

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

*Providers of Foster Placement or Residential Treatment Services for Children*

Original Issuance:

**September 10, 2012**

Latest Update Issued:

**February 1, 2020**

Due Date:

**Open/Ongoing**

**Applicants must submit qualifications to:**

**Request for Foster Care Qualifications  
c/o Nathan Keirns  
74 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
PO Box 5030  
Newark, Ohio 43058**

**OR**

**Electronically:**

Nathan.Keirns@jfs.ohio.gov  
include subject line:  
Foster Care RFQ

### **Purpose**

Licking County Job and Family Services (LCJFS) is seeking to establish a prequalification list of potential agencies who wish to provide foster placement and/or residential treatment services for Licking County children.

### **Background & Scope**

LCJFS Children Services is responsible for providing various services designed to identify, reduce and eliminate child abuse and neglect. Children Services provides investigations of abuse/neglect, ongoing case management, counseling, specific therapeutic services, foster care, kinship care (relative placement), and adoption services. Family preservation is the primary goal of Children Services.

However, when children cannot remain safely in their homes, the court may order Children Services to remove the child (or children). In these instances, it is the responsibility of Children Services to find other living arrangements or substitute Care for the children. Substitute care includes kinship care, foster care, and residential care in group homes and treatment facilities.

Children Services enters into contractual agreements with private foster care agencies to assist with finding appropriate foster care placements when the agency's licensed foster homes are not available to meet the needs of the child(ren). Children Services is responsible to ensure foster placements meet the unique needs of the children while supporting reunification efforts in the most cost-effective manner.

Licking County Job and Family Services is actively and openly seeking agencies that are interested in providing foster care and or treatment services for children. Interested and qualified agencies will be placed on a prequalified list to be considered when placement services are needed. Inclusion on the prequalified list does not guarantee agencies will be selected to provide services.

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Foster care and residential agencies interested in being included on the prequalification list must be licensed to provide foster care and/or treatment services, hold a current certification to provide services in the State of Ohio, and carry adequate liability insurance.

**PROPOSAL CONTENTS**

Agencies wishing to be prequalified and considered for placement services must submit the following:

- Letter of interest including general description of the agency, the number of years in operation, unique or specialty placement services, and any other information the provider feels pertinent to aid in the placement process.
- Foster Care License (copy)
- State of Ohio Certification (copy)
- Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Rate list

**RFQ LIMITATIONS**

Prequalified agencies will remain on the prequalification list as long as Licking County Job and Family Services receives up to date copies of each agency's active Foster Care License, State of Ohio Certification, Certificate of Liability Insurance, and current rate sheet.

Should agencies lose licensure, and/or certification, or are suspended and not able to provide foster care and/or treatment services; they will automatically lose their prequalification status and be removed from the list for consideration. Agencies have the opportunity to reissue a letter of interest, Foster Care License, State of Ohio Certification, Certificate of Liability Insurance, and rate sheet once their license and certification is reinstated.

Inclusion on the Prequalified List does not guarantee contracts will be entered into or agencies will be selected to provide services.

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) does not commit Licking County Job and Family Services to award a contract or to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of a proposal. Licking County Job and Family Services reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received, to negotiate services and costs with proposers, and to cancel in part or in entirety this RFQ.

All Proposals submitted will remain the property of Licking County. Agencies that respond to this RFQ and submit the requested documentation will be included on the list of prequalified foster care agencies until the expiration/termination or suspension of their Foster Care License and/or State of Ohio Certification. In this case, Agencies have the opportunity to resubmit a letter of interest, Foster Care License, State of Ohio Certification, Certificate of Liability Insurance, and rate sheet to be re-established on the prequalification list.

This RFQ will be open and ongoing.

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## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The prequalification list may be amended or terminated if there is a change in Federal, State or Agency regulations that apply to the procurement/solicitation of foster care agencies, a reduction of Federal, State or Local funds; unsatisfactory performance by the Agency as determined solely by Licking County Job and Family Services; or upon thirty (30) days written notice by either party.

### **SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

**Deadline: This RFQ is Open and Ongoing**

***Foster Care Request for Qualifications***

Licking County Job and Family Services

c/o Nathan Keirns

74 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street,

PO Box 5030

Newark, Ohio 43058-5030

Email responses to

[Nathan.Keirns@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Nathan.Keirns@jfs.ohio.gov)

Include subject line: Foster Care RFQ

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Questions concerning this RFQ may be directed to:

**Nathan Keirns**

Licking County Job and Family Services  
(740) 670-8726 or [Nathan.Keirns@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Nathan.Keirns@jfs.ohio.gov)