INVITATION: Sealed Proposals, subject to the attached conditions, will be received at this office until March 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m., Central Time for the acquisition of the product/services described below.

Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study

Request for Proposals Coordinator: Leigh Washington
contracts@mdcps.ms.gov
Proposals must be received by the above named party by the official deadline to be considered. Proposals will be time stamped as they are received by MDCPS.

Any proposals received after the deadline will be marked as being LATE and will not be opened. All proposals received by MDCPS are deemed to be the property of MDCPS and may be used as MDCPS sees fit. MDCPS will not be responsible for non-delivery or late delivery of proposals. The Proposer alone is responsible for ensuring that their proposal package is delivered to 750 N State Street, Jackson, MS 39202, no later than the official deadline.

If using a commercial delivery company such as FedEx, UPS, USPS or any other public, private or commercial courier service that requires that you use their shipping package, your proposal should be sealed and labeled as stated above to prevent premature opening. Parties submitting proposals assume all risks of delivery, including late delivery, lost delivery or failure to deliver.

Lapses in protocol or deviations from the published standards can result in formal objections, legal challenges and delays in the overall award process, which will ultimately result in failure to provide the necessary services to the citizens of Mississippi.

It is recommended that you submit early (i.e., at least 2 days before the submission deadline date).
MDCPS reserves the right to amend the contents of this RFP as it deems necessary. It is the Proposer’s sole responsibility to monitor the website (www.mdcps.ms.gov) for amendments to this RFP to ensure that their response is pursuant to the amended RFP, if applicable. If applicable, the acknowledgement of amendment(s) must accompany the Proposal to be considered responsive.

MDCPS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS WHERE THE PROPOSER TAKES EXCEPTION TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RFP AND/OR FAILS TO MEET THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND/OR IN ANY WAY ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT THE RIGHTS OF MDCPS AND/OR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE REQUIRED CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN THIS RFP.
# Table of Contents

Section 1……………………………………………………………………………………………………5
  Background.................................................................................................................5
  Proposal Acceptance Period ....................................................................................5
  Expenses Incurred in Preparing Proposals.............................................................6
  Registration with the Mississippi Secretary of State..............................................6
  Debarment..................................................................................................................6
  Additional Information...............................................................................................7
  Proprietary Information.............................................................................................7
  Type of Contract – Firm Fixed Price Agreement....................................................7
  Written Proposals.....................................................................................................7
  Acknowledgement of Amendments.........................................................................7

Section 2..........................................................................................................................8
  Purpose..........................................................................................................................8
  Scope of Services.........................................................................................................8
  Term/Renewal of Contracts.......................................................................................10
  Multiple Awards.........................................................................................................10

Section 3..........................................................................................................................10
  Insurance......................................................................................................................10

Section 4..........................................................................................................................11
  Minimum Information.................................................................................................11
  Proposal Submission Requirements.........................................................................12
  Evaluation Procedure................................................................................................13
  Nonconforming Terms and Conditions.................................................................13
  Award............................................................................................................................15

Section 5..........................................................................................................................17
  Post Award Debriefing...............................................................................................17
  Protest of Solicitation of Awards.............................................................................17
  Proposal Exceptions..................................................................................................17
  Required Terms and Conditions.............................................................................19
  Approval Clause.........................................................................................................19
  Attachments...............................................................................................................19
Section 1

1.1 Background

The Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services was created as the state’s lead child welfare agency by the 2016 Mississippi Legislature, separating it from the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The mission of MDCPS is to lead Mississippi’s efforts in keeping children and youth safe and thriving by:

- strengthening families;
- preventing child abuse, neglect and exploitation; and,
- promoting child and family well-being and permanent family connections

1.2 Proposal Acceptance Period

One (1) original and five (5) copies shall be submitted to 750 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39205 no later than the time and date specified for receipt of proposals. The original copy and two (2) copies must be received with Proposer identifiable information. Three (3) copies should be received without the name of the Proposer or any other identifying information of who submitted the Proposal. If the three (3) anonymous copies identifies or distinguishes the Proposer, the Proposal will be immediately rejected and will not be considered for an award.

Timely submission of the Proposal is the responsibility of the Proposer. Proposals received after the specified time, shall be rejected. The envelope or package shall be marked with the Proposal opening date and time and the number of the request for proposals. The time and date of receipt shall be indicated on the envelope or package.

