2025-005-04-29 “Mental Health Providers”, Opening Date: Friday May 30, 2025, and be delivered to Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director, at:

<u>US Postal Mail Address:</u> Hidalgo County Head Start Program Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director P.O. Box 0117 Edinburg, TX 78540-0117	<u>Physical Address:</u> Hidalgo County Head Start Program Ambrosio Tovar, Procurement Director 1901 West State Highway 107 McAllen, TX 78504
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DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Effective January 01, 2016, 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 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 successful bidder fails to comply with the Texas Local Governmental Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged 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.

Completed Form CIQ must be submitted to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office located at 100 N. Closner, Edinburg, TX 78539 --- Hidalgo County Courthouse.

COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER. Questions regarding compliance should be directed to your legal counsel.

PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT:

Respondents to this RFQ must submit a signed Proposer's Affidavit (attached herein Exhibit J) certifying that the submission is (1) not the result of Collusion as described in the Proposer's Affidavit, (2) that the Respondent does not have a Conflict of Interest as described in the Proposer's Affidavit, or that the Respondent has not and will not attempt to lobby directly or indirectly as described in the Proposer's Affidavit.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Respondents, 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 Head Start Program Procurement 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 Head Start Program will make the final determination as to the vendor's ability.

RESPONDENT DEFAULT:

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

RESTRICTIVE OR AMBIGUOUS QUALIFICATIONS AND/OR REQUIREMENTS:

It is the responsibility of the submitter to review the request for qualifications (RFQ) packet and to notify the Procurement Department if the requirements are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. These criteria also apply to requirements that are ambiguous.

RFQ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Any protest(s) or question(s) regarding the requirements or request for qualifications procedures must be received in the Procurement Department via e-mail to angelica.salinas@hchsp.org **BY NO LATER THAN Wednesday May 23, 2025, AT 4:00 p.m. Responses will be sent to all applicants by Tuesday, May 27, 2025. Telephone INQUIRES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

SIGNING OF QUALIFICATIONS:

In order to be considered, all submittals **must** be signed. Please sign the original in **blue ink**.

WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County Head Start Program.

SUBCONTRACTING:

The successful submitter may not subcontract the award without the written consent of the Commissioner's Court of Hidalgo County.

TERM OF POOL:

The pool term is for a period of one (1) year, or upon completion of the project(s) unless project specific for more than one (1) year.

DAVIS BACON ACT (if applicable)

All selected and awarded firms are required, if applicable, to adhere to the Davis-Bacon Act.

SECTION II: RFQ REQUIREMENTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFQ are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will/may result in disqualification of the submitted RFQ.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT:

This section should demonstrate the respondents understanding of the project needs, the work required, and any local issues or concerns. This description should be concise, candid, and limited to three (3) pages in length.

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS:

The Hidalgo County Head start Program is seeking to contract with Mental Health Providers registered and licensed to practice in the State of Texas that has had experience in, but not limited to the following arears:

WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County Head Start Program.

SUBCONTRACTING:

The successful submitter may not subcontract the award without the written consent of the commissioner's Court of Hidalgo County. Submitter shall include a detailed list of all sub-consultants proposed to be used on the project.

TERM OF POOL:

The pool term if for a period of one (1) year, or upon completion of project(s) unless project specific for more than one (1) year.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS:

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFQ are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will result in disqualification of the submitted RFQ. A total of one (1) original and three (3) copies of the RFQ shall be submitted to the address on the cover letter.

CONTENTS:

The required contents for the RFQ for Mental Health Consultants, which include License Professional Counselor (LPC), Psychologist, and Psychiatrist, are presented below in the order they should be incorporated into the submitted document.

- A. Name of the firm for Mental Health Providers.
- B. Business Address and Telephone Number.
- C. The name of the Professional who will be the Primary Contact Person and the names and qualifications of any associates in the office who will also conduct Mental Health evaluations or provide services scheduled with the Hidalgo County Head Start Program. Curriculum Vitae, résumés or biographies will include detailed qualifications, competence, and proof that they possess the minimum professional requirements, licenses or certifications by the appropriate authority in their respective field. Additional information required:
 - 1. Number of available staff providing services;
 - 2. Office sites and locations; provide a list of office sites/locations throughout Hidalgo County.
 - 3. Include proof that appropriate insurance as required by Federal, State and Local laws will be retained for all professionals providing services to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program as well as those described herein in Exhibit "C".
 - 4. Include copy of Texas Driver's License photo I.D. and proof of criminal background.
- D. Furnish the following:
 - 1. Techniques utilized in completing Mental Health evaluations for three (3) to five (5) year old children;
 - 2. The list of instruments utilized in completing Mental Health evaluations for three (3) to five (5) year old children;
 - 3. Sample copy of a comprehensive Mental Health evaluation for three (3) to five (5) year old children.
- E. Attach "Letters of References" from past and present organizations or programs in either the public or private sector with whom you have worked. Include address and telephone numbers.
- F. Describe other information you would consider pertinent to the Head Start Program in reviewing your Statement of Qualifications.
- G. All Mental Health Providers will be responsible to be knowledgeable of all current Medicaid regulations pertaining to reimbursement for services rendered to Head Start children.

Scope of Services: The Hidalgo County Head Start Program, as stated previously herein, is seeking interested and qualified firm(s) or organizations to submit Statement of Qualifications.

- I. **Scope of Mental Health Services** as mandated by state Medicaid and federal guidelines would include, but may not be limited to the following:
- A. Classroom observation. (Between hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.)
 - B. Individual child observation.
 - C. Psychological Assessment, Screening and Evaluations.
 - D. Parenting Skills Training.
 - E. Staff Mental Health Training.
 - F. Psychological Services.
 - G. Child, Family and Staff Consultation/Counseling/Play Therapy.
 - H. Medication Management (Follow-Up).
 - I. Behavior Modification Plans.
 - J. Required Hidalgo County Head Start Program documentation as required by the Performance Standards.
 - K. Home Visits (As Deemed Necessary).
 - L. Prescribed Medication (As Deemed Necessary).
 - M. Referral if an area of concern is observed and the provider is unable to provide service (i.e. therapy sessions, observation, etc.) a referral should be made at once. Parent should be notified immediately.
 - N. Cultural, linguistic, sensitivity, diversity and flexibility.

NOTE: **The provider may be required to provide copies, in lieu of originals, notarized records/affidavits on each individual record documentation, promptly and at no cost.**

Confidentiality: Providers must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the person without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child's parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Compliance.

PROPOSERS ARE NOT TO PROVIDE A FEE PROPOSAL WITH THIS SUBMITTAL: The fee will be negotiated in accordance with the Professional Services Procurement Act, Tex. Govt. Code Ann 2254.001, et seq.

