



## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

### **PROGRAMS TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS, RETURNING PERSONS REENTRY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS FOR THE PREVENTION OF YOUTH VIOLENCE**

#### **COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

The County of Lehigh Department of Community and Economic Development is requesting proposals from qualified non-profit organizations which provide programs to Lehigh County residents in any of three areas: Homelessness Prevention, help for persons reentering the community at the end of incarceration, and programs to prevent youth violence in our communities and schools.

We invite proposals for up to \$100,000 in contracted services to be outlined and provided by potential respondents who will serve as vendors to Lehigh County providing contracted services

#### **I. TYPES OF PROGRAMS/SERVICES REQUIRED:**

##### **HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

1. Eligible Activities
  - a. House First model activities, including provision of housing or support services.
  - b. Provision of emergency housing through temporary shelter.
  - c. Rental assistance.
  - d. Rapid rehousing assistance.
2. Objectives
  - a. Ensure suitable living environment.
  - b. Assist families with adequate housing.
  - c. Create economic opportunities for families.

##### **RETURNING PERSONS REENTRY SERVICES**

1. Eligible Activities
  - a. Mentoring/coaching initiatives
  - b. Job placement assistance.
  - c. Career pathways assistance.
  - d. Vocational training, including soft-skills development.

- e. Linkage to medical assistance/mental health/behavioral health/substance abuse treatment.
  - f. Linkage to housing support services.
  - g. Bail reduction and pre-trial supervision for non-violent crimes.
  - h. Case support for problem solving courts.
2. Objectivities
    - a. Reduce recidivism (return to jail rate-for any reason).
    - b. Increase economic opportunity.
    - c. Support pre-sentencing problems solving courts (mental health, veterans).

## YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

1. Eligible Activities
  - a. Activities which detect and interrupt potentially violent conflicts in communities and schools.
  - b. Efforts which identify and treat risk of violence, including behaviors and treatment.
  - c. Job training and skill development to facilitate economic opportunity and advancement.
  - d. Response to community shootings through positive norms and community organizing.
2. Objectives
  - a. Show a reduction of youth-related violence.
  - b. Develop a system of response to violence in a community, including the participation of residents, community health, social services, recreation, courts/corrections, education and law enforcement

## **II. INFORMATION AND DATA REQUIRED FOR EACH RESPONDENT:**

All respondents are required to submit their proposals via email to Virginia Haas, Community Revitalization and Development Manager, [virginiahaas@lehighcounty.org](mailto:virginiahaas@lehighcounty.org), on or before 4:00 PM on **Friday, May 23, 2025**.

1. Proposals must provide a cover letter that includes the following information:
  - a. Name and address of the organization submitting the RFP.
  - b. Contact's name, phone number and email address.
  - c. Brief description of the organization
2. Scope of Services
  - a. Provide a detailed Scope of Services that reflects the County's requested programs as listed above.
  - b. Include the success rate for the programs currently being offered.
3. Respondents must be recognized as a non-profit organization under **Section 501(c)** of the Internal Revenue Code and are required to provide a copy of their IRS Determination Letter.

### III. COUNTY CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Contract
  - a. The selected organization will be required to execute the County's Standard Professional Services Agreement. Any changes to the Standard Professional Services Contract must be agreed upon in writing by both the organization and the County and will be set forth in said contract.
  - b. Respondent further Agrees, as a specific condition of this Contract, that it shall remain current on all of the taxes it owes to the County. Should Respondent become delinquent on any taxes it owes to the County during the term of this Agreement, Respondent may be deemed to be in breach of this agreement by County and, in addition to any other remedies at law for such breach, Respondent hereby specifically agrees and authorizes the County apply all funds when due to Respondent directly to the taxes owed to the County until said taxes are paid in full.
  - c. In the event the Respondent becomes delinquent, it hereby authorizes the County to make direct payments to the taxing authority for the County to bring Respondents County taxes current.

### IV. FACTORS FOR AWARD

1. Lehigh County will evaluate each written proposal, determine whether oral discussions are necessary, then based on the content of the written proposal and oral discussion, select the organization best qualified for the assignment and which is most advantageous to the County, cost and all other factors considered.
2. The County of Lehigh reserves the right to reject any or all respondents.
3. Any organization who has demonstrated poor performance during either a current or previous agreement with the County may be considered as an unqualified source and their proposal may be rejected. The County reserves the right to exercise this option as is deemed proper and/or necessary.
4. A selection of the Organization for this program is expected to be made by **Monday, June 16, 2025**; however, the selection is not binding until the contract has been passed by the Board of Commissioners and signed by the County Executive