October 27, 2017

Solicitation: Independent Reviewer, Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) Call for Proposals – Food security/obesity prevention

Overview: The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) released its FY 2018 Call for Proposals, “Promoting Community Health Resources: Supporting innovative and sustainable projects that serve vulnerable populations and promote health equity,” on October 19, 2017. The proposals are due to the CHRC on December 18, 2017, and grant awards will be made by the CHRC in February 2018.

Grants will be awarded by the CHRC on a competitive basis and will be evaluated on six review criteria established by the Commission (criteria are listed on pages 12-14 of the Call for Proposals). The CHRC is seeking to hire an independent reviewer with an expertise in food security/obesity issues to evaluate the proposals on the criteria established by the CHRC and submit recommendations to the Commission about which applicants should be invited to the CHRC Board meeting in February 2018.

Deliverables: An independent reviewer will be hired to evaluate the proposals on the six criteria established by the CHRC and submit recommendations regarding which applicants (approximately 3-4) should be invited to present to the CHRC in February 2018. Following are the two deliverables of the independent reviewer, which are both due to CHRC staff no later than January 11, 2018: (1) evaluate each application on the six review criteria on a 100-point scale and provide a numeric score on the 100-point scale for each proposal. CHRC staff will provide a review sheet that will enable the reviewer to provide a score on each of the six criteria which will comprise the overall score (on the 100 point scale). A single review sheet and score will be provided for each proposal reviewed; and (2) provide an overall assessment (normative evaluation) of each proposal received and include a recommendation whether the applicant should be invited to present to the CHRC in February 2018. This “cover memo” (deliverable #2) should be approximately 3-5 pages, depending on the number of proposals reviewed (about 3-5 sentences per proposal).

Key Dates
November 14, 2017 Letters of Intent due to CHRC
December 18, 2017 Full proposals due to CHRC
January 11, 2018 Evaluation by independent reviewers due to CHRC staff

Solicitation Process: To bid on this solicitation, please submit a one page letter/document that includes the following information:
   - Name, organization, and contact information (mailing address, telephone, email);
   - Experience in grant proposal review and/or expertise in food security/obesity prevention health issues;
   - Total cost of bid for this scope of work.

Independent reviewers cannot be affiliated or connected with any of the entities applying for the Commission grants, either in a direct employment, contractual, or consulting role.

Please send completed bid document to Mark Luckner (mark.luckner@maryland.gov) no later than November 10, 2017.