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: Hidalgo County Head Start Program requires one (1) original submittal and three (3) copies and an USB in PDF format

SECTION III – SELECTION AND SCHEDULES

SELECTION/EVALUATION PROCESS:

The evaluation system consists of a 100-point system. The firms will be ranked after evaluation on a per project basis upon approval of roster by Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court. Categories under the 100-point system include response to RFQ. RFQ submittal evaluation will

be based on the criteria outlined below, and will be scored on the scales shown on the enclosed "RFQ Evaluation Form"

1. **STAFFING OR PROJECT TEAM:**

The firms should provide information on their proposed professional team members, i.e. applicable certifications/registrations and other pertinent information that demonstrates their qualifications to perform the contract. The Professional team members shall have experience in performing similar contracts for counties, cities, school districts, or other clients as stated in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Similar experience gained through other clients should be substantiated by reference.

2. **EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT TEAM/ABILITY TO COMMIT RESOURCES:**

The provider shall designate experienced therapist staff to completely and efficiently perform the work. The designated individuals may not be replaced during the project unless approved by the County. The proposal shall identify the project team composition, project leadership, reporting responsibilities and address how sub-providers, if any, will fit into the management structure. Résumés of the key technical staff members, limited to two (2) pages per person must be included in an appendix, as well as narrative descriptions of projects proposed as similar work experience. Also, in this section, outline the firm's contingency plans for servicing the project in the event that one or more key personnel are not available for any reason during the period of performance.

3. **METHODOLOGY:**

The RFQ should provide a description of the firm's approach to the methodology and management to the scope of services for the project.

4. **UNDERSTANDING OF PROJECT/SIMILAR PROJECTS:**

The proposal shall include the following:

- demonstrate an understanding of the scope of services
- address appropriate Federal/State/Local regulations and policies
- identify information to be gathered or obtained

The firms should provide as much background information as to its experience in providing similar services to State, City, County or any other governmental agencies. Reference information should be as current as possible, especially contact persons and telephone numbers.

5. **FAMILIARITY WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

The RFQ should indicate through past experience of the proposed Team that they possess sufficient knowledge of governmental regulations, appropriate codes, guidelines, professional standards and policies (as required).

STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS RANKING:

Departmental Committees will evaluate and rank the written RFQs on a per project basis upon approval of Roster by Hidalgo County Commissioners Court. After the RFQs have been ranked, the department will make a recommendation to the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS:

If negotiations prove unsuccessful, the next highest ranked firm will be contacted. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFQs.

RFQ SCORING AND RANKING:

- A. The Evaluation Committee will review, score and evaluate the written Request for Qualification received in response to this Hidalgo County Head Start Request for Qualifications.
- B. After the RFQs have been reviewed, scored and evaluated, the Evaluation Committee will then make a recommendation to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council and Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court.

NEGOTIATION PROCESS: After ranking has been finalized, a fee proposal will be requested from the top-ranked firm. After an agreement is reached and negotiation efforts are successful, a contract in an approved County format will be drafted and executed with this firm for the required services. If negotiations prove unsuccessful, Commissioner's Court will terminate negotiations with this firm and will contact next highest ranked firm to open negotiations. This process will continue until negotiation efforts are successful. The County of Hidalgo reserves the right to reject any and all RFQs.

EXHIBIT B

EVALUATION CRITERIA

**HIDALGO COUNTY
HEAD START PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

RFQ # 2025-005-04-29

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The respondent's RFQ will be evaluated based on the criteria presented below. These criteria will be scored on the scales shown on the enclosed "RFQ Evaluation Form."

1. STAFFING OF PROJECT TEAM (20)

The firms should provide information on their proposed professional team members i.e. applicable certifications/registrations and other pertinent information that demonstrates their qualifications to perform the contract. The professional team members shall have experience in performing similar contracts for counties or other clients as stated in the Request For Qualifications (RFQ). Similar experience gained through other clients should be substantiated by reference. A list of, and scope of, the various projects, for comparative purposes, shall be included in an appendix.

2. EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT TEAM/ABILITY TO COMMIT RESOURCES (25)

The provider shall designate experienced therapy staff to completely and efficiently perform the work. The designated individuals may not be replaced during the project unless approved by the County. The proposal shall identify the project team composition, project leadership, reporting responsibilities and address how sub-providers, if any, will fit into the management structure. Résumés of the key technical staff members, limited to two (2) pages per person must be included in an appendix, as well as narrative descriptions of projects proposed as similar work experience. Also, in this section, outline the firm's contingency plans for servicing the project in the event that one or more key personnel are not available for any reason during the period of performance.

3. METHODOLOGY (20)

The RFQ should provide a description of the firm's approach to the methodology and management to the scope of services for the project.

4. UNDERSTANDING OF PROJECT/SIMILAR PROJECTS (25)

The proposal shall include the following:

- demonstrate an understanding of the scope of services
- address appropriate Federal/State/Local regulations and policies
- identify information to be gathered or obtained

The firms should provide as much background information as to its experience in providing similar services to State, City, County or any other governmental agencies. Reference information should be as current as possible, especially contact persons and telephone numbers.

5. FAMILIARITY WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS (10)

The RFQ should indicate through past experience of the proposed Team that they possess sufficient knowledge of governmental regulations, appropriate codes, guidelines, professional standards and policies (as required).

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS
RFQ № 2025-005-04-29

<u>Selection Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Score</u>
1. Professional Qualifications of Team Comments/Rationale For Points:_____	20	_____

2. Experience of Project Manager Comments/Rationale For Points:_____	25	_____

3. Experience/Availability of Project Manager Comments/Rationale For Points:_____	20	_____

4. Understanding of Project Comments/Rationale For Points:_____	25	_____

5. Familiarity with Applicable Rules and Regulations Comments/Rationale For Points:_____	10	_____

Provider:_____

Evaluator(s): _____ Date:_____

CERTIFICATION

Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility

As is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 76, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, in the applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- b. Are registered at <http://www.sam.gov> for verification of debarment and/or suspension.
- c. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, theory, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- d. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated herein; and
- e. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application had one or more public transactions terminated of cause or default

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Duns Number: _____

Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Date: _____

Email: _____

Name of Company: _____

If the proposer is unable to certify to all of the statements in this Certification, such proposer should attach an explanation to this proposal.

