

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
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson
Division Administrator



Re: Brighter Futures Initiative Funding Opportunity for Calendar Year 2022

PURPOSE

This memo notifies eligible tribes, public and non-profit agencies in Milwaukee County and tribes and counties in the balance of state of the availability of Brighter Futures Initiative (BFI) funding and the location of the two Request for Grant Proposals (RFP). The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) has issued two separate procurements: one encompassing Milwaukee County only and another for the balance of state.

BACKGROUND

DCF began receiving funding for the BFI programs beginning in 2001. The purpose of the BFI program is to help Wisconsin youth (ages 12-21), families and communities achieve their maximum potential by promoting youth safety in their families and communities; and supporting the youth in successfully navigating adolescence and early adulthood.

BFI supports evidence-based prevention strategies, a positive youth development approach and focuses on the legislative outcomes pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 48.545.

In Milwaukee County only, the RFP requests tribes, public and non-profit agencies target the following legislative outcomes: 1) substance use prevention; and 2) decreasing youth delinquency and increasing adolescent self-sufficiency.

In the balance of state, the RFP requests tribes and counties target substance use prevention.

Substance use prevention funds must be used for primary prevention activities only. The Federal Government defines primary 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.

BFI reflects the unique needs and resources of each community, while focusing on the legislative outcomes. Many projects consist of partnerships between agencies to maximize resources by using a cross-systems approach. These partnerships often involve social services, health departments, school districts, youth justice agencies, tribal agencies, police departments, community-based and faith-based organizations, local businesses, youth-focused coalitions/alliances, etc.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

In the Milwaukee County RFP, DCF receives approximately \$1.5 million annually to offer grant opportunities that are specifically focused on substance use prevention programs in Milwaukee County. In addition, DCF is offering approximately \$825,000 available under the same RFP to finance programs that target decreasing youth delinquency and increasing adolescent self-sufficiency. This is also part of the Brighter Futures Initiative - Milwaukee County RFP. Joint applications from two or more eligible applicants will be accepted.

In the balance of state RFP, there is approximately \$1.5 million annually for substance use prevention programs only. DCF intends to use the results of this RFP to award multiple contracts for BFI substance use prevention programs. Joint applications from two or more eligible applicants will be accepted; the primary applicant must be a county department or tribe.

These two solicitations can be found on VendorNet (<https://vendornet.wi.gov/Home.aspx>) under the title *Brighter Futures Initiative - Milwaukee County (Region 3)* (solicitation reference #:437003-G22-0001821) and *Brighter Futures Initiative - Substance Use Prevention Efforts* (solicitation reference #:437003-G22-0001820). The deadline for submissions to the Brighter Futures Initiative - Milwaukee County (Region 3) RFP is 2PM CST on Tuesday, October 5th, 2021. The deadline for submissions to the Brighter Futures Initiative - Substance Use Prevention Efforts RFP is 2PM CST on Wednesday, September 29th, 2021.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT:

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MEMO WEB SITE:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>