

HHSC Request for Proposals: Community Based Outreach and Application Assistance

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) released a Request for Proposals for Community Outreach and Assistance on June 6.

CPPP wants to make sure that Texas community-based organizations are aware of this important opportunity. We believe that it is important that Texas organizations serving low-income workers and families, the elderly, and people with disabilities join forces to create robust networks capable of helping eligible Texans access the services they need--and helping keep them enrolled.

This kind of assistance is needed more than ever because of the very low staffing levels in state eligibility offices and HHSC's plans (currently on hold) to close about 100 local offices.

While this RFP builds on HHSC's existing contracts for community-based organization (CBO) outreach and application assistance services for CHIP and Children's Medicaid, it also expands the scope of outreach and assistance to all Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment-related programs: CHIP, Medicaid (for all ages, not just children), Long Term Care, Food Stamps, and TANF.

HHSC plans to award 28 separate contracts, organized by Texas' local workforce development service areas. A "vendor" can serve more than one area, but will have to submit a separate proposal for each area it proposes to serve. HHSC clearly expects that successful vendors will consist of a lead agency in coalition with multiple other agencies, in order to provide comprehensive assistance to the diverse populations served by the programs.

HHSC will hold a Vendor Conference on July 31 and proposals will be due Sept. 14, 2006. The anticipated contract start date is Nov. 1, 2006.

For full details, visit http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/contract/529060405/rfp_docs.html