EXHIBIT C

INSURANCE REQUIRMENT

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

RFQ 2025-005-04-29

EXHIBIT “C”

Insurance Requirements Professional Services

The proposer/applicant awarded the contract shall furnish proof of insurance, which will also include any subcontractor that is subcontracted by the Bidder in at least the following limits, to be in place prior to providing any services under this Contract and to continue at all times in force in effect during the term of this Contract:

1. Professional liability insurance policy with limits of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence, or limited to claims made, include at least a five (5) year extended reporting period.
2. A Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) Comprehensive General Liability insurance policy providing additional coverage to all underlying liabilities of County.
3. Automobile liability insurance policy with limits of at least Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) per person and Five hundred thousand (\$500,000.00) per occurrence, consistent with potential exposure to County under the Texas Tort Claims Act. Coverage should include injury to or death of persons and property damage claims (with limits up to \$500,000.00) arising out of the services provided to County hereunder;
4. Uninsured/Underinsured motorist coverage in an amount equal to the bodily injury limits set forth immediately above;
5. Workers compensation insurance in amounts established by Texas law, unless the respondent is specifically exempted from the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Texas Labor Code Chapter 401, et. seq.

Hidalgo County Head Start Program will only accept certificates of insurance on an Acord form. Certificates of insurance naming Hidalgo County Head Start Program as an additional insured shall be submitted to County for approval prior to any services being performed by Contractor. Each policy of insurance required hereunder shall extend for a period equivalent to, or longer than the term of the Contract, and any insurer hereunder shall be required to give at least thirty (30) days written notice to the County prior to the cancellation of any such coverage on the termination date, or otherwise. This Contract shall be automatically suspended upon the cancellation, or other termination, of any required policy of insurance hereunder, and such suspension shall continue until evidence adequate replacement coverage is provided to County. If replacement coverage is not provided within thirty (30) days following suspension of the Contract, this Contract shall automatically terminate.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, _____, authorized representative for _____,
Company/Vendor

Hereby acknowledge receipt of the County's required insurance limits. Said requirements:

- ☐ will be acquired within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid awarded by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court; (*An insurance certificate for the required insurance limits shall be provided to the Purchasing Department in order to qualify for award of bid and to execute a contract between our Company and the County.)
- ☐ will acquire additional amount needed to meet the County's requirements within 10 working days after notification from Purchasing Department of bid awarded by the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court; currently carry the following:

Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions): \$ _____

Automobile Liability: \$ _____ General Liability: \$ _____

(*An insurance certificate for the required insurance limits shall be provided to the Purchasing Department in order to qualify for award of bid and to execute a contract between our Company and the County.) OR

- ☐ have already been met, see attached copy of insurance certificate.

Authorized Representative

Date

Notice to Bidder: Failure to provide Certificates of Insurance to Procurement Department will cause the bid award to be rescinded and then awarded to next lowest bidder. Certificates of Insurance will be monitored/verified on a quarterly basis to ensure coverage policy is in place. It is the Company's obligation to maintain the appropriate insurance coverage throughout the term of the contract.

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY BID PACKET

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This is to certify that I, _____, possess all of the APPLICABLE;

1. Licenses: _____
2. Bonds: _____
3. Certificates: _____
4. Permits: _____
5. Other: _____

Necessary to carry out the required project. Furthermore, I am providing copies of the required documentation so that, if my company is awarded this bid, I may be eligible to enter into a contract with Hidalgo County Head Start Program and proceed to complete the project in a timely manner.

* Any licenses, bonds, certificates, and permits, etc. which are required must be presented as part of the bid packet in order to expedite the bid evaluation process. Failure to provide said documentation will result in the disqualification of your bid.

Authorized Signature

Date

Company

Address

City, State, Zip

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY BID PACKET

EXHIBIT D

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

RFQ 2025-005-04-29

EXHIBIT D

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 Hidalgo County Head Start Program. 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 requirement applies to a person or business that contracts 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 successful participant fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractor and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County Head Start Program are encouraged 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 completed forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office located at 100 North Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse.

COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTICIPANT.

EXHIBIT D**CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE****FORM CIQ**

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with chapter 176 of the Local Government Code by a person doing business with the governmental entity.

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local government not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

A person commits an offense if the person violates Section 176.006 Local Government Code. An Offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of person doing business with local governmental entity.**2** ☐ Check this box if you are filling an update to a previously filed questionnaire.

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer with whom filer has employment or business relationship.

Name of Officer

This section (item 3 including subparts A,B, C & D) must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has an employment or other business relationship as defined by Section 176.001 (1-a), Local Government Code. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income other than investment income from the filer of the questionnaire?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not received from the local government entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

C. Is the filer of the questionnaire employed by a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

☐ Yes ☐ No

D. Describe each employment or business relationship with the local government officer named in this section.

4_____
Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity_____
Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 ☐ Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 ☐ Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;

or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

EXHIBIT D-2

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES FORM 1295 SAMPLE

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES**FORM 1295**

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

OFFICE USE ONLY

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the goods or services to be provided under the contract.

4 Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of Interest (check applicable)	
		Controlling	Intermediary

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party. ☐

6 AFFIDAVIT

I swear, or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the above disclosure is true and correct.

Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity

AFFIX NOTARY STAMP / SEAL ABOVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me, by the said _____, this the _____ day
of _____, 20_____, to certify which, witness my hand and seal of office.

Signature of officer administering oath

Printed name of officer administering oath

Title of officer administering oath

ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY

EXHIBIT E

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

“MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT

RFQ 2025-005-04-29

**EXHIBIT “E”
PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT**

PROPOSER’S AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION NON-CONFLICT OF INTREST, AND ANTI-LOBBYING FOR “MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS”

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO

Affiant, _____, being first duly sworn, deposes that:

- (1) Affiant does hereby state neither the Proposer nor any of the Proposer’s officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees, or parties in interest, has in any way colluded, conspired, agreed, directly or indirectly with any person, firm, corporation, or other proposer, or potential proposer, to provide any money or other valuable consideration for assistance in procuring or attempting to procure a contract or fix the prices in the attached proposed or the proposal of any other proposer, and further states that no such money or other reward will be hereinafter paid.
- (2) Affiant further states they have neither recommended or suggested to Hidalgo County or any of its officials or employees, any of the terms or provisions set forth in their Request for Proposal and subsequent agreement, except at a meeting open to all interested proposers, of which proper notice was given.
- (3) Affiant, further states their officers, employees, or agents have not, and will not attempt to lobby, directly or indirectly, the Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court between proposal submission date and award by the Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court.
- (4) Affiant further States no officer, or stockholder of the Proposer is a member of the staff, or related to any employee of the Hidalgo County except as noted herein below:

Signature/ Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Notary Public _____

My Commission expires: _____, 20__.

