



MAAC is seeking Bids from highly qualified and experienced organizations to provide mental health consulting services to MAAC's Early Head Start, Head Start, and State Preschool Program.

This process requires Organizations to submit a proposal that includes a complete bid for the “**Scope of Services**” outlined below.

Proposal MUST be received by 2:00pm (PST) on June 25, 2021. All correspondence or contact with MAAC regarding this request must be submitted in writing to [lcamou@maacproject.org](mailto:lcamou@maacproject.org).

## **I. MAAC's Overview**

Since opening our doors in 1965, MAAC has focused on helping individuals and families create the lives they want and deserve. For more than five decades, MAAC has been a champion for underrepresented communities throughout San Diego County, providing families in need with resources to achieve self-sufficiency and improve their living conditions. While the organization first began in the southern region of San Diego, MAAC now operates more than 35 sites across the county, from San Ysidro to Fallbrook.

MAAC employs nearly 500 staff who provide life-changing services to 70,000 individuals annually through programs in five core focus areas: Education, Economic Development, Health & Wellbeing, Housing, and Advocacy & Leadership Development. Through our wide array of programs, from San Ysidro to Fallbrook, MAAC has grown to become one of the largest nonprofit social service organizations in the community.

We continuously strive to make our organization stronger, increasing the quality of our programs and service delivery to our participants.

## **II. Head Start Performance Standards**

MAAC's Head Start program is guided by and held accountable to the Head Start Performance Standards. Performance Standard 1302.45 Child Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-being states that, (a) “To support a program-wide culture that promotes children’s mental health, social and emotional well-being, and overall health, a program must secure mental health consultation services on a schedule of sufficient and consistent frequency to ensure a mental health consultant is available to partner with staff and families in a timely and effective manner”. The Performance Standard also states that, (b) “A program must ensure mental health consultants assist:”

- i. The program to implement strategies to identify and support children with mental health and social and emotional concerns;
- ii. Teachers, including family child care providers, to improve classroom management and teacher practice through strategies that include using classroom observations and consultations to address teacher and individual child needs and creating physical and cultural environments that promote positive mental health and social and emotional functioning;
- iii. Other staff, including home visitors, to meet children’s mental health and social and emotional needs through strategies that include observation and consultation;
- iv. Staff to address prevalent child mental health concerns, including internalizing problems, such as appearing withdrawn and externalizing problems such as challenging behavior; and
- v. in helping both parents and staff to understand mental health and access mental health



interventions, if needed;

- vi. In the implementation of policies to limit suspension and prohibit expulsion as described in Performance Standard in 1302.17.

### III. Contract Period

The term of any contract resulting from this RFP shall be for one (1) year: from July 1, 2021 (or from the date the contract is fully executed) to June 31, 2022 with one additional option year in Program Year 2022-2023, subject to annual review of performance and availability of funds.

### IV. Location of Services

The majority of services will be provided in North County San Diego within the cities of Fallbrook, Valley Center, Pauma Valley, Oceanside, Carlsbad, Vista, San Marcos, Escondido. MAAC has one center in San Ysidro, California.

### V. Scope of Services

**MAAC is putting a primary emphasis on providing mental health services to families who are uninsured or underinsured.** Infant and early childhood mental health consultation (IECMHC) is a multilevel preventive intervention that teams mental health professionals with providers who work with young children and their families to improve children's social, emotional, and behavioral health and development as well as that of the family unit. Mental Health Consultants (MHC) will be required to:

- A. Develop mental health consultation services on a schedule of sufficient and consistent frequency to ensure a mental health consultant is available to partner with staff and families in a timely and effective manner. (HSPPS 1302.45 (a) (2))
- B. Assist staff to address prevalent child mental health concerns, including internalizing problems such as appearing withdrawn and externalizing problems such as challenging behavior (HSPPS 1302.45 (b)(4))
- C. Develop the capacity of the teaching staff and home visitors/family partners in collaboration with Educational Specialists and other MAAC staff to identify and address challenging behavior. They will support them by modeling effective pro-social interactions and developing Behavioral Intervention Plans.
- D. Assist the program to implement strategies to identify and support children with mental health and social and emotional concerns. (HSPPS 1302.45 (b) (1))
- E. Provide strategies that include using classroom observations and consultations to address teacher and individual child needs and creating physical and cultural environments that promote positive mental health and emotional functioning. (HSPPS 1302.45 (b) (2))
- F. MHC will assist other staff, including home visitors, to meet children's mental health and social and emotional needs through strategies that include observation and consultation. (HSPPS 1302.45 (b) (3))



- G. MHC will assist in helping both parents and staff to understand mental health and access mental health interventions, if needed. (HSPPS 1302.45 (b)(5))
- H. MHC will review the results of developmental/behavioral screeners that have been identified as atypical and assist the staff and families in developing a plan to address the concerns.
- I. MHC will provide staff and parent workshops/trainings considering each site's needs per center directors' request (E.g., Social emotional development in children, trauma and resilience, toxic stress, behavioral management techniques, children's mental health issues, etc.).
- J. A Representative MHC will participate in *Mental Health and Disabilities Team Meetings* to discuss various issues, such as children with developmental/behavioral concerns.
- K. MHC will coordinate all services with MAAC Mental Health and Disabilities Manager.
- L. MHC will provide other mental health related services as requested by MAAC.

## **VI. Deliverables**

Contractor shall submit a monthly invoice with documentation to support the services provided. The documentations should include number of hours spent on each site and shall include:

## **VII. Qualifications**

Following are the minimum qualification requirements for mental health service consultants:

- A. Mental health services consultants must possess a current BBS License as an LMFT, LCSW, or LPCC. If the organization is proposing to use graduate level interns, submit clinical supervision plan with the proposal.
- B. The consultants must be knowledgeable about screening tools used to assess children's cognitive, social and emotional health;
- C. Must be willing to provide services to families in their home or center location;
- D. Must be able to develop individual child behavior plans;
- E. Must provide clinicians/interns that are fluent in English and Spanish;
- F. Must have a minimum of 10 years' experience with infants and toddlers.

Selected candidate will be required to submit the following documents prior to entering into an agreement with MAAC and will also be submitted to a background, fingerprint, and debarment checks:

- W-9
- Professional Liability Insurance
- Worker's Compensation Insurance
- Vehicle Insurance

MAAC reserves the right to determine which Candidate, in its sole judgement; best meets the agency's needs.