1.2.1 Required Letter of Intent

Proposers shall notify MDCPS of their intention to submit a Proposal. The letter of intent (Attachment A) shall be submitted via email at contracts@mdcps.ms.gov by March 1, 2019, 3:00 p.m., Central Time. The letter of intent shall include the title of this request for proposals, the proposer’s organizational name and address, one (1) to two (2) sentences stating that the proposer’s organization intends to submit a proposal for this service, location of the service area, and the contact person’s name, title, phone number, fax number, Tax I.D. number, DUNS number, address and email address. Contracts@mdcps.ms.gov shall acknowledge receipt of letter of intent via email A NON-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT is a NON-RECEIPT of required letter of intent. It is the Proposer’s sole responsibility to ensure timely receipt.
1.2.3 Procurement Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertisement</td>
<td>February 8, 2019; February 15, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive Questions for Clarification Deadline</td>
<td>February 26, 2019, 2:00 p.m., CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respond in Writing to Clarification (<a href="http://www.mdcps.ms.gov">www.mdcps.ms.gov</a>)</td>
<td>February 27, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Letter of Intent Deadline</td>
<td>March 1, 2019, 3:00 p.m., CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Deadline</td>
<td>March 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m. CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Opening</td>
<td>March 7, 2019, 1:00 p.m., CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase I Review (Responsiveness)</td>
<td>March 7, 2019, 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase II Evaluation of Proposal(s)</td>
<td>March 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Check</td>
<td>March 12-14, 2019, or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase III (Selection)</td>
<td>March 15, 2019 or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Written Notification to Proposer(s)</td>
<td>March 20, 2019 or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Period of Performance</td>
<td>May 1, 2019 - September 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 Expenses Incurred in Preparing Offers

MDCPS accepts no responsibility for any expense incurred by the Proposer in the preparation and presentation of an offer. Such expenses shall be borne exclusively by the Proposer.

1.4 Registration with Mississippi Secretary of State

By submitting a Proposal the proposer certifies that it is registered to do business in the State of Mississippi as prescribed by the Mississippi Secretary of State or, if not already registered, that it will do so within seven (7) days of being offered an award. Sole proprietors are not required to register with Mississippi Secretary of State.

1.5 Debarment

By submitting a Proposal, the proposer certifies that it is not currently debarred from submitting Proposal for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi and that it is not an agent of a person or entity that is currently debarred from submitting proposals for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi.

(Attachments B and C - FDVR and PDV Forms, respectively)

1.6 Competitive Proposals

Discussions may be conducted with Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. Likewise, MDCPS also reserves the right to accept any Proposals as submitted for contract award, without substantive negotiation of proposed terms,
services or prices. For these reasons, all Proposers are advised to propose their most favorable terms initially.

Awards shall be made to the responsive and responsible Proposer whose Proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the State, taking into consideration all the evaluation factors set forth in Section 4.4.1.

Proposal Evaluation Committee

An evaluation committee will be selected to evaluate and rate Proposals. Prior to evaluations, a list of all Proposers will be presented to the committee for conflict of interest certification purposes. This list shall only include the name of the Proposer without any corresponding identifying information which would affect the blind evaluation of factors not requiring knowledge of the name of the Proposer. Each individual participating in the evaluation shall execute a statement certifying that he or she does not have a conflict of interest.

If the designated person reveals the names of Proposers and the corresponding identifying information before such time, the procurement process shall be terminated and the Proposal resolicited.

Members of the committee will be from pertinent MDCPS programmatic and administrative personnel and/or other professional staff and consultants may also assist in the evaluation process. The committee will review each Proposer’s qualification in order to determine if the Proposal sufficiently addresses all of the RFQ requirements and that the Proposer has developed a specific approach to meeting each requirement.

_The committee will evaluate technical and cost factors with no knowledge of the names of the Proposers._

_The committee will not evaluate price. Each Proposer will receive 35 points if a price is included in their Proposal._

1.7 Additional Information

Questions related to services shall be submitted in writing to Bonlitha Windham at Contracts@mdcps.ms.gov no later than February 26, 2019, 2:00 p.m., Central Time. Questions concerning the technical portions of the Request for Proposals should be directed to Leigh Washington at Contracts@mdcps.ms.gov no later than February 26, 2019, 2:00 p.m., Central Time. Proposers are cautioned that any statements made by the contact or technical contact person that materially change any portion of the Request for Proposals shall not be relied upon unless subsequently ratified by a formal written amendment to the Request for Proposals. All questions and answers will be published on MDCPS’ website (www.mdcps.ms.gov) in a manner that all respondents will be able to view by February 27, 2019.