HIDALGO COUNTY Respondent/Vendor Application

Complete in print or type. Please return this application to the Hidalgo County Head Start Program – Procurement Department thru Facsimile: (956) 381-0439, in person: 1901 West State Highway 107, McAllen, TX 78504 or mailed: P. O. Box 0117, Edinburg, TX 78540

Company Name:						Telephone Name: ()							
dba Name:													
Legal Name:													
Mailing Address:							Fax Name: ()						
Physical Address:													
City, State, Zip:							Tax I.D. №						
Remit to Address:							City, State, Zip						
E-Mail Address:													
Representative(s) Name(s) & Title(s)													
Type of Organization(check one): Individual Partnership Corporation Non-Profit LLC Sole Proprietor Other, Specify _____													
State Identification №:_____ (Please attached completed W-9 form with this application)													
Federal Identification № or (if individual) SS № _____													
Type of Business (check one): Manufacturer Wholesaler Retailer Broker Distributor Service Organization Other, Specify _____													
Name & Title of Person(s) Authorized to Sign Bids, Proposals, and/or Contracts: 													
Small and/or Disadvantaged Business Information (check application criteria) Small Business: Disadvantaged Business (At Least 51% Ownership) Less than 125,000 annual gross receipt _____ Black American _____ Native American _____ Less than 250,000 annual gross receipt _____ Hispanic American _____ Women _____ Less than 499,000 annual gross receipt _____ Asian Pacific American _____ Other _____													
Have you been certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source?: YES__ NO __													
Indicate Certification №(s): _____ or are Certificate(s) attached?: YES__ NO __													
What type of product(s) is/are solicited by your company? : _____ Would you like to be provided with specifications for procurements of such products ? : YES__ NO __													
To Be Completed by Head Start: Rec'd by (Procurement): _____ Date Rec'd by (Procurement): _____													
Date Forwarded Information to Finance Office: _____ Entry Date: _____ Vendor №: _____													

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) DECLARATION

The primary objective of the Hidalgo County HUB Program is to ensure Historically Underutilized Businesses receive a fair and equal opportunity for participation in the County's procurement process. This fact holds true for Services (Professional & Non-Professional), Commodities, and Construction contracts and any subcontracts thereto. The program strongly encourages Prime Contractors to provide subcontracting opportunities to Certified Hub Contractors/Vendors. Our goal for HUB contractor/vendor participation, as well as HUB subcontractor participation is 30%. To be considered as a "Certified HUB Contractor/Vendor" the contractor/vendor must have been certified by, and hold a current and valid certification with any of the three agencies listed below.

Have you been Certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, by whom?: ☐ State General Services Commission ☐ other _____

Indicate Certification No(s): _____ or Are Certificate(s) Attached?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

LIST OF CERTIFIED HUB SUBCONTRACTORS

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

What percentage of the Bid, RFP, or RFQ is to be subcontracted with Certified HUB sources? : _____%(List HUB Subcontractor information below).

HUB Contractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No: () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

HUB Subcontractor Name: _____ HUB Status: _____
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable): Texas Building & Procurement Commission Other: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____ Title: _____ Phone No: () _____
Subcontract Amount: \$ _____ Description of Work to be Performed _____

**CONTRACT FOR SERVICES
MENTAL HEALTH
C-25-005-08-01-XX**

DRAFT

**STATE OF TEXAS &
 &
COUNTY OF HIDALGO &**

THIS CONTRACT (The “**Contract**”) is made effective the **1st** day of **August, 2025** by and between Hidalgo County, Texas acting by and through the **HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM**, (hereinafter the “**Program**”) a federally funded program under the auspices of **HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**, a political subdivision of the State of Texas and _____ (hereinafter “**Provider**”) to serve at the pleasure of the Program.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Program requires certain services which **Provider** is licensed to provide, such services more particularly described on Exhibit “A” attached hereto, and incorporated herein for all purposes (the “**Services**”);

WHEREAS, the Provider has agreed to provide the **Services** to the **Program**;

WHEREAS, the Program is the recipient of certain federal funds to be utilized for the provision of **Services** to the participants of the **Program**;

WHEREAS, Program participants may be examined and treated by the **Provider**;

WHEREAS, the Provider will examine and treat the program participants on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Provider and the **Program** mutually desire to outline their individual responsibilities with respect to the use and /or disclosure, safeguarding, and transmission of Protected Health Information (“**PHI**”) and electronic Protected Health Information (“**ePHI**”), as mandated by the Privacy

Rule and Security Rule (jointly referred to as “the Rules”) under HIPAA and its implementing regulations at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 and 164.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the following **Provider** and **Program** agrees as follows:

1. The term of this **Contract** shall commence on **August 1, 2025** and shall terminate on the **31st** day of **July, 2026** unless extended or earlier terminated as provided herein. This **Contract** may be extended for an additional one year on the same terms and conditions if Program elects to do so by providing written notice to **Provider** as provided elsewhere herein.
2. **Provider** represents that **Provider** is licensed by the State of Texas, if required by law to perform the **Services**, is qualified to perform and provide the **Services** described on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein at this point for all purpose. If such license is suspended or revoked, this **Contract** shall automatically be terminated. **Provider** shall immediately notify the **Program** of such suspension or revocation.
3. The **Provider** shall prepare, maintain and submit all records which are designated, required or prescribed by the **Program**, federal grantor agency, or County of Hidalgo. In addition, the **Provider** shall permit the **Program**, the Department of Health and Human **Services** and the County of Hidalgo to audit and inspect records and reports, review services and /or evaluate the performance of the **Services** provided hereunder at any reasonable time. The **Provider** shall provide access to all its records, books, reports and other pertinent data and information needed to accomplish review of its activities, services and expenditures billed to the **Program**.
4. In consideration for the above and foregoing, the **Provider** shall submit a monthly billing statement to the **Program** at:

Hidalgo County Head Start Program
Attn: Mrs. Elma Carrera, CFO
P.O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas, 78540

Said statement must provide an itemized list of **Services** rendered to the **Program** during the statement period. Upon receipt of said statement, the **Program** will process the requisition for payment in the usual customary manner utilized by the **Program**. The **Provider** shall be compensated based on the **Program's** fee schedule, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "B" hereto.

5. The **Provider** must comply with all applicable **Program** and Hidalgo County policies.

Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, the **Provider** represents and maintains that **Provider** is an independent contractor and is not an employee of the **Program** or Hidalgo County, Texas, or any agency thereof, and further represents and warrants that **Provider** does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of the **Program** or Hidalgo County, Texas, and/or any agency thereof, including, but not limited to benefits associated with Hidalgo County's civil service program. The **Provider** agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding or social security tax liability which might arise from payments received pursuant to this **Contract**.

6. The **Program** and the **Provider** agree that **Program** may terminate this **Contract** at any time for any reason or no reason at all upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Provider.

7. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, all notices, demands, requests or communication required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County: Irma Peña, Executive Director
Hidalgo County Head Start Program
P.O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas 78540-0117

If to Provider:

8. **Provider** agrees to at all times be insured for professional liability, general liability, premises liability, auto liability insurance, and worker's compensation insurance covering **Provider & Provider's** employee's activities and services to the **Program** in coverage limits not less than the minimum amounts prescribed by the Texas Tort Claims Act, §101.001, et seq., Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code. **Provider** shall furnish the **Program** a certificate issued by their insurer that such insurance is in full force and effect.

9. Except as otherwise herein provided, the **Provider** may not assign the obligation or rights under this **Contract** to any person without the prior written consent of the **Program**.

10. The **Provider's** employees, if any, who perform services for the **Program** under this Contract, shall be bound by the provisions of the terms of this **Contract**. At the request of the **Program**, the **Provider** shall provide adequate evidence that such persons are the **Provider's** employees.

11. The **Provider** will indemnify and hold harmless and defend the **Program** and the County of Hidalgo from any and all claims, actions, liability, and expenses including all cost of judgments, settlements, court cost, and attorney's fees regardless of the outcome of such claim(s) or action(s) caused by, resulting from, or alleging negligent or intentional acts or omission(s) or any failure to perform any obligation(s) undertaken or any covenant(s) in this **Contract**, and further, whether such act, omission, or failure to perform any obligation undertaken or any covenant in this **Contract** was the **Provider's** or that of any person providing services hereunder through or for **Provider**. Upon written notice from Hidalgo County and the **Program**, **Provider** will resist and defend at its own expenses, and by counsel reasonably satisfactory to Hidalgo County and/or **Program**, any such claim(s) or action(s).

12. **THIS CONTRACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AND ALL OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES CREATED HEREUNDER ARE PERFORMABLE IN HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

13. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this **Contract** shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this **Contract** shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

14. **Contract Extension.** Hidalgo County Head Start Program reserves the right to extend this **Contract** at the same rate, terms and conditions for one year from the date of termination of the **Contract** period on the same rate and terms as contained herein. If the **Program** elects to extend this **Contract**, **Program** shall provide ninety (90) days written notice of intention to extend this **Contract** to **Provider** prior to the expiration of this **Contract**.

15. **No amendment**, modification or alteration of the terms hereof shall be binding unless the same be in writing, dated subsequent to the date hereof and duly executed by the parties hereto.

16. **Commitment of Current Revenues Only.** In the event that, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of the **Program** under this **Contract**, the **Program** may terminate this **Contract** upon ninety (90) days written notice to **Provider**. **Program** agrees, however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this **Contract** at the expiration of each budget period of **Program** pursuant to the provision of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. '271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1996).

17. **Provider** will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or handicap in providing the **Services** under this **Contract** or in the selection of associates, employees, or independent providers.

18. **Provider** will perform its **Services** at all times in compliance with federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations, the policies, rule and regulations of the **Program**, and all currently accepted and approved methods and practices of the professional specialty relating to the **Services**.

19. **Provider** must have a procedure to ensure that no information about a child is disclosed in a form that identifies the child without a signed Consent for Release of Information by the child's parent or legal guardian. All Business Associates must be in HIPPA Compliance. **Provider** shall comply with all HIPPA laws and regulations stated in 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164.

20. **Entire Contract.** This **Contract** contains the entire contract between the parties hereto, and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representation or **agreement** in connection with this content not specifically set forth herein. This **Contract** may be modified or amended only by an **agreement** in writing executed by **Program** and **Provider** and not otherwise.

21. **Immunities.** Nothing in this Contract is intended to and **Program** does not hereby waive, release or relinquish any right to assert any of the defenses **Program** enjoys by virtue of the state or federal constitution, laws, rules or regulations, and any sovereign, official or qualified immunity available to **Program** as to any claim or action of any person, entity, or individual against **Program**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused their names to be hereunto

subscribed personally or by a duly authorized officer or agent of each party, effective the day and year first written above. EXECUTED as of the day and year first written above.

PROVIDER:

BY: _____

HIDALGO COUNTY

BY: _____
Richard Cortez, County Judge

HIDALGO COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

BY: _____
Irma Peña, Executive Director

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

Approved as to form:

Ricardo Gonzalez, PC dba
Oxford & Gonzalez

By: _____
Ricardo Gonzalez

Approved by Policy Council:

Approved by Commissioner's Court:

HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE ADDENDUM

This Business Associate Addendum (“Addendum”) is a part of the Contract effective as of August 1, 2025 between _____ (the “Provider”) and the Hidalgo County Head Start Program (the “Program”). For purposes of this Addendum the Program is referred to as “Covered Entity” or “CE” and the Provider is referred to as “Associate”. Unless the context clearly requires a distinction between the Contract document and this Addendum, all references herein to “the Contract” or “this Contract” include this Addendum.

RECITALS

- A. CE wishes to disclose certain information to Associate pursuant to the terms of the Contract, some of which may constitute Protected Health Information (“PHI”) (defined below).
- B. CE and Associate intend to protect the privacy and provide for the security of PHI disclosed to Associate pursuant to this Contract in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. § 1320d-1320d-8 (“HIPAA”) as amended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (“ARRA”)/HITECH Act (P.L. 111-005), and its implementing regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164 (the “Privacy Rule”) and other applicable laws, as amended.
- C. As part of the HIPAA regulations, the Privacy Rule requires CE to enter into a contract containing specific requirements with Associate prior to the disclosure of PHI, as set forth in, but not limited to, Title 45, Sections 160.103, 164.502(e) and 164.504 (e) of the Code of Federal Regulations (“C.F.R”) and contained in this Addendum.

The parties agree as follows:

- 1. Definitions.
 - a. Except as otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms in this Addendum shall have the definitions set forth in the HIPAA Privacy Rule at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164, as amended. In the event of any conflict between the mandatory provisions of the Privacy Rule and the provisions of this Contract, the Privacy Rule shall control. Where the provisions of this Contract differ from those mandated by the Privacy Rule, but are nonetheless permitted by the Privacy Rule, the provisions of this Contract shall control.
 - b. “Protected Health Information” or “PHI”. means any information, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium: (i) that relates to the past, present or future physical or mental condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and (ii) that identifies the individual or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual, and shall have the meaning given to such term under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to 45 C.F.R. Section 164.501.

