



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

June 18, 2020

Questions and Responses

Question 1: Can a team (two or more organizations) respond to the RFQ?

Response: Yes, organizations may jointly respond to the RFQ as a team.

Question 2: If an individual from the respondent has relevant experience from prior projects, should those projects be listed in the excel lists, Section XI(C)(3)?

Response: Yes, if a staff member of a Responder was directly involved in a project that is eligible for experience points under Section XI(C)(3) of the RFQ and the staff member is proposed to be involved in a similar role for this project, their experience may be counted.

Please indicate that the experience is being provided by a staff member, including their name and title, in parentheses in the Column C (Project Name) in the excel document "XI-C-3 responses". This staff member's previous experience should also be described in the response to Section XI(C)(2) of the RFQ where information is requested about specific staff members who are proposed to be involved in this project.

Question 3: What types of special needs units should be identified in Section XI(C)(3)? Can you clarify the County's definition of "permanent supportive housing"?

CA housing element law recognizes farmworkers and seniors as a special needs group. Should senior or farmworker projects also be identified here, or are you only looking for prior experience/projects that house homeless individuals?

CA Gov Code Section 65583 (a)(7) An analysis of any special housing needs, such as those of the elderly; persons with disabilities, including a developmental disability, as defined in Section 4512 of the Welfare and Institutions Code; large families; farmworkers; families with female heads of households; and families and persons in need of emergency shelter.

Response: Section XI(c)(3) of the RFQ requests information on the Responder's experience developing Permanent Supportive Housing (XI(C)(3)(B)) and owning and/or operating Permanent Supportive Housing (XI(C)(3)(C)). The term Special Needs is not specifically referenced in the RFQ.

Because this initiative is intended to provide housing with a priority for persons eligible for Project Roomkey, responses will be evaluated based upon the Responder's experience developing and owning/operating Permanent Supportive Housing for persons who are homeless and/or chronically homeless, as defined at 24 CFR Section 578.3.

Additionally, experience owning and/or operating units specifically dedicated for homeless households who may not meet this definition will be accepted. Information on the sources restricting the units must be provided. For example, units developed for homeless households under the Tax Credit Allocation Committee's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Non-Profit Set-Aside (California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Division 17, Chapter 1, Section 10315(b)).

Question 4: Can you please clarify this language further: (2) references should speak to the organization's experience and success with the owning, managing or providing services to the target population, and experience with the principles of Housing First.

Are you looking for 2 references who can speak to the organization's experience owning/managing projects serving similar target population AND experience with Housing First? Do you define target population more broadly as "special needs" for this purpose, or would you more narrowly define it as homeless and or low income seniors?

Response: References for organizations owning and/or operating housing for similar populations should be able to speak to the Responder's experience providing housing for persons who have been homeless and/or chronically homeless, as defined at 24 CFR Section 578.3.

In the absence of direct experience with this population, references may be provided who can speak to the organization's experience providing housing for other special needs populations (as defined by the CA Gov Code Section 65583 (a)(7)).

Responder's experience with Housing First/Coordinated Entry Systems will be determined by:

- Information provided by the Responder to Section XI(C)(2) of the RFQ; and
- Input from the Ventura County Continuum of Care.
 - In the event a Responder does not have direct experience with the Ventura County Continuum of Care but has worked with other Continuums of Care, and the Responder would like to use that source as an additional reference, contact information should be provided.

Question 5: Would a reference be accepted if it is from a County employee?

Response: References from County employees are generally acceptable. The following County employees will be reviewing and scoring the RFQ and should not be listed as references:

- Scott Powers
- Christy Madden
- Tara Carruth
- Tracy McAulay

Additionally, some City staff will also be reviewing and scoring the RFQ and will be unable to provide a reference. Should they be asked, they will advise you of the conflict and decline to provide a reference.