Questions and responses will be issued as an amendment and proposers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment by signing and returning with the proposal the Responses to Questions per RFP Form on MDCPS’ website (www.mdcps.ms.gov). The acknowledgment must be received by
MDCPS by the time and at the place specified for receipt of proposals. It is the proposer’s sole responsibility to monitor the website for amendments to the RFP. by signing and returning the amendment (Attachment E) with the Proposal, by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose.

MDCPS will not be held liable or responsible for responses to proposers by persons other than the persons specifically designated in this section.

From the release of this RFP until a contract is executed, Proposers shall not communicate with any MDCPS staff concerning the RFP except by using the method described above. If the Proposer attempts any unauthorized communication, MDCPS reserves the right to reject the Proposer’s proposal.

1.8 Proprietary Information

The Proposer should mark any and all pages of the proposal considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Any pages not marked accordingly will be subject to review by the general public after award of the contract. Requests to review the proprietary information will be handled in accordance with applicable legal procedures. (Attachment D)

1.9 Type of Contract – Firm Fixed Price Agreement

1.10 Written Proposals

All Proposals shall be in writing.

1.11 Acknowledgement of Amendments

Proposers shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to the solicitation by signing and returning the amendment (Attachment E) with the Proposal, by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose. The acknowledgment must be received by MDCPS by the time and at the place specified for receipt of Proposal.

Section 2

2.1 Purpose

MDCPS is seeking to establish a contract for Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study services. It is understood that any contract resulting from RFP No. 2019KNFS001 requires approval by MDCPS Commissioner/designee. Any contract resulting from RFP No. 2019KNFS001 shall become effective upon final signature by the MDCPS Commissioner.

2.2 Scope of Services
NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR KINSHIP NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

The Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services is seeking proposals from qualified entities with child welfare experience to provide analysis regarding the need and feasibility for a Kinship Navigator program with a centralized point of access in Mississippi. The final work product should include a report with accompanying quantitative analysis, tables and illustrations as well as information regarding well supported kinship navigator program models. The Scope of Work for the project is detailed further in this Request for Proposal (RFP).

Scope of Work: Feasibility Study for Kinship Navigator Program in Mississippi

Purpose:

1. To carry out a comprehensive feasibility study on the possible implementation of a Kinship Navigator program focused on providing supports and guidance to relative caregivers whom do not have active cases with the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services. The study will support agency goals for child safety, permanency and well-being.

2. Complete an analysis of the different options for implementation of the Kinship Navigator program including cost-effectiveness and sustainability.

3. Identify capacity, resource requirement and opportunities for partnership to undertake successful and viable Kinship Navigator Program throughout the state.
   To gather the necessary data and information, the selected Consultant will need to identify and interview kinship caregivers as well as review models for existing Kinship Navigator programs.

Description of Expected Outcomes to be Delivered:

1. Brief report of all meetings between the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services and the provider.

2. A report after one week of the initial meeting with a detailed working plan explaining understanding terms of reference as well as methodologies to be followed in undertaking the task reporting valid data.

3. A report outlining the situation analysis and key preliminary issues identified to validate and set the tone for the remainder of the study. This report shall be submitted four weeks after the initial meeting.

4. A final report shall include:
   
   - Professional high standard and quality graphs related to the number of kinship caregivers identified across the state by region whom do not have active cases with Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services.
• Professional high standard and quality graphs related to the types of services families indicate they need through random sample surveys.

• A summary of recommendations for partnership and implementation for the Kinship Navigator program in Mississippi including:
  a. Opportunity to partner with other agencies
  b. Projected cost for implementation of the Kinship Navigator program
  c. Strengths and Weaknesses of current kinship navigator programs and barriers to sustainability.

5. A verbal presentation should be made with the submission of the final report.

6. If a program is determined to be feasible and the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services notifies contractor(s) to begin implementation, the contractor(s) should be prepared to fully implement a Kinship Navigator program for the state of Mississippi by September 30, 2019. The implementation of the Kinship Navigator program is subject to quality assurance reviews by Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services.