- c. "Protected Information" shall mean PHI provided by CE to Associate or created or received by Associate on CE's behalf. To the extent Associate is a covered entity under HIPAA and creates or obtains its own PHI for treatment, payment and health care operations, Protected Information under this Contract does not include any PHI created or obtained by Associate as a covered entity and Associate shall follow its own policies and procedures for accounting, access and amendment of Associate's PHI

2. Obligations of Associate.

- a. Permitted Uses. Associate shall not use Protected Information except for the purpose of performing Associate's obligations under this Contract and as permitted under this Addendum. Further, Associate shall not use Protected Information in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Rule if so used by CE, except that Associate may use Protected Information: (i) for the proper management and administration of Associate; (ii) to carry out the legal responsibilities of Associate; or (iii) for Data Aggregation purposes for the Health Care Operations of CE. Additional provisions, if any, governing permitted uses of Protected Information are set forth in Attachment A to this Addendum. Associate accepts full responsibility for any penalties incurred as a result of Associate's breach of the Privacy Rule.
- b. Permitted Disclosures. Associate shall not disclose Protected Information in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Rule if disclosed by CE, except that Associate may disclose Protected Information: (i) in a manner permitted pursuant to this Contract; (ii) for the proper management and administration of Associate; (iii) as required by law; (iv) for Data Aggregation purposes for the Health Care Operations of CE; or (v) to report violations of law to appropriate federal or state authorities, consistent with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.502(j)(l). To the extent that Associate discloses
- c. Appropriate Safeguards. Associate shall implement appropriate safeguards as are necessary to prevent the use or disclosure of Protected Information other than as permitted by this Contract. Associate shall comply with the requirements of the Security Rules, 164.308, 164.310, 164.312, and 164.316. Associate shall maintain a comprehensive written information privacy and security program that includes administrative, technical and physical safeguards appropriate to the size and complexity of the Associate's operations and the nature and scope of its activities.
- d. Reporting of Improper Use or Disclosure. Associate shall report to CE in writing any use or disclosure of Protected Information other than as provided for by this Contract within five (5) business days of becoming aware of such use or disclosure.
- e. Associate's Agents. If Associate uses one or more subcontractors or agents to provide services under the Contract, and such subcontractors or agents receive or have access to Protected Information, each subcontractor or agent shall sign an Contract with Associate containing substantially the same provisions as this Addendum and further identifying CE as a third party beneficiary with rights of enforcement and indemnification from such subcontractors or agents in the event of any violation of such subcontractor or agent Contract. Associate shall implement and maintain sanctions against agents and

subcontractors that violate such restrictions and conditions and shall mitigate the effects of any such violation.

- f. Access to Protected Information. Associate shall make Protected Information maintained by Associate or its agents or subcontractors in Designated Record Sets available to CE for inspection and copying within ten (10) business days of a request by CE to enable CE to fulfill its obligations to permit individual access to PHI under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to 45, C.F.R. Section 164.524.
- g. Amendment of PHI. Within ten business (10) days of receipt of a request from CE for an amendment of Protected Information or a record about an individual contained in a Designated Record Set, Associate or its agents or subcontractors shall make such Protected Information available to CE for amendment and incorporate any such amendment to enable CE to fulfill its obligations with respect to requests by individuals to amend their PHI under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, 45 C.F.R. Section 164.526. If any individual requests an amendment of Protected Information directly from Associate or its agents or subcontractors, Associate must notify CE in writing within five (5) business days of receipt of the request. Any denial of amendment of Protected Information maintained by Associate or its agents or subcontractors shall be the responsibility of CE.
- h. Accounting Rights. Within ten (10) business days of notice by CE of a request for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Information, Associate and its agents or subcontractors shall make available to CE the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures to enable CE to fulfill its obligations under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, 45 C.F.R. Section 164.528. As set forth in, and as limited by 45 C.F.R. Section 164.528, Associate shall not provide an accounting to CE of disclosures: (i) to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations, as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.506; (ii) individuals of Protected Information about them as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.502; (iii) pursuant to an authorization as provided in 45 C. F. R. Section 164.508; (iv) to persons involved in the individual's care or other notification purposes as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.510; (v) for national security or intelligence purposes as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.512(k)(2); (vi) to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials as set forth in 45 C.F.R. Section 164.512 (k)(5); (vii) incident to a use or disclosure otherwise permitted by the Privacy Rule; (viii) as part of a limited data set under 45 C.F. R. Section 164.514(e); or (ix) disclosures prior to April 14, 2003. Associate agrees to implement a process that allows for an accounting to be collected and maintained by Associate and its agents or subcontractors for at least six (6) years prior to the request, but not before the compliance date of the Privacy Rule. At a minimum, such information shall include: (i) the date of disclosure; (ii) the name of the entity or person who received Protected Information and, if known, the address of the entity or person; (iii) a brief description of Protected Information disclosed; and (iv) a brief statement of purpose of the disclosure that reasonably informs the individual of the basis for the disclosure, or a copy of the individual's authorization, or a copy of the written request for disclosure. In the event that the request for an accounting is delivered directly to Associate or its agents or subcontractors, Associate shall within five (5) business days of the receipt of the request forward it to CE in writing. It shall be CE's responsibility to prepare and deliver any such accounting requested. Associate shall not disclose any Protected Information except as set forth in Section 2(b) of this Addendum.

- i. **Governmental Access to Records.** Associate shall make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Information available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the “Secretary”), in a time and manner designated by the Secretary, for purposes of determining CE’s compliance with the Privacy Rule. Associate shall provide to CE a copy of any Protected Information that Associate provides to the Secretary concurrently with providing such Protected Information to the Secretary.
- j. **Minimum Necessary.** Associate (and its agents or subcontractors) shall only request, use and disclose the minimum amount of Protected Information necessary to accomplish the purpose of the request, use or disclosure, in accordance with the Minimum Necessary requirements of the Privacy Rule including, but not limited to 45 C.F.R. Sections 164.502(b) and 164.514 (d).
- k. **Data Ownership.** Associate acknowledges that Associate has no ownership rights with respect to the protected Information.
- l. **Retention of Protected Information.** Except upon termination of the Contract as provided in Section 4(d) of this Addendum, Associate and its subcontractors or agents shall retain all Protected Information throughout the term of this Contract and shall continue to maintain the information required under Section 2(h) of this Addendum for a period of six (6) years.
- m. **Associate Insurance.** Associate shall maintain casualty and liability insurance to cover loss of PHI data and claims based upon alleged violations of privacy rights through improper use or disclosure of PHI. All such policies shall meet or exceed the minimum insurance requirements of the Contract (e.g. occurrence basis, combined single dollar limits, annual aggregate dollar limits, additional insured status and notice of cancellation).
- n. **Notification of Breach.** During the term of this Contract, Associate shall notify CE within two business days of any suspected or actual breach of security, intrusion unauthorized use or disclosure of PHI and/or any actual or suspected use or disclosure of data in violation of any applicable federal or state laws or regulations such notice shall include the identification of each individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been accessed, acquired or disclosed during the breach. Associate shall take (i) prompt corrective action to cure any such deficiencies and (ii) any action pertaining to such unauthorized disclosure required by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
- o. **Audits, Inspection and Enforcement.** Within ten (10) business days of a written request by CE, Associate and its agents or subcontractors shall allow CE to conduct a reasonable inspection of the facilities, systems, books, records, Contracts, policies and procedures relating to the use or disclosure of Protected Information pursuant to this Addendum for the purpose of determining whether Associate has complied with this Addendum; provided however, that: (i) Associate and CE shall mutually agree in advance upon the scope, timing and location of such an inspection; (ii) CE shall protect the confidentiality of all confidential and proprietary information of Associate to which CE has access during the course of such inspection; and (iii) CE shall execute a nondisclosure Contract, upon terms mutually agreed

