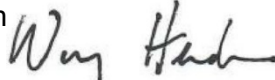


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson  
Administrator 

Re: **Notice of Available Funding: Support Services for Sex Trafficking Survivors**

**Purpose:**

This memo notifies counties, tribes, and non-profit agencies of the availability of funding to support services for survivors of sex trafficking throughout the state and explains how to access the current Request for Proposal (RFP).

**Background:**

DCF's mission is to improve the economic and social well-being of Wisconsin's children, youth, and families by protecting children and youth, strengthening families, and supporting communities. DCF's Division of Safety and Permanence includes diverse perspectives through engaging a wide range of voices in shaping our child welfare transformation; and strives for fairness and justice in our child welfare system through addressing racism, inequities, and barriers to inclusion.

Given the significant array of risks that lead to trafficking and the needs of youth who have been trafficked, DCF recognizes that intervention strategies are necessary. In order to be successful, these strategies must be trauma-informed, culturally and developmentally appropriate, individualized, address physical and mental health needs, and provide social/emotional supports. These strategies also must be tailored to the unique demographic, geographic, cultural, and governance characteristics of Wisconsin, including the presence of a county-administered child welfare system.

Currently, DCF funds contracts for regional supports in the Bureau of Youth Services (BYS) Youth Services Region 2, 3, and 4, and these contracts currently provide referrals for youth who have experienced sex trafficking, case consultation, trainings, and limited direct services.

**Information Summary:**

DCF intends to award multiple contracts for Support Services for Sex Trafficking Survivors. Contracts awarded will be supported by funding available under s. 48.48(19), Wis. Stats., which may be used to “provide treatment and services for children who are the victims of trafficking, as defined in s. 940.302(1)(d), for purposes of a commercial sex act, as defined in 940.302(1)(a)”.

Services will include case management, support groups, mentoring, advocacy and accompaniment, multidisciplinary team coordination, or other related and complementary services, including culturally relevant methods of care. Priority will be given to programs serving DCF’s Youth Services Regions 1, 5, 6, and 7 which currently do not have a DCF funded contract in place for youth who have experienced sex trafficking. Based on proposals submitted and the amount of funding available, DCF may award contracts for services in Regions 2, 3, and 4. A total of \$800,000 is available to DCF to make multiple contract awards under this RFP and no individual award will exceed \$150,000. Additional funding information and a map outlining the Youth Services regions are provided in the RFP.

The target population for the Anti-Human Trafficking Program is adolescents and/or young adults up to age 21 who have experienced sex trafficking while under the age of 18. Non-profit organizations, tribal organizations, local units of government and tribal governments are eligible to apply.

The anticipated contract start date is July 1, 2022 and shall run through June 31, 2023. Based on availability of funding, satisfactory performance and mutual agreement of the agency and the contractor, the contract may be renewed up to four (4) additional one (1) year periods.

The current RFP can be found at: <https://vendornet.wi.gov/> under “Bids” and the title “Support Services for Sex Trafficking Survivors” or by going directly to the State of Wisconsin eSupplier website: [https://esupplier.wi.gov/psp/esupplier/SUPPLIER/ERP/h/?tab=WI\\_BIDDER](https://esupplier.wi.gov/psp/esupplier/SUPPLIER/ERP/h/?tab=WI_BIDDER). At this time, proposals are due no later than 2pm on April 26, 2022. Please be sure to check either VendorNet or the Wisconsin eSupplier website for any changes to dates and/or updated RFP documents. DCF will not communicate any such changes directly. From the date of release of this RFP until contract execution, DCF Procurement Unit is the sole point of contact for the State of Wisconsin and DCF. No phone calls, emails or other correspondence to other State staff regarding this procurement are permitting during the procurement process unless otherwise noted in writing as required as part of the solicitation process. Violation of these conditions may be considered sufficient cause for automatic rejection of a proposal.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Purchasing Agent Senior  
608-422-6363  
[DCFProcurement@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFProcurement@wisconsin.gov)

MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>