2.3 Term/ Renewal of Contracts

The term of the contract shall be for a period of five months. The contract may be renewed at the discretion of MDCPS upon written notice to the Independent Contractor prior to the contract anniversary date for a period of one (1) successive year under the same prices, terms, and conditions as in the original contract. The total number of renewal years permitted shall not exceed four (4). The renewal options shall end on June 30, 2023.

2.4 Multiple Awards

MDCPS reserves the right to make multiple awards.

Section 3

3.1 Insurance

The company represents that it will maintain workers' compensation insurance which shall inure to the benefit of all the company’s personnel performing services under this Contract, comprehensive general liability insurance, and employee fidelity bond insurance. All general liability, professional liability and fidelity bond insurance will provide coverage to MDCPS as an additional insured.

All insurance policies shall be issued by companies authorized to do business under the laws of the State of Mississippi. A certificate of insurance providing the aforesaid coverage shall be furnished to MDCPS prior to commencement of services resulting from this RFP. MDCPS reserves the right to request from carriers, certificates of insurance regarding the required
coverage. Insurance carriers must be licensed or hold a Certificate of Authority from the Mississippi Department of Insurance.

Section 4

4.1 Written Proposal Shall Contain the Following Minimum Information:

(1) name of consultant, location of consultant's principal place of business, and the place of performance of the proposed contract,

(2) age of consultant's business and the average number of employees over the past three years;

(3) resume' listing abilities, proposals and experience of all individuals who will be assigned to provide the required services;

(4) listing of three contracts under which services similar in scope, size, or discipline were performed or undertaken, including at least two (2) references for current contracts or those awarded during the past three (3) years. On Attachment I (Professional References form) list three (3) projects to include the names and addresses of the projects, the scope of the project, and the names and telephone numbers of the clients for reference purposes. All information on the Professional References form must be completed. Incomplete forms will be rejected.);

(5) a plan giving as much detail as is practical explaining how the services will be performed; and,

4.2 Proposal Submission Requirements

The sealed Proposal shall be typed, indexed and divided with all pages of the proposal numbered to allow for ease of handling by MDCPS in the following order:

- Table of Contents;
- Required format followed (typed, indexed and numbered in required order);
- Required number of identifiable and non-identifiable copies of proposal provided;
- Proposal Cover Sheet (Attachment F);
- Proposal Form (Attachment G);
- Required Letter of Intent Acknowledgement email from contracts@mdcps.ms.gov;
- Completed and signed Acknowledgement of Amendment Form, if applicable (Attachment E);
- Resume’ listing abilities, qualifications and experience of all individuals who will be assigned to provide the required services;
- References (Attachment I);
- Detailed description of past experience of feasibility study services;
• Plan giving as much detail as is practical explaining how the services will be performed;
• A budget narrative including an itemized list of all expenditures for the services and activities covered by the Proposal with no additional or hidden fees (Attachment Q);
• Signed acceptance of MDCPS Standard Terms and Conditions (Attachment H);
• Completed and signed Federal Debarment Verification Form (Attachment B);
• Completed and signed Partnership Debarment Verification Form (Attachment C);
• E-verify documentation (https://www.uscis.gov/e-verify/e-verify-enrollment-page);
• Completed and signed W-9 (https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf);
• Current Certificate of Liability Insurance;
• Minority Vendor Self Certification Form (Attachment M);
• Proposal Exception Summary Form (Attachment K);
• Completed and signed Proprietary Information Form (Attachment D);
• Completed and signed Pre-Applicant’s Statement of Acknowledgement (Attachment P);
• Statement the proposer certifies that it is registered to do business in the State of Mississippi as prescribed by the Mississippi Secretary of State or, if not already registered, that it will do so within seven (7) days of being offered an award. Sole proprietors are not required to register with Mississippi Secretary of State.

