

Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation



2008 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS **Integrating Primary Care and Mental Health Services**

The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) announces a request for proposals for primary care providers who wish to partner with mental health providers to manage treatment of mental health problems in a primary care setting. Consideration will be given to organizations that wish to build upon existing partnerships, create new partnerships, or develop a plan for integration in a primary care setting. There is particular interest in innovative models that coordinate services with schools or other natural settings. This RFP is open to any not-for-profit organization. Preference will be given to partnerships between providers of comprehensive primary care and mental health services. All projects must serve children in the State of Illinois. The intent of this RFP is to promote innovative, collaborative care models that use evidence informed prevention and intervention approaches. It recognizes the centrality of mental health concerns as they relate to physical health and seeks to address both in tandem. While this RFP includes organizations with formal memorandums of understanding with mental health providers and collocation of services, the focus is broader and intended to be more comprehensive in terms of integrated services for children. Eligible projects will have fully embraced the concept of a medical home for children* and demonstrate the capacity to implement such practices.

Funded projects will contain the following elements:

- Use of Formal Mental Health Assessment Tool(s) – evaluation of the presence of a psychiatric disorder in primary care patients
- Clinical Care Management – A licensed mental health professional whose responsibility is to monitor treatment adherence and response and provide patient/family education
- Patient Registry – a tool for the collaborative to track the mental health needs and services provided for children and adolescents.
- Psychiatric Consultation - A child and adolescent psychiatrist who will provide supervision of the clinical care manager, monitor services and offer recommendations to the treatment team for medication and other interventions. This individual will provide face-to-face consultation or via teleconferencing technology

* For further information about medical homes, please visit the website for the American Academy of Pediatrics for a full description and criteria
<http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/Joint%20Statement.pdf>

Priority consideration will be given to projects that seek to provide comprehensive training of all members of the primary care practice especially for the screening and assessment of children for mental health needs. The primary goal of funded projects will be to make mental health screening and intervention a universal practice throughout the primary care setting. Funded projects will also have taken into account barriers to successful integration (i.e., stigma prevention, accessing mental health services, training, workforce shortages), and offer strategies for sustainability of the project beyond ILCHF funding.

Eligible organizations include federally-qualified health centers (FQHC), FQHC look-alikes, school-based health centers, free clinics, public health department clinics, hospital clinics, and other community health centers.

Examples of project components eligible for funding include the following:

- Staffing required to provide the specified services to children;
- Equipment costs incurred in order to provide the specified services to children;
- Consultation services and training materials and
- Physical modifications that are necessary so the clinic/health center can appropriately offer mental/behavioral health services to children (construction-related costs);

Other Criteria for Selection

- The project must be implemented within the context of a medical home for children
- The project must use evidence based approaches
- Evaluation must be integrated into the overall service delivery of the organization.
- The staff demonstrates cultural competency, and has appropriate credentials/experience to provide the services.
- The project must have a plan to leverage additional resources to most efficiently address the issue, and the ability to sustain the project after ILCHF funding ends.
- The costs of the project must be realistic and relate closely to the scope of the project.
- The leadership should be active or have a plan to become active in policy/advocacy efforts in the community it serves especially as it relates to mental health/healthcare.

ILCHF does not fund:

- Partisan, political or denominational programs
- Intermediary funding agencies
- Grants to/for specific individuals
- Endowments
- General medical research
- Attempts to influence legislation, as prohibited by section 4945 of the Internal Revenue Code for private foundations

Eligibility

Your organization is eligible for ILCHF funding if it is a 501(c)(3) organization determined to be a public charity under section 509(a)(1), (2) or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a governmental entity described in Code section 170(c)(1) or 511(a)(2)(B). You must be providing licensed, health services to children residing within the state of Illinois. For the purposes of this RFP, organizations must currently be providing primary healthcare services to children and must continue providing mental/behavioral health services during the term of the requested grant.

Budget

The pool of dollars available for this RFP is approximately \$2 million.

For Applicants Developing a Plan for Mental Health Integration

- You may take 12 months to complete planning.
- Planning projects must include discussion of the following
 - Existing service capacity
 - Existing collaborative relationships
 - Identified gaps in services
 - Opportunities to establish sustainable funding sources
 - Evaluation plan
 - Business plan covering first two years of operations
- ILCHF expects to award grants of up to \$50,000 for planning

For Applicants Establishing New Mental/Behavioral Health Services

- You may request funding for up to two (2) years in order to fully establish the new services.
- ILCHF expects to award grants of up to \$500,000 over two years

For Applicants Expanding Existing Mental/Behavioral Health Services

- You may take up to 15 months to complete the proposed expansion in your clinic.
- ILCHF expects to award grants of up to \$200,000 for expansion projects over 15 months.

The Application Process

Step 1: Determine whether your organization is eligible for funding based on the established criteria, and that your program falls under the focus of the RFP.

Step 2: Follow the directions for the online application at www.ilchf.org.

Timing

- RFP Closing Date: August 15, 2008
- Funding Approved: by December 16, 2008
- Implementation of grant-funded projects: by January 1, 2009