

County of Yolo

Department of General Services

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DECISION OF PROTEST

Solicitation: Child, Youth and Family Outpatient Mental Health Services

Protestor: Turning Point Community Programs

Date: April 29, 2024

DECISION

Turning Point Community Programs (“Turning Point”) protested the County’s procurement process concerning the Request for Proposal for Child, Youth and Family Outpatient Mental Health Services for Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (“RFP”).

For the reasons set forth below, the protest is denied.

BACKGROUND

The County released solicitation GSDRFPKK2434 on January 25, 2024, seeking proposals for Child, Youth and Family Outpatient Mental Health Services for Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency. The RFP included specific details regarding the evaluation process and the optional oral presentation/interviews.

Turning Point’s April 17, 2024 protest/appeal letter requests that the County revise the scoring methodology set forth in the RFP to account for existing providers and conduct oral interviews prior to issuing the notice of intent of award to the successful vendors. No violation of law or procedure or other irregularity is alleged in the protest.


1. Regarding scoring methodology for existing providers, page 17 of 32 of the RFP outlined the evaluation process, award criteria, and points for scoring.
2. Regarding oral presentation/interviews, page 17 of 32 of the solicitation outlined the optional oral presentations/interviews.

DISCUSSION

With respect to your first grounds for protest/appeal regarding the scoring methodology and alleged absence of points for recognition of existing providers, your appeal is essentially asking the County to revise the RFP after the fact to change the scoring matrix. The County cannot take such action, which would undermine the RFP process. We appreciate Turning Point's work for the County and recognize that other responders have also provided services to the County and the RFP scoring allowed for points for experience and qualifications and other pertinent factors. Specifically, the RFP evaluation criteria awarded points for experience and qualifications, each proposer's approach to the project, responsiveness/responsibility, quality assurance and oversight, outputs and outcomes, financial information, past performance/references, and reasonableness of cost. The consideration of additional points for existing providers would not have impacted scoring or the intent of award as all bidders are existing providers.

With respect to having an opportunity for oral interviews, the RFP was clear that oral presentations/interviews were at the option of the County and would not necessarily be utilized. Specifically, the RFP states, "Oral presentations/interviews may not be required, and therefore, Respondents are encouraged to submit complete information with their proposals. The Evaluation Committee will determine if oral presentations/interviews are necessary in making the final selection." (See RFP, pg. 17.) Consistent with the RFP, the Evaluation Committee determined after reviewing the proposals that oral presentations/interviews were not necessary to complete the selection process.

We have carefully reviewed your letter and determined that your protest/appeal is denied for the reasons explained in this letter. While the result of this RFP may be disappointing, the County has many opportunities for proposals and projects that we encourage Turning Point to consider in the future.

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Tonia Murphy, Deputy Director
Purchasing Agent for the County of Yolo