Additional submission requirements include:

Mailing or hand delivering one (1) original and five (5) copies of the Proposal in accordance with Section 1.2 shall be submitted in a sealed envelope or package to 750 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39205. The original and two (2) copies of identifiable Proposals must be marked “IDENTIFIABLE ORIGINAL AND TWO COPIES”. Sealed Proposals should be labeled as follows:

Request for Proposals for Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study Services
RFP No. 2019KNFS001
IDENTIFIABLE ORIGINAL AND TWO COPIES
PROPOSAL DEADLINE: March 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m., Central Time
OPENING DATE: March 7, 2019, 1:00 p.m., Central Time
Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services
750 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
SEALED PROPOSAL PACKAGE
***DO NOT OPEN***

AND

The three (3) non-identifiable Proposals must be marked “NON-IDENTIFIABLE THREE COPIES” Proposals should be labeled as follows:

Request for Proposals for Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study Services
RFP No. 2019KNFS001
NON-IDENTIFIABLE THREE COPIES

RFP No.2019KNFS001
PROPOSAL DEADLINE: March 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m., Central Time
OPENING DATE: March 7, 2019, 1:00 p.m., Central Time
Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services
750 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
SEALED PROPOSAL PACKAGE
***DO NOT OPEN***

- Timely submission of the Proposal package is the responsibility of the Proposer. Proposal received after the specified time will be immediately rejected, shall not be considered for award and Proposers shall be notified as soon as practicable of late Proposal. The time and date of receipt by MDCPS will be indicated on the envelope or package by MDCPS staff.
- Each page of the one (1) original and two (2) copies of identifiable Proposal forms and all attachments must be identified with the name of the Proposer.
- Each page of the three (3) non-identifiable Proposal forms and all attachments should be not be identified with the name of the Proposer.
- MDCPS reserves the right to decide, on a case-by-case basis, whether to reject a Proposal with modifications or additions as non-responsive.
- Any Proposer claiming that its Proposal contains information exempt from the Mississippi Public Records Act (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 2561-1 et seq.), shall segregate and mark the information as confidential and provide the specific statutory authority for the exemption.
- All Proposal packages must be received by MDCPS no later than March 7, 2019, 12:00 p.m., Central Time. Proposals submitted via facsimile (faxes) or email will not be accepted. It is recommended that if a Proposal is mailed to MDCPS, it should be posted in certified mail with a return receipt requested. MDCPS will not be responsible for mail delays or lost mail.

4.2.1 Late Submissions

Proposals received after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered unless it is the only Proposal received.

4.2.2 Responsive Proposer

Proposer must submit a proposal which conforms in all material respects to RFP No. 2019KNFS001 as determined by MDCPS.

4.2.3 Responsible Proposer

Proposer must have capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance, as determined by MDCPS.

4.3 Nonconforming Terms and Conditions
A proposal that includes terms and conditions that do not conform to the terms and conditions in the Request for Proposals is subject to rejection as non-responsive. MDCPS reserves the right to permit the Proposer to withdraw nonconforming terms and conditions from its Proposal prior to a determination by the MDCPS of non-responsiveness based on the submission of nonconforming terms and conditions.

4.3 Evaluation Procedure

4.3.1 Evaluation Factors

The MDCPS reserves the right to accept, reject, or negotiate any or all offers on the basis of the evaluation criteria contained within this document. The final decision to execute a contract with any party rests solely with the MDCPS Commissioner.

Proposals submitted by the specified time and containing requirements described in Section 4.2 the shall be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee selected by the MDCPS. The specific criteria that will be used in evaluating the merits of the qualifications are listed below. The criteria are weighted to yield a total of 100 points and shall include the following:

Management Factors - 25 Points

1. Proposer’s approach to the management of the program and ability to keep the program on target and to ensure that the requested services are provided;
2. Proposer’s control of the program to ensure that all requests are being met and that the Proposer is able to identify and resolve problems which occur;
3. Proposer’s methods for estimating and documenting personnel hours spent by staff on program activities to be sure they are sound and fair; (Personnel, equipment, facilities, to perform the services currently available or demonstrated to be made available at the time of contracting)
4. Proposer’s understanding of the importance of interacting with the appropriate MDCPS staff and presenting a plan to do so appropriately.
5. To what extent does the offeror rely on in-house resources vs. contracted resources
6. Current financial position and cash flow of the Proposer and evidence that the Proposer has a history of financial solvency.

