**Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare**

Request for Information

for

Outpatient -Mental Health and/or Medication Management

January 2022

# Section I-Introduction

## **Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare**

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare (Region 6), a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, has the statutory responsibility for organizing and supervising comprehensive mental health and substance use services in the Region 6 service area which includes Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties in eastern Nebraska.

Region 6, one of six mental health regions in Nebraska, along with the state’s regional centers, make up the state’s public mental health and substance abuse system, also known as the Nebraska Behavioral Health System (NBHS). Region 6 is governed by a board of county commissioners, who are elected officials from each of the counties represented in the Regional geographic area. The Regional Governing Board (RGB) is under contract with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services System (DHHS), the designated authority for administration of mental health and substance use programs for the state.

Each RGB appoints a Regional Administrator (RA) to be the chief executive officer responsible to the RGB. The RGB also appoints an advisory committee for the purpose of advising the Board regarding the provision of coordinated and comprehensive behavioral health services within the Region to best meet the needs of the general public. In Region 6, the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) is comprised of 10 members including consumers, concerned citizens, and representatives from other community systems in the Region.

The purpose of Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is to provide coordination, program planning, financial and contract management and evaluation of mental health and substance use services funded through a network of providers.

## **Region 6 Population Served**

Region 6, as a payer of last resort, primarily serves financially eligible adults and youth with, or at-risk of serious mental illness and/or substance use. Region 6’s geographical area includes Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties in eastern Nebraska.

# Section II-Request for Information (RFI)

**Statement of Need**

Region 6 is issuing this RFI to identify a provider(s) who would be interested in providing outpatient -mental health services and/or medication management services for children, youth and/or adults. Region 6 is seeking a provider(s) who can physically provide the services in one of the zip code areas listed below:

68104 66131

68110 68132

68111 68134

68112 68152

68120

If a provider is interested and meets the expectations listed in Section III below, Region 6 would like to enter into discussions with that provider without conducting a Request for Proposal.

## **Purpose/Summary of RFI**

Recently, Region 6 conducted input sessions with a variety of community stakeholders. During those sessions, many participants agreed on the importance for individuals to have easy access to services and choice from multiple providers. Access to services is defined as having a service location which is in close proximity to a person’s home/neighborhood. Data shows 21% of the calls from the mobile crisis team come from one of the zip code areas listed. In addition, data received from the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) and the Kim Foundation shows a total of 19 out of 78 suicides (24.3%) during the 1/1/21 to 12/10/21 period being from one of the zip code areas identified above. Region 6 would like to increase the number of providers in our network in the areas identified to help ensure easy and convenient access to behavioral health services.

If we receive interest from this RFI, Region 6 will enter into discussions with those submitting a response to determine interest in their being part of the Region 6 network system. Region 6 reserves the right to work with those responding without conducting a Request for Proposal.

## **RFI Services**

The services in this RFI have Service Definitions from the Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Behavioral Health. See Attachment 1.

**Point of Contact**

The point of contact for this RFI is:

Taren Petersen, Director of Network Services at tpetersen@regionsix.com.

# Section III-Eligibility Criteria

**The applicant:**

1. May be a state, county, or community-based not-for-profit agency.
2. Must be a legal, respected entity already established and physically offering outpatient and medication management services in one of the zip code areas identified.
3. Must agree to collect and provide data/outcomes to Region 6.
4. Have not been debarred from receiving federal funds or under Office of Inspector General (OIG) investigation.
5. The entity responding either is or will become a Medicaid provider and they would be willing to agree to Region 6’s contractual requirements.
6. Would have to agree to follow the service definitions in Attachment 1 and accept the current rate paid for outpatient and/or medication management.
7. Must be accredited by a national accreditation entity (i.e., CARF, etc.).
8. Be able to serve individuals who meet Region 6 eligibility criteria. That criterion includes:
9. Must live within the Region 6 area, (Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties)
10. Must be a legal citizen of the United States
11. Must meet the financial eligibility criteria (have low income) and have no insurance and no other means to pay for the service
12. Must meet the clinical criteria for outpatient and/or medication management

**Section IV-Use of Funds**

## **Allocation of Funds**

The service in this RFI proposal will be paid on a rate reimbursement below:

Outpatient (mental health)

 Assessment $250.68/per assessment

 Assessment Addendum $127.84/per addendum

 Individual Sessions $126.27/45 minute length

 Family $126.27/45 minute length

 Group $31.57/consumer hour

Medication Management $71.98/15-min. session

# Section V-RESPONSE Process

Organizations currently providing mental health outpatient and/or medication management services and are interested in further discussions with Region 6 must submit a response by Thursday, February 3, 2022. Responses should be submitted via e-mail to Taren Petersen at tpetersen@regionsix.com. Please enter ‘RFI Response’ in the e-mail subject line for easy identification.

