

April 1, 2016

Update on the DHS/JCS Procurement Process

This correspondence is intended to update internal and external stakeholders on the discussions currently underway regarding upcoming Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice procurements.

Background Information:

- The timeline for these procurements can be found at the link below:
 - http://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/CW_SA_DRAFT_RFP_Sched.pdf
- The Guiding Principles for this effort can be found at the link below:
 - http://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/Guiding_Principles_for_CWS.pdf
- The State of Iowa Current System Map and desired outcomes for the system can be found at the link below:
 - http://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/IA_CW_Systems_Map.pdf

Questions and Answers:

The Department (DHS) has been asked what decisions have been made about these procurements to this point. The answers to those questions are listed below.

- 1) *How does DHS intend to package the contracts currently known as foster group care, supervised apartment living, emergency services and shelter, and recruitment of foster families?*

A: DHS intends to combine and align these contracts differently than the current structure. Specifically, foster group care, emergency services and shelter, and supervised apartment living services are going to be combined into a new package called Crisis Intervention, Stabilization, and Reunification Services. The Recruitment and Retention of Foster Families contract and the current Support for Resource Families contract are going to be combined into a new service package called the Recruitment Retention Training and Support for Foster Families contract.

- 2) *Have there been any decisions made regarding the geographical areas these services are to cover?*

A: DHS intends to focus both these service packages within more narrow geographical areas. The current thinking reflects a more service area oriented approach to these service packages giving both the providers and the State an

opportunity to enhance relationships with families. Final decisions regarding the exact geographical areas for these packages have not been determined.

3) *Have any other concrete decisions been made regarding these procurements?*

A: There has been much discussion for some time about future expectations regarding the concept of “no reject-no eject” of service referrals. DHS intends to require that successful bidders for these service packages represent a “no reject-no eject” philosophy related to case assignment and subsequent service.

4) *When can we expect the next written update of the procurement conversations and any new decisions regarding these packages?*

A: The next expected written update of these procurement conversations will be May 13, 2016.

If you have comments regarding this update, please contact us at contactdhs@dhs.state.ia.us

Thanks for your attention and consideration.