

October 13, 2021

**HCJFS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
FOR THE PEER MENTORING  
AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES OF THE  
BENEFIT BRIDGE PROGRAM  
RFP SC06-21R**

**ADDENDUM 1**

- Q1.** Peer Mentors are Provider-employed staff (not volunteers or individuals previously involved with this or related programs), correct?
- A.** Correct.
- Q2.** Are there educational requirements for the Peer Mentors?
- A.** There are no educational requirements for the Peer Mentor beyond the minimum qualifications for employment through your agency.
- Q3.** Are Peer Mentors required to have life experience with said program or other social services programs?
- A.** Yes, they should. A Peer Mentor is an individual will be someone who has already personally experienced dependency on public assistance in the past but has since gained economic independence through wages/earnings and maintained that independence long enough to be stable. This experience is critical as it will allow the mentor to better serve current public assistance recipients as they start down the same path towards independence. Having already bridged the gap between benefits and self-sufficiency themselves they will be able to provide our families with a supportive mentoring relationship.
- Q4.** Is there a budget cap for this program?
- A.** There will be \$2 million annually for this project.

**Q5.** What is the projected starting date?

**A.** HCJFS anticipates services will begin approximately December 1, 2021 as outlined in Section 2.3 of the RFP. Please refer to this section for details of the contract terms.

**Q6.** Is there an estimate for the number of families to be served between 12/1/21 and 6/30/22?

**A.** Hamilton County hopes to serve 250-300 families per program year.

**Q7.** Should we budget/include in submitted budget the cost-reimbursed payments for support services that will remove barriers to self-sufficiency?

**A.** The budget should include supportive services for participants. This should be a large amount of the budget. The payments requests will be referred by the HCJFS Care Team. The selected provider must demonstrate funding capacity to work in a cost reimbursement environment with monthly billings and typical payment lags associated with HCJFS contracts. The payment requests could be such items as housing expenses or utility costs or transportation expenses or childcare costs or any other items that a family may encounter on their path toward self-sufficiency.

**Q8.** Is there an overall proposed funding amount for this RFP?

**A.** There will be \$2 million annually for this project.

