

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Lake County Department of Job and Family Services (LCDJFS) is soliciting Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from organizations wishing to operate a WORKSFIRST Training Program funded by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The program will address the world of work (both in the classroom and real work settings to eliminate negative work behaviors and to provide participants with the ability to obtain and retain employment) and soft skills (such as stress management, hygiene, time management, workplace behavior and work ethics).

The program will also include working with participants to establish realistic employment goals, career research and other activities that help participants to plan and attain self sufficiency. Program participants will have little or no work experience and may also have multiple barriers. Participants must be determined eligible for the Prevention, Retention and Contingency (PRC) Program, the Ohio Works First (OWF) Program and/or Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSET) Program. Referrals to this program will be made by staff from the LCDJFS.

Program Requirements:

A summary of the program requirements and a complete set of specifications are incorporated into the RFP available at www.lake1stop.org. The successful proposer must have the professional qualifications and credentials to perform the program requirements and will enter into a contract with the LCDJFS and the Lake County Board of Commissioners to provide these services. Proposals shall be submitted for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Based on available funding and satisfactory performance an additional contract may be offered to the Program Operator for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 without additional procurement. There can be no increase in funding of a second year contract. The available funding for this program will not exceed \$300,000 annually.

Proposal Process:

Full specifications, including proposal format are available online at www.lake1stop.org. These materials are also available at LCDJFS offices or by mail. Contact Leslie Ryan at (440) 350-4496 to arrange a pickup or mailing. TDD/TTY users should use 440-350-3321. LCDJFS is not able to provide copies of proposal documents by fax transmission.

A Bidders Conference is scheduled for 3:00 PM on April 29, 2011 at LCDJFS, 177 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077. The Bidders Conference is not mandatory but is recommended.

Proposals must be submitted on the LCDJFS Request for Proposal forms. Four (4) copies of the completed Request for Proposal must be submitted in a sealed package marked "WORKSFIRST TRAINING PROPOSAL ENCLOSED" and received by LCDJFS at 177 Main Street, Painesville, Ohio, no later than 12:00 noon EST Friday, May 13, 2011.

Proposals will be reviewed according to the criteria stated in the proposal forms by an evaluation team. LCDJFS reserves the right to reject any or all proposals; to waive informalities in RFPs; to increase or decrease or omit any or all items; to award a contract to the lowest and/or best proposer; to waive or extend proposal deadlines; and/or negotiate with all qualified sources if in the best interest of the LCDJFS. LCDJFS is an equal opportunity employer/program.

You may access this Public Notice to bidders via the Internet at www.lakecountyohio.org. Click on Public Notice on the left side of the page to link to the Public Notices site. (Publish: News-Herald: April 15, 2011.