upon by the parties, if requested by Associate. The fact that CE inspects, or fails to inspect, or has the right to inspect, Associate's facilities, systems, books, records, Contracts, policies and procedures does not relieve Associate of its responsibility to comply with this Addendum, nor does CE's (i) failure to detect or (ii) detection, but failure to notify Associate or require Associate's remediation of any unsatisfactory practices, constitute acceptance of such practice or waiver of CE's enforcement rights under the Contract.

- p. Safeguards during Transmission. Associate shall be responsible for using appropriate safeguards to maintain and ensure the confidentiality, privacy and security of Protected Information transmitted to CE pursuant to the Contract, in accordance with the standards and requirements of the Privacy Rule, until such Protected Information is received by CE, and in accordance with any specifications set forth in Attachment A.
- q. Restrictions and Confidential Communications. Within ten (10) business days of notice by CE of a restriction upon uses or disclosures or request for confidential communications pursuant to 45 C.F.R. 164.522, Associate will restrict the use or disclosure of an individual's Protected Information, provided Associate has agreed to such a restriction. Associate will not respond directly to an individual's requests to restrict the use or disclosure of Protected Information or to send all communication of Protected Information to an alternate address. Associate will refer such requests to the CE so that the CE can coordinate and prepare a timely response to the requesting individual and provide direction to Associate.

3. Obligations of CE.

- a. Safeguards during Transmission. CE shall be responsible for using appropriate safeguards to maintain and ensure the confidentiality, privacy and security of PHI transmitted to Associate pursuant to this Contract, in accordance with standards and requirements of the Privacy Rule, until such PHI is received by Associate, and in accordance with any specifications set forth in Attachment A.
- b. Notice of Changes. CE shall provide Associate with a copy of its notice of privacy practices produced in accordance with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.520, as well as any subsequent changes or limitation(s) to such notice, to the extent such changes or limitations may affect Associate's use or disclosure of Protected Information. CE shall provide Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission to use or disclose Protected Information, to the extent it may affect Associate's permitted use or disclosure of PHI, CE shall notify Associate of any restriction on the use or disclosure of Protected Information that CE has agreed to in accordance with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.522. CE may effectuate any and all such notices of non-private information via posting on CE's website. Associate shall review CE's designated website for notice of changes to CE's HIPAA privacy policies and practices on the last day of each calendar quarter.

4. Termination.

- a. Material Breach. In addition to any other provisions in the Contract regarding breach, a breach by Associate of any provision of this Addendum, as determined by CE, shall constitute a material breach of this Contract and shall provide grounds for immediate

termination of this Contract by CE pursuant to the provisions of the Contract covering termination for cause, if any. If the Contract contains no express provisions regarding termination for cause, the following terms and conditions shall apply:

- (1) Default. If Associate refuses or fails to timely perform any of the provisions of this Contract, CE may notify Associate in writing of the non-performance, and if not promptly corrected within the time specified, CE may terminate this Contract. Associate shall continue performance of this Contract to the extent it is not terminated and shall be liable for excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods or services elsewhere.
 - (2) Associate's Duties. Notwithstanding termination of this Contract, and subject to any directions from CE, Associate shall take timely, reasonable and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of Associate in which CE has an interest.
 - (3) Compensation. Payment for completed supplies delivered and accepted by CE shall be at the Contract price. In the event of a material breach under paragraph 4a, CE may withhold amounts due Associate as CE deems necessary to protect CE against loss from third party claims of improper use or disclosure and to reimburse CE for the excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods and services elsewhere.
 - (4) Erroneous Termination for Default. If after such termination it is determined, for any reason, that Associate was not in default, or that Associate's action/inaction was excusable, such termination shall be treated as a termination for convenience, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if this Contract had been terminated for convenience, as described in this Contract.
- b. Reasonable Steps to Cure Breach. If CE Knows of a pattern of activity or practice of Associate that constitutes a material breach or violation of the Associate's obligations under the provisions of this Addendum or another arrangement and does not terminate this Contract pursuant to Section 4(a), then CE shall take reasonable steps to cure such breach or end such violation, as applicable. If CE's efforts to cure such breach or end such violation are unsuccessful, CE shall either (i) terminate the Contract, if feasible or (ii) if termination of this Contract is not feasible, CE shall report Associate's breach or violation to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- c. Judicial or Administrative Proceedings. Either party may terminate the Contract, effective immediately, if (i) the other party is named as a defendant in a criminal proceeding for a violation of HIPPA, the HIPPA Regulations or other security or privacy laws or (ii) a finding or stipulation that the other party has violated any standard or requirement of HIPAA, the HIPAA Regulations or other security or privacy laws is made in any administrative or civil proceeding in which the party has been joined.

d. Effective of Termination.

- (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, upon termination of this Contract, for any reason, Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Information that Associate or its agents or subcontractors still maintain in any form, and shall retain no copies of such Protected Information. If Associate elects to destroy the PHI, Associate shall certify in writing to CE that such PHI has been destroyed.
 - (2) If Associate believes that returning or destroying the Protected Information is not feasible, Associate shall promptly provide CE notice of the conditions making return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual Contract of CE and Associate that return or destruction of Protected Information is infeasible, Associate shall continue to extend the protections of Sections 2(a)2(b), 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e) of this Addendum to such information and shall limit further use of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction of such PHI infeasible.
5. Injunctive Relief. CE shall have the right to injunctive and other equitable and legal relief against Associate or any of its subcontractors or agents in the event of any use or disclosure of Protected Information in violation of this Contract or applicable law.
6. No waiver of Immunity. No term or condition of this Contract shall be construed or interpreted as a waiver, express or implied, of any of the immunities, rights, benefits, protection, or other provisions of the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, CRS 24-10-101 *et seq.* or the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 2671 *et seq.* as applicable, as now in effect or hereafter amended.
7. Limitation of Liability. Any limitation of Associate's liability in the Contract shall be inapplicable to the terms and conditions of this Addendum.
8. Disclaimer. CE makes no warranty or representation that compliance by Associate with this Contract, HIPAA or the HIPAA Regulations will be adequate or satisfactory for Associate's own purposes. Associate is solely responsible for all decisions made by Associate regarding the safeguarding of PHI.
9. Certification. To the extent that CE determines an examination is necessary in order to comply with CE's legal obligations pursuant to HIPAA relating to certification of its security practices, CE or its authorized agents or contractors, may, at CE's expense, examine Associate's facilities, systems, procedures and records as may be necessary for such agents or contractors to certify to CE the extent to which Associate's security safeguards comply with HIPAA, the HIPAA Regulations or this Addendum.
10. Amendment.
 - a. Amendment to Comply with Law. The parties acknowledge that state and federal laws relating to data security and privacy are rapidly evolving and that amendment of this Addendum may be required to provide for procedures to ensure compliance with such developments. The parties specifically agree to take such action as is necessary to implement the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule, the final HIPAA

