

Fairfax-Falls Church Behavioral Health System of Care
Provider Opportunity
Short Term Behavioral Health Care Pilot

The Behavioral Health System of Care (BH-SOC) Program is a new initiative of the County Board of Supervisors to improve access to children’s behavioral health services. The *Short Term Behavioral Health Service for Youth* is a component of the Behavioral Health System of Care (BH-SOC) initiative. This project will provide short-term outpatient behavioral health care services to youth in Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. This program will provide a service for youth in our community who need timely access to short term outpatient behavioral health services.

The County seeks to enter into Agreements for the Purchase of Services with **firms** and **individual mental health care providers** for a pilot program providing short-term behavioral health intervention for youth with time sensitive mental health needs, but whose issues are not critical enough to warrant an assessment for hospitalization. This is not a competitive solicitation and multiple awards will be made.

Qualified offerors are encouraged to submit a proposal to provide short term outpatient individual counseling as described below:

- A. Target Population: Services will be provided to the following targeted population:
 - 1. Youth residents of Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.
 - a. Individuals 12 – 21 years of age
 - b. Individuals with a behavioral health issue
 - 2. Youth will be referred, primarily but not exclusively, by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) psychologists and social workers.

- B. Locations: Services should be provided in a professional and confidential setting secured by the provider in a location or easily accessible to locations in or near Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.
- C. Tasks to be performed: The Short Term Behavior Health Service for Youth contractor(s) will provide:
1. Services pursuant to the laws, rules and regulations of the County of Fairfax.
 2. A schedule of supports and services as outlined below.
 - a. Minimum Required Services:
 - 1) Initial appointment available within 3-5 business days. Potential client capacity for individual will include at least 1 client at any given time for the short term intervention and upon completion, acceptance of an additional client within 3-5 business days. The ability to serve more than one client at any given time is desired but not required.
 - 2) Complete an initial measurement tool, such as the GAIN Short Screener (GAINss), provided by the Behavioral Health System of Care Program.
 - 3) Clinical Assessment (provided by BH-SOC program; providers may seek approval to use their own tool) to include a counseling plan.
 - 4) Individual Counseling sessions (up to 8 total sessions for entire process). Extensions may be requested when clinically appropriate with additional factors contributing to family's ability to access services without public funding.
 - 5) Inclusion of parents/caregivers in counseling sessions when clinically indicated; communication with parents/caregivers between sessions as clinically appropriate
 - 6) During the intervention and as it terminates, referrals to the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) and other public or private behavioral health services as appropriate and notify the referring party of status

- 7) A method of responding to after-hours emergencies, communicated to clients through an after-hours office message. After-hours response by the provider is preferred; if the provider's method of addressing after-hours emergencies is through referral to other emergency services, please explain below, including your protocol for following up with the client subsequent to an after-hours emergency intervention. Your emergency response to this client population needs to be consistent with your typical business practices.
 - 8) Individual records are the property of the treatment provider. If parent has signed to consent to exchange information with referral source, provider will comply.
 - 9) Access youth and family's private insurance
3. GAIN Short Screener certification: Post award of an APOS, providers will be required to complete the GAIN Short Screener on-line training (at not cost to the provider) prior to serving first referral. Provider can invoice for one hour of service for the training in invoice for first client.
- a. The GAINS will be completed at the beginning and end of the service period for each youth and forwarded to the County with other required documentation.

D. Outcome Measures, Data Reporting, and Performance.

1. The desired outcomes of this project are a reduction of symptoms for individual youth facing barriers to short term behavioral health care.
2. Reporting Requirements: The contractor will complete the following documents during the course of treatment:
 - a. Clinical Assessment (Attachment A--template provided; providers wishing to use their own plan format must submit it for county approval along with the contract documents)
 - b. Statement of Understanding (Attachment B)
 - c. Summary of Client Contacts, to include client name, dates of services documenting show/no show/cancelations, to be submitted monthly with invoices.

- d. Progress Notes, to be maintained in the client record with the provider.
 - e. Discharge Summary to be provided upon completion of authorized sessions with final invoice. (Attachment C)
 - f. The reporting requirements are the minimum requirements for the measurements that must be reported to the BH-SOC within 60 days of the termination of the last session. If documents requested above are not submitted in the required time period, payment for services will not be made.
3. Copies of all Incident Reports must be submitted to the BH-SOC contract manager within 24 hours of the incident.

E. Provider Requirements:

1. Credentialing:
 - a. Participating clinicians must be licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia or, at a minimum, master's level clinician (counseling resident, social work supervisee, psychology resident) under the supervision of a licensed clinician.
 - b. Participating clinicians must present documentation of at least 18 hours/CEU's or graduate coursework in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and at least 12 hours/CEU's or graduate coursework in Trauma Informed care and/or crisis intervention.
2. Capacity:
 - a. Potential client capacity for individual provider will include at least 1 client at any given time for the short term intervention and upon completion, acceptance of an additional client(s) within 3-5 business days. The ability to serve more than one client at any given time is desired but not required.
3. Exclusions:
 - a. Individual clinicians **cannot** be an FCPS or Fairfax County employee nor can a clinician employed by a firm assigned to serve this project.

F. Payment for Services: Providers will be paid an hourly rate per hour of service. The rate will reflect the public-private partnership to meet this important and much needed service for youth in the community.

G. Submission Requirements:

1. Include one page coversheet with the Offeror's understanding of services to be delivered as a provider of Short Term Behavior Health Services and the following attachments:
 - a. Copy of clinical license for all clinicians proposed to provide services,
 - b. Current resume(s),
 - c. Certification of training,
 - d. Copy of insurance accord certificate,
 - e. A completed and signed W-9 form (Tax Identification)
 - f. A detailed After-Hours coverage protocol.
 - g. Sample of Clinical Assessment used in practice, if prefer over BH-SOC provided tool.
 - h. Rate proposal that is an hourly rate that takes into consideration the possibility of no shows, transition planning, administrative & paperwork requirements while reflecting the public-private nature of this partnership and limited County funding for the project.

H. Selection Criteria:

The county reserves the right to award multiple Agreements of Purchase of Services to meet the needs of the target population. Approved Providers will be placed on the list based on the following criteria:

1. Quality and completeness of response
2. Qualifications to provide services
3. Acceptance of the terms of an Agreement for the Purchase of Services (APOS). A sample APOS is posted along with this solicitation at:
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/admin/cm/solicitations.htm>
4. Appropriateness of hourly rate.