REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

INTRODUCTION

Tewa Women United (TWU), an incorporated Native women-led community-based non-profit organization, seeks professional services to assist with community needs assessment and evaluation of a three phase 60-month, youth driven Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (Tribal PREP) project to educate an estimated 75 community youth between the ages of 10 and 19 years, and pregnant and parenting youth under age 21, on abstinence and contraception, using comprehensive and medically accurate information.

As Native women leaders, we work to address the primary issues of environmental, reproductive and gender-based violence resulting from the traumatic effects of colonization, patriarchy, and white supremacy. Each of our primary program areas works to create change in body, mind, heart and spirit on individual, family, and community levels: 1) Indigenous Women’s Health and Reproductive Justice, 2) Environmental Health and Justice, 3) Women’s Leadership and Economic Freedom. These program areas braid together Western and Indigenous ways of knowing to find solutions to the complex issues facing our Native communities. Our intergenerational approach includes our Sayain’, Circle of Grandmothers, and our A’Gin Youth Council. Our campaigns are rooted in the struggle to reclaim a Culture of Peace by reclaiming and revitalizing Tewa values, practices, language and traditions to support connection and belonging for all our communities. We are part of local and international movements that organize for nuclear non-proliferation, human rights, and centering women, girls and our Earth Mother. We serve the communities/constituencies of the six northern Tewa Pueblos of Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso; Tesuque, and also non-Native peoples in northern Santa Fe and Rio Arriba counties, a rural and underserved area with the need for culturally specific and comprehensive services. Our projects focus specifically on what healing gender-based violence, environmental degradation, and reproductive injustice means to community members residing in Rio Arriba and Northern Santa Fe Counties and the six Tewa speaking pueblos.

REQUIREMENTS

During Phase One, to be completed by May 2022, the contractor will assist TWU staff to explore the needs and resiliency of individual youth in our service area, as well as the needs and resources within the community system to create an environment that supports our Tribal youth with protective factors. The needs assessment will inform our Implementation Plan to address the needs of our identified target communities in the areas of teen pregnancy prevention and youth preparation for adulthood. The needs assessment will explore what changes we may need to make to our current programming to most effectively serve youth and communities. We currently provide our culturally adapted and enhanced A’Gin Healthy Sexuality Body Sovereignty curriculum with five Adulthood Preparation Subjects to promote successful, healthy adulthood transitions. These include adolescent development, educational
and career success, financial literacy, healthy life skills, healthy relationships and parent-child communication.

Results of the needs assessment will inform the program implementation and evaluation plans. Implementation is anticipated to begin August 2022 and be completed by June 2026.

The local evaluation plan will be designed to provide greater understanding and improvement of the implemented activities in Phase Two, identify areas of improvement and suggest strategies for refining and strengthening the program. The local evaluation will result in final evaluation for Phase Three of the project period ending September 30, 2026. We will integrate the voices and efforts of youth and other community members in assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation.

This RFP is requesting proposals for the first year of the project only ending September 29, 2022.

Proposed Year One activities must include:

I. Use current qualitative and quantitative data to assess 1) the quality and capacity of existing teen pregnancy prevention programs, 2) numbers and characteristics of youth and families who receive services or potentially may receive services, 3) the extent to which these program models are evidence-based, high-quality, and meeting the needs of eligible families; and 4) the factors which may limit capacity in providing teen pregnancy prevention and adulthood preparation subject material; 5) the needs of the community in the area of teen pregnancy prevention, STI, and the preparation of youth for adulthood; 6) protective factors that promote resilience.

II. Use results of the needs assessment to develop a plan for program implementation with project staff.

III. Develop the framework for program performance and evaluation and submit an evaluation plan by June 30, 2022.

IV. Implement the approved evaluation plan including but, not limited to:
   b. Measure and report on progress in meeting benchmarks.
   c. Participate in ongoing performance measurement data collection and evaluation activities to build the knowledge base around evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention strategies for Native Americans.
   d. Submit Local Evaluation and Performance reports.
   e. Collaborate with Federal staff and TWU staff to achieve approval of all deadlines for required Tribal PREP plans and reports.

The budget for proposed activities must not exceed $107,691 for needs assessment and local evaluation in year one of the project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The proposal identified for contracting will be selected solely by the judgement of TWU according to the following considerations regarding knowledge of and experience in:
A. Traditional and non-traditional assessment and evaluation practices;
B. Equity-focused Evaluation
C. Community Engagement and Collaborative Practices
D. Evidence of alignment with TWU program areas and ability to contribute positively to creating a Beloved Community by honoring and valuing one another, putting forward solutions to issues/concerns, and voicing both positive/negative in a manner that is respectful to oneself and the others;
E. Reasonableness and Cost Effectiveness of proposed budget

**REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION**

Submit via email,
Subject Line: Tribal PREP RFP
To the designated TWU contact

An electronic document as an attachment containing a Narrative and Proposed Budget that describes
A. Proposed activities and costs to achieve project activities;
B. Knowledge and experience relevant to the selection criteria.

Any questions about proposal preparation must be directed to the designated TWU contact via email.

**DUE DATE AND TIME**

To be eligible for review the proposal must be received electronically by the designated TWU contact no later than December 6th, 2021, 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time

**DESIGNATED TWU CONTACT**

Nathana Bird
TWU Associate Director
nathana@tewawomenunited.org

**PROCESS**

All eligible proposals will be reviewed for responsiveness and evaluated according to the Selection Criteria. It is expected that notification will be made within two weeks after review.