Security regulations at 68 Fed. Reg. 8334 (Feb 20, 2003), 45 C.F.R. § 164.314 and other applicable laws relating to the security or privacy of PHI. The parties understand and agree that CE must receive satisfactory written assurance from Associate that Associate will adequately safeguard all Protected Information. Upon the request of either party, the other party agrees to promptly enter into negotiations concerning the terms of an amendment to this Addendum embodying written assurances consistent with the standards and requirements of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule or other applicable laws. CE may terminate this Contract upon thirty (30) days written notice in the event (i) Associate does not promptly enter into negotiations to amend this Contract when requested by CE pursuant to this Section or (ii) Associate does not enter into an amendment to this Contract providing assurances regarding the safeguarding of PHI that CE, in its sole discretion, deems sufficient to satisfy the standards and requirements of HIPAA and the Privacy Rule.

- b. Amendment of Attachment A. Attachment A may be modified or amended by mutual Contract of the parties in writing from time to time without formal amendment of this Addendum.
11. Assistance in Litigation or Administrative Proceedings. Associate shall make itself, and any subcontractors, employees or agents assisting Associate in the performance of its obligations under the Contract, available to CE, at no cost to CE up to a maximum of 30 hours, to testify as witnesses, or otherwise, in the event of litigation or administrative proceedings being commenced against CE, its directors, officers or employees based upon a claimed violation of HIPAA, the Privacy Rule or other laws relating to security and privacy or PHI, except where Associate or its subcontractor, employee or agent is a named adverse party.
 12. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing express or implied in this Contract is intended to confer, nor shall anything herein confer, upon any person other than CE, Associate and their respective successors or assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities whatsoever.
 13. Interpretation and Order of Precedence. The provisions of this Addendum shall prevail over any provisions in the Contract that may conflict or appear inconsistent with any provision in this Addendum. Together, the Contract and this Addendum shall be interpreted as broadly as necessary to implement and comply with HIPAA and the Privacy Rule. The parties agree that any ambiguity in this Contract shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that complies and is consistent with HIPAA and the Privacy Rule. This Contract supersedes and replaces any previous separately executed HIPAA addendum between the parties.
 14. Survival of Certain Contract Terms. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, Associate's obligations under Section 4 (d) ("Effect of Termination") and Section 12 ("No Third Party Beneficiaries") shall survive termination of this Contract and shall be enforceable by CE as provided herein in the event of such failure to perform or comply by the Associate. This Addendum shall remain in effect during the term of the Contract including any extensions.
 15. Representatives and Notice.

- a. Representatives. For the purpose of the Contract, the individuals identified elsewhere in this Contract shall be the representatives of the respective parties. If no representatives are identified in the Contract, the individuals listed below are hereby designated as the parties' respective representatives for purposes of this Contract. Either party may from time to time designate in writing new or substitute representatives.
- b. Notices. All required notices shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered or given by certified or registered mail to the representatives at the address set forth below.

[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Program/Covered Entity Representative:

Name: Irma Peña
Title: Executive Director
Address: Hidalgo County Head Start Program
P. O. Box 0117
Edinburg, Texas 78539

Provider/Business Associate Representative

Name: _____
Title: _____
Department and Division: _____
Address: _____

Provider/Associate

Program /Covered Entity
Hidalgo County Head Start Program

By: _____
Print Name

By: _____
Irma Peña, Executive Director

Signature

Title

Exhibit A

Description of Mental Health Services

The Providers shall in a satisfactory and proper manner, as determined by the Program, perform the following Behavioral Health Services on an “as needed basis”.

- (a) Assist in planning mental program activities.
- (b) Provide workshop/in-service training on mental health topics to Head Start staff/parents
- (c) Perform Classroom Observations.
- (d) Submit a typed written report on findings and recommendations to the Head Start Program two weeks from date of referral.
- (e) Provide Developmental Evaluation for children to determine nature of problem and / or rule out medical problems.
- (f) Provide individual and / or family counseling to those Head Start Children and Families that are referred.
- (g) Advise in the utilization of other community resources and referrals.
- (h) A summary report of services rendered will be submitted to the Head Start Program on a monthly basis and at the completion of therapy.
- (i) Indemnification – The contractor agreed to indemnify and hold harmless the Program, it's director, officers, employees, servants, and agents for any and all reasonable expenses, claims lawsuits, and judgments which may incur as a result of any negligence on malpractice of the part of the provider in rendering services contemplated by this Contract.

The program shall furnish the following services, date and information to Provider:

- (a) A completed referral on children exhibiting a typical and emotional behavior is referred by site staff or parental concern.
- (b) Information released on a referral form will remain specific to the need for referral and services being requested.
- (c) The program will identify and provide names of children referred whose families have health insurance of Medicaid. The provider will submit insurance on Medicaid claims directly to insurance companies for services provided to minimize cost reimbursement due to Program.

IN – KIND SERVICE BY CONTRACTOR:

1. The provider will provide the Program with a monthly listing of the following in-kind services provided when deemed appropriate:
 - (a) Classroom Observation and recommendation
 - (b) Developmental evaluation
 - (c) Individual / family counseling (per hour)
 - (d) Workshop / In-Service / Training

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	Name (as shown on your income tax return)	
	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification: ☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C Corporation ☐ S Corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ ☐ Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	☐ Exempt payee
	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
	City, state, and ZIP code	
List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)	
Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name" line to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I Instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>How to get a TIN</i> on page 3. Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.	
Social security number	Employer identification number

Part II Certification	
Under penalties of perjury, I certify that: 1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below). Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.	

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶ _____	Date ▶ _____
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General Instructions Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted. Purpose of Form A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA. Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to: 1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued), 2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or 3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.	Note. If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9. Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are: • An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien, • A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, • An estate (other than a foreign estate), or • A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7). Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.
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