**Note**: Submitting a response does not necessarily result in a contract with Region 6. Submitting a response indicates to us who might be interested in further discussions about contracting for outpatient and/or medication management services.

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## **Schedule of Events**

Release of RFI Friday, January 7, 2022

Response Deadline Thursday, February 3, 2022

4:00 pm (CST)

Interviews Scheduled (if needed) and Friday, February 4, 2022 -

Contract Discussions Conducted Friday, February18, 2022

Reviewed by Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Approval of Selected Organization(s) by

Region 6 Governing Board Wednesday, March 9, 2022

## **Written Questions and Answers**

Any explanation desired by the responder regarding the meaning or interpretation of any RFI provision should be submitted in writing to Taren Petersen at tpetersen@regionsix.com.

Questions must be presented in writing to be answered. The questions and their responses will be posted on the Region 6 website: [www.regionsix.com](http://www.regionsix.com).

## **Cost Liability**

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare assumes no responsibility or liability for costs by the respondent prior to the execution of an agreement between the organization and Region 6.

## **Disclaimer**

All the information contained within this RFI and its attachment reflect the best and most accurate information available to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare at the time of the RFI preparation. No inaccuracies in such information shall constitute a basis for legal recovery of damages, either real or punitive. If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFI, a supplement will be issued on the Region 6 website: [www.regionsix.com](http://www.regionsix.com).

## **Oral Interviews**

Region 6 reserves the right to conduct oral interviews if required. Any cost incidental to the interviews shall be borne entirely by the respondent and will not be compensated by Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare or the RGB.

## **Indemnification**

The respondent shall assume all risk of loss in the performance of the response submission and shall indemnify and hold harmless Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, its Governing Board, Advisory Committee members, and employees from all liabilities, demands, claims, suits, losses, damages, causes of action, fines or judgments and all expenses incident thereto, for injuries to persons and for loss of, damage to, or destruction of property caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the applicant, its officers, employees or agents; for any losses caused by failure of the applicant to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract; and for any losses caused by other parties which have entered into agreements with the respondent in connection with the performance of the contract.

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# Section VI-General Instructions on Submission of REsponses

All instructions included in this document are considered mandatory unless otherwise stated.

Responses should be prepared as an attachment and adhere to the format below for submission.

The due date for receipt of responses is Thursday, February 3, 2022. All submissions must be e-mailed to the contact below by 4:00 p.m. (CST).

Responses must be e-mailed to:

 **Taren Petersen at** **tpetersen@regionsix.com**

Please mark ‘**RFI Response**’ in the e-mail’s subject line.

# SECTION VII – RESPONSE FORMAT

Responses must be organized in the following sections in the order listed below:

**Organizational Capability and Outcomes**

Describe your organization’s capability to provide outpatient and or medication management services

1. Brief organizational history
2. Share which service or services you are interested in contracting with (i.e., outpatient, medication management) Region 6 and what ages your agency serves.
3. Describe current services, including physical location(s) where the service would be provided, hours of operation, ease of access to service, staffing, any bi-lingual staff, etc.
4. Explain how your current services are culturally sensitive and age- appropriate.
5. Share the outcomes (both measurements and results) your organizations use to evaluate the service(s) described above. Also state your willingness to work with Region 6 on establishing any additional outcome measures needed.
6. What is your current capacity? Estimate the number of Region 6 eligible individuals you think you might serve in a month.
7. Share when you would be able to begin seeing Region 6 eligible individuals? Would you need a couple of months or could you be ready immediately?

**Target Population and Geographic Area**

Describe how you would market the services to those in your service area?

# Attachments

Attachment A: Service Definitions for outpatient mental health and medication management.