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RFP08-007 GROUP HOME SERVICES RE-RELEASE Addendum 2

To All Potential Providers

Questions and Answers

Q1. One thing we've run into is the two season vouchers for each child, most of the time when the child comes the items listed are not there. And that becomes a problem and also the paperwork when the child comes to us, the paperwork does not follow (school, medical) and we are constantly trying to get the school papers and everything else that child needs. Can that be more organized on part of JFS?

A: I would first state that the network needs to contact the worker and supervisor. In the placement packet it should say where the last school the child attended and they should contact them. In the packet is a release that they would be able to take to the school in order to obtain this information.

If you're not getting things at time of placement, you can call the UM worker. You should be receiving needed items at placement. If you can't get a response from the caseworker, for whatever reason, you can contact UM.

Q2. As far as family focus, is it appropriate to have visitation hours for the families during evenings to reduce the number of impulse visits? Many times families drop in for a visit and see something they don't understand and interpret it negatively. Is it possible to have the visitation hours in place for evenings and weekends?

A: Visits with the family should be flexible but not impulsive (a parent just showing up). These times can be worked out with the worker and family.

If the visits are supervised and are going to be supervised on site by the staff at the agency, I would expect for them to arrange those times when there is adequate staff.



For visits that occur at the agency these visits are more schedule based on time slots and do not allow for the flexibility. This is something that needs to be worked out with the case worker.

Obviously we ask that you make accommodations for family to visit on evenings and weekends, but certainly at the onset you are to be clear on the visitation times so that families are not just dropping in at unscheduled times. We do ask that you be open and flexible about allowing the families to visit.

Q3. On the licensing information as far as Medicaid certified, does MRDD Certification apply also with ODJFS Certification?

A: We will accept MRDD certification of an agency in lieu of ODJFS certification. The question in the RFP was intended to determine if the provider could bill Medicaid for Medicaid specific services such as counseling.

There is a difference. Medicaid certified applies to your ability to provide and bill for Medicaid approved services. In terms of licensure, you can't be certified by MRDD and be licensed by ODMHS

Q4. Budget- If a program is not listed in this proposal do we still list the personnel addressed to the program and they go in the "other line"?

A: If there are personnel not associated with the GH program, simply list "other program costs" in the Positions Title column and apply the costs under the "Other Direct Services" column. There is no need to list all of the other positions not associated with your Group Home program. Just insure that non-Group Home totals aren't included in the Group Home costs.

Q5. Does JFS still want the detail of the staff that make up the other programs or just say other programs?

A: see response to question 4 above.

Q6. We are currently under contract RFP 07-003 Group Home Services and in the first paragraph of your May 2, 2008 letter, it states that we "need not re-submit a proposal." However in your same letter in the fourth paragraph, it states that "all



providers who are currently providing services to HCDJFS children are highly encouraged to respond to the RFP." The information in paragraphs 1 and 4 seem to be inconsistent. What would be the reason to respond to the new RFP if we are already under contract?

A: If a provider responded to the GH RFP (RFP 07-003) and has entered into negotiations for the service, there is no need to respond. However, if the provider responded to the RFP to provide the service only to male youth and have the ability/willingness to provide the service to female youth also, they would have to successfully respond to this RFP in order to contract to provide GH services for female youth.

Additionally, if a provider submitted a proposal for TFC or RT and they are currently negotiating for those services, and now they want to provide GH services for our youth, they would have to successfully respond to this RFP in order to begin negotiating to provide GH services to HCJFS youth.

Q7. If we resubmit a proposal and it is not approved, would my current contract be eliminated?

A: If a provider is currently in negotiations or in a new contract as a result of RFP 07-003 and they choose to respond to the current RFP to offer GH services to a different population than was listed in the original proposal – for example female youths and the proposal is not accepted, it will not affect their current contract, but they must specify the current proposal being submitted is for girls or whatever the new population would be.

Again, if a provider is currently contracting for this service as a result of RFP 07-003 and they do not wish to offer the service to a different population of youth, it is not necessary to respond to this RFP.

Q8. After attending the meeting, May 14, 2008 it appears that we will be getting more difficult children and would have to have additional staff beyond the 5:1 ratio to work peak hours. Will these additional requirements allow us to budget at a higher unit price?

A: The requirement for the 5:1 ratio remains the same for this RFP. The budget submitted needs to reflect anticipated expenses to the best of your ability. The budget should justify the unit rate.

We imposed higher supervision ratios during peak hours to ensure youth were



receiving necessary supervision and care. We anticipate no change in populations referred. We continue to use the Cuyahoga Level of Care Tool (Modified) to assess every youth's needs and level of care. Supervision costs should be included in costs. Providers can request a per diem they believe to be commensurate with their costs and services. However, we will not guarantee that we will accept any rate proposed. Decisions are based on the provider's ability to support costs within their budget and JFS budget constraints and reasonable fees for service.

Q9. The proposal that we submitted originally in August 2007 had a unit price in excess of what was awarded to us. Can this unit price be adjusted because of the adjusted population being serviced? Would we need to resubmit a proposal to receive the adjusted unit price?

A: As far as the unit price goes, we can not negotiate rates or make determinations on increases at this time. It is important to keep in mind the outcomes of the RFP will not affect the current contract.