Technical Factors (Proposed Methodology) - 20 Points

1. Proposer includes plan for performing the required services

2. Proposer includes evidence of ability to perform the services as reflected by technical training and education, general experience, specific experience in provide the required services, and the qualifications and abilities of personnel proposed to be assigned to perform the services. Use of innovative technology and techniques provided.
Cost Factors - 20 points

1. Proposer includes a narrative that relates funding needs to the operation of individual activities. Sufficient detail within each line item of expenditure and each activity shall be used to clearly explain the funding needs of the operation. Each major budget category shall be justified with detail about how the funds will be used.
2. Proposer includes indirect cost plan agreement
3. Proposer includes quality control and assurance programs
4. Proposer's financial stability and strength: Does the offeror have sufficient financial resources to meet its obligations?

Price - 35 points

Price is objectively scored in accordance with Formula for Evaluating Price (Attachment O) by an MDCPS staff person not affiliated with the evaluation committee.

TOTAL 100

4.5 Award

The contract will be awarded by written notice, to the highest ranked Proposer(s) whose proposal meets the requirements and criteria set forth in this Request for Proposals.

4.6 Basis of Award

All Proposal packages received in response to this RFP by the stated deadline will receive a comprehensive, fair, and impartial review. A review committee will consider the Proposals in the following three-phase process:

Phase I (Responsiveness): During this phase of the review process, all Proposals received will be reviewed to determine if it is responsive based on the following mandatory requirements:

- Proposal submission deadline met;
- Table of Contents;
- Required format followed (typed, indexed and numbered in required order);
- Required number of identifiable and non-identifiable copies of proposal provided;
- Proposal Cover Sheet (Attachment F);
- Proposal Form (Attachment G);
- Required Letter of Intent Acknowledgement email from contracts@mdcps.ms.gov;
- Completed and signed Acknowledgement of Amendment Form, if applicable (Attachment E);
- Resume’ listing abilities, qualifications and experience of all individuals who will be assigned to provide the required services;
- References (Attachment I);
- Detailed description of past experience of feasibility study services;
• Plan giving as much detail as is practical explaining how the services will be performed;
• A budget narrative including an itemized list of all expenditures for the services and activities covered by the Proposal with no additional or hidden fees (Attachment Q);
• Signed acceptance of MDCPS Standard Terms and Conditions (Attachment H);
• Completed and signed Federal Debarment Verification Form (Attachment B);
• Completed and signed Partnership Debarment Verification Form (Attachment C);
• E-verify documentation (https://www.uscis.gov/e-verify/e-verify-enrollment-page);
• Completed and signed W-9 (https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf);
• Current Certificate of Liability Insurance;
• Minority Vendor Self Certification Form (Attachment M);
• Proposal Exception Summary Form (Attachment K);
• Completed and signed Proprietary Information Form (Attachment D);
• Completed and signed Pre-Applicant’s Statement of Acknowledgement (Attachment P);
and,
• Statement the proposer certifies that it is registered to do business in the State of Mississippi as prescribed by the Mississippi Secretary of State or, if not already registered, that it will do so within seven (7) days of being offered an award. Sole proprietors are not required to register with Mississippi Secretary of State.

Each proposal that is determined incomplete may be declared non-responsive and may be rejected with no further evaluation. The Office of Contracts and Procurement may request clarifications from the Proposer(s) in order to determine if they may advance to Phase II. Proposers that are determined to have complied will continue to Phase II, while Proposers that are determined to be non-responsive will be notified in writing of such determination.

**Proposers who do not move to Phase II will be promptly notified in writing (which may include electronic mail).**

**Phase II (Evaluation):** During this phase of the review process, all remaining Proposals will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee (as referenced in Section 4.3) to determine responsibility; i.e., whether the minimum Proposer requirements of this RFQ have been met. Each proposal will be scored using the evaluation factors referenced in Section 4.3.1. Proposers that have received a minimum aggregate score of 40 and who received a minimum aggregate score of “6” from two references (total of “12” points) to be considered responsible and for its proposal to be considered. These Proposers will continue to the Phase III, while Proposers that are not determined to be responsible will be notified in writing of such determination. The aggregate score will be added to the 35 points for price.

**Proposers who do not move to Phase III will be promptly notified in writing (which may include electronic mail).**

**Phase III (Selection):** After the Evaluation Committee has completed the evaluation of the qualifications, a summary report including all evaluations will be submitted to the MDCPS Commissioner and appropriate Deputy Commissioner. The MDCPS Commissioner will make the
final decision regarding the winning proposals. The winning proposal(s) must have a minimum average score of 75 points.

