

To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator
DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove 
Administrator

Re: Funding Opportunity: Milwaukee Brighter Futures Initiative

PURPOSE

This memo notifies eligible public or non-profit agencies *in Milwaukee County* of the availability of Brighter Futures Initiative (BFI) funding, and the location of the Request for Grant Proposal (RFP). The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) has issued a separate procurement for the balance of state.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this document is to provide eligible applicants with information to enable them to prepare and submit a proposal for the Milwaukee BFI Program. Funding for the BFI program began in 2001 to help Wisconsin youth, families and communities achieve their maximum potential by promoting healthy and safe families, school readiness for children, and the successful navigation from childhood to adulthood. The Initiative supports evidence-based prevention strategies and a positive youth development approach, and focuses on the legislative outcomes set forth in s. 48.545, Wis. Stats., Brighter Futures Initiative. In 2017, the funding structure for BFI changed, with more funding made available for substance use prevention efforts.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

Consistent with state statutes, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) has initiated a competitive procurement process for BFI contracts focused on substance use prevention, reducing youth delinquency and increasing adolescent self-sufficiency. The intent is to make at least two (2) awards ranging from a minimum of \$250,000 to a maximum of \$750,000 annually targeting substance use prevention, and at least two (2) awards ranging from a minimum of \$200,000 to a maximum of \$400,000 annually targeting programs that reduce youth delinquency and/or increase adolescent self-sufficiency. Awards will fund programs in Milwaukee County beginning calendar year 2019.

Public or non-profit agencies are eligible to apply. A public agency is defined as a county, city, village, town or school district (joint applications are permitted).

Additional Information:

- The target population for BFI programs is youth between the ages of 12 and 21; however, programs may select a sub-set of that age range.
- Joint applications are encouraged, however the lead agency must meet the prior mentioned eligibility requirement.

- Programs that cross systems to promote the foundational principle of delivering the “right service at the right time” are encouraged.
- Programs targeting youth violence or delinquency, and/or adolescent self-sufficiency may be either evidence-based or evidence-informed.
- Programs targeting substance use prevention **must provide evidence-based substance use prevention activities only**. The Federal Government defines “prevention” as programs for individuals who do not require treatment for substance abuse. Such programs and activities may include education, mentoring, and other activities designed to reduce the risk of substance use by individuals.

The request for proposals can be found at: <https://vendornet.wi.gov/Home.aspx>, under “Bids” and the program name “Milwaukee Brighter Futures Initiative Program”. The deadline for submission of the RFP is 2:00 p.m., October 2, 2018.

The sole point of contact for this procurement is Beth Blanchar, Purchasing Agent Senior. She can be reached at dcfprocurement@wisconsin.gov.

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MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>