Request for Qualifications

Darkness to Light - Stewards of Children Training Program
Project Contractor Needed

Due: July 28, 2014
Contact: Keavy Cook, kcook@tfff.org

Objective

The Ford Family Foundation seeks a Contractor to coordinate a new effort focused on the prevention of child sexual abuse in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif. The Contractor will: help design a Request for Proposals for the program and review applications; provide on-going support and technical assistance to 10 nonprofit training sites; track grantee progress towards outcomes; help coordinate several annual learning events; and execute on other program management tasks as required. The position is designed to be an average of 20 hours per week.

The successful applicant must have excellent coordination and communication skills with strong experience in public outreach and building relationships with diverse stakeholders. The ideal candidate will have familiarity with rural communities. Experience working in the field of human services is desirable, but specific focus in child abuse prevention is not required.

Background

The definition of “child abuse” includes physical abuse, neglect, threat of harm and sexual abuse. Since 2010, the Foundation has made more than $5 million in responsive grants to organizations focused on both prevention and intervention, covering all types of abuse, for children ages 0-18. In this one effort, however, the Foundation will target a single type of abuse—sexual abuse—to have the greatest impact. Sexual abuse has severe long-term impacts to the victims and ultimately to society. It is the form of abuse that crosses all demographic and socioeconomic boundaries and the one that is exacerbated by the social isolation that is often a factor in rural communities.

National prevalence research currently states that 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before the age of 18. About 1 in 7 girls and 1 in 25 boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18. In the United States, reported cases of child sexual abuse represent the second most expensive victim crime behind murder, costing the United States $35 billion annually.

The Foundation believes that when facing the issue of child sexual abuse, making people aware of the issue and empowering them to prevent it, is a necessary and powerful first step towards a long-term reduction in the number of victims. We have identified Darkness to Light’s Stewards of Children training as a program with strong evidence that it changes child protective
behaviors in the adults who attend the training. To date, Darkness to Light has trained and certified more than 6,500 facilitators of the Stewards curriculum nationally. More than 500,000 adults (in all 50 states and 16 countries) have completed the curriculum, which is also available online and in Spanish. In Oregon, more than 9,700 adults have already been trained.

The Foundation will select and support 10 training sites from across rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif., to expand or launch a Stewards of Children training effort. The aim of the program is to train 20,000 adults in the Stewards curriculum in the first three years. Each local site will have a paid program coordinator. The role of the Contractor is to coordinate across sites to maximize efficiencies and shared learning. The Foundation will support selected training sites through ongoing technical assistance and periodic shared learning opportunities.

Scope of Work

The selected Contractor will work closely with Senior Program Officer Keavy Cook to:

- Design and launch an RFP to select 10 training sites
- Review applications and make selections
- Coordinate program planning and all logistics for grantee convening, peer-learning events, and technical assistance
- Provide on-going coaching and support to training sites
- Help coordinate shared resources including media, training supplies, etc.
- Support program evaluation efforts as necessary
- Other program supports as necessary

This is a one-year contract with the potential to renew for as many as three years. The Contractor must be available for up to 20 hours per week starting in September of 2014.

Application

Interested parties should email the following to Keavy Cook, senior program officer, kcook@tff.org:

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Three professional references
- A description of your hourly rate (assuming an average of 20 hours per week for one year).

If you have questions, please email Keavy Cook.

The Contractor will supply all of his or her own equipment, office space and transportation. The Contractor can be based anywhere in Oregon or Siskiyou County, Calif., but must expect to meet in person with staff in Roseburg and be able to communicate with Foundation staff via phone, email and Skype/WebEx. Travel in Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif., will be required. Mileage will be reimbursed at the standard IRS rate.

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