



## Buncombe County Health and Human Services

Public Assistance & Work Support Strategies ~ Public Health ~ Social Work Services ~ Veterans Services

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Health and Human Services Director

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### **Request for Proposals: *Follow Up Response for Opioid Overdose Survivors* Buncombe County Health and Human Services**

Buncombe County EMS responded to 1,270 overdose calls between Jan 2017- May 2017. Unintentional opioid deaths have increased more than 10-fold and heroin or other synthetic narcotics are now involved in over 50% of deaths. From January through August 2017 there were 230 opioid related emergency department visits in Buncombe County, up from 84 during the same time period in 2016.

In response to rising opioid overdoses and opioid related substance abuse rates, the Buncombe County Department of Health and Human Services (BCHHS) is seeking interest from qualified service providers to provide supportive follow up services to individuals and families when an individual has survived an opioid overdose. The primary focus will be individuals for whom Buncombe County EMS has responded to an opioid related overdose call and the individual survived.

Proposals should identify evidence based or evidence informed models and best practices that may be successfully implemented in Buncombe County to engage individuals with substance abuse disorders in treatment and recovery after surviving an overdose. This Request for Proposals is not intended to provide substance abuse treatment but instead to provide follow up outreach, linkages to treatment and support for individuals accessing recovery.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Provide supportive services to individuals and families for whom Buncombe County EMS has responded to an opioid related overdose call and the individual has survived the overdose.
- Engage individuals with substance abuse disorders who have survived an overdose and are receptive to services in treatment and recovery.
- Provide information to individuals and families regarding substance abuse, addiction, treatment, recovery and harm reduction.
- Reduce opioid overdoses among individuals who have been engaged in services.

#### **PROPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Proposals should identify evidence based or evidence informed models and best practices for engaging individuals with substance abuse disorder in treatment and recovery. Proposals may also include innovative ideas for implementing responsive support services.
- Proposals should include a plan for rapid response to referrals, including whether services will be 'on call' or will respond within a certain timeframe after a referral is made.

- As Naloxone becomes more available throughout the community, proposals should identify opportunities to identify individuals who have survived an overdose without the assistance of Buncombe County EMS and how those individuals may be engaged in treatment and recovery.
- Proposals should include budget and staffing for program implementation and a basis for calculations of the volume of clients to be served.

Please ensure that you have included the following with your proposal:

- An overview of services currently provided by you or your agency and a history of services
- A budget that includes a summary of proposed expenditures and payment structure
- If available, recent results of client feedback (survey results, comments, etc.) for a similar program
- Your track record for providing similar services, including a list of providers under which your agency is contracted to provide services
- The agency's capacity to provide the requested services, which include administrative (personnel management, management information system, and infrastructure) capacity
- The agency's capability to provide the services as outlined above, including any track record for accessing electronic data management/client record systems, providing excellent customer service, and reporting results
- Outcomes the agency expects from the provision of services

This is a newly structured program, there is no guarantee of an award, and terms are subject to change. Submission of a proposal does not represent an award or any legally binding contract. This proposal may result in a contract for services. Contract requirements will include:

- The contractor must follow HIPAA requirements and be willing to enter into an appropriate business association for patient care if necessary.
- The contractor must utilize data tracking and reporting software as approved by Buncombe County.
- The contractor must operate based on an agreed upon referral process that may be subject to change.

If you have questions, you may contact:

Julie Klipp Nicholson  
 Family Justice Center Coordinator  
[Julie.Klipp.Nicholson@BuncombeCounty.org](mailto:Julie.Klipp.Nicholson@BuncombeCounty.org)  
 (828) 250-5045

## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted online **no later than 5:00 pm on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017** in order to be considered. The online application can be accessed at this link: [www.buncombecounty.org/apply](http://www.buncombecounty.org/apply)

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