4.7 Notification

All participating Proposers will be notified of MDCPS’ intent to award a contract. In addition, MDCPS will identify the selected Proposer. Notice of award is also made available to the public upon request.

Section 5

5.1 Post-Award Debriefing Request

Agencies are encouraged to exchange information with vendors in an effort to build and strengthen business relationships and improve the procurement process between vendors and the State. To further this effort, agencies shall establish vendor debriefing procedure(s) and inform vendors at the time of procurement of the right to request a debriefing and the deadline to file a request. At a minimum, debriefing should occur before expiration of the protest period, within three (3) business days after the vendor request and prior to submission of the contract packet to the PPRB. Agencies shall submit with the contract approval request, documentation signed by their agency head or his or her designee, reporting the number of vendor debriefings requested and conducted. This information may be included as part of the protest correspondence required in Section 7-113 (Protest of Solicitations or Awards)

5.2 Protest of Solicitations of Awards

(a) Interested Party means an actual or prospective bidder or offeror that may be aggrieved by the solicitation or award of a contract, or by the protest.
(b) Protestor means any actual or prospective bidder or offeror who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or the award of a contract and who files a protest.
(c) Special Assistant Attorney General shall mean the individual assigned by the Attorney General to provide legal assistance to the Department of Finance and Administration.

Agencies shall submit, with their contract approval request, documentation signed by their Executive Director, Agency Head, or his or her designee certifying that adequate time (at least seven (7) calendar days after issuing the award) to protest has been given to all prospective contractors and that no protest or potential protests are known to the agency or any agency employees. If a protest is known, the agency shall resolve the protest prior to the scheduled PPRB Board meeting. In the contract submission packet, the agency shall include a Protest Memo which discloses the subject matter of the protest, states whether the protest has been resolved, and explains the agency’s internal procedure for reviewing protests and describes how the agency plans to or made the final determination concerning the protest.

5.3 Proposal Exceptions
Please return the Proposal Exception Summary Form (Attachment J) with all exceptions to items in any Section of this RFQ listed and clearly explained or state “No Exceptions Taken.” If no Proposal Exception Summary Form is included, the Proposer is indicating that he takes no exceptions to any item in this RFQ document.

5.3.1 Unless specifically disallowed on any specification herein, the Proposer may take exception to any point within this RFQ, including a specification denoted with ”must” or “shall,” as long as the following are true:

5.3.1.1 The specification is not a matter of State law;
5.3.1.2 The Proposal still meets the intent of the RFQ;
5.3.1.3 A Proposal Exception Summary Form is included with the Proposal; and
5.3.1.4 The exception is clearly explained, along with any alternative or substitution the Proposer proposes to address the intent of the specification, on the Proposal Exception Summary Form.

5.3.1.5 The Proposer has no liability to provide items to which an exception has been taken. MDCPS has no obligation to accept any exception. During the Proposal evaluation and/or contract negotiation process, the Proposer and MDCPS will discuss each exception and take one of the following actions:

5.3.1.6 The Proposer will withdraw the exception and meet the specification in the manner prescribed;
5.3.1.7 MDCPS will determine that the exception neither poses significant risk to the project nor undermines the intent of the RFQ and will accept the exception;
5.3.1.8 MDCPS and the Proposer will agree on compromise language dealing with the exception and will insert same into the contract; or
5.3.1.9 None of the above actions is possible, and MDCPS either disqualifies the Proposal or withdraws the award and proceeds to the next ranked Proposer.

5.3.2 Shall MDCPS and the Proposer reach a successful agreement, MDCPS will sign adjacent to each exception which is being accepted or submit a formal written response to the Proposal Exception Summary responding to each of the Proposer’s exceptions. The Proposal Exception Summary Form, with those exceptions approved by MDCPS, will become a part of any contract on acquisitions made under this RFQ.

5.3.3 An exception will be accepted or rejected at the sole discretion of MDCPS.

5.3.4 MDCPS desires to award this RFQ to an Proposer with whom there is a high probability of establishing a mutually agreeable contract, substantially within the standard terms and conditions of the State's RFQ, including the Standard Contract in Attachment J. As such, Proposals, in the sole opinion of MDCPS, reflect a substantial number of material exceptions to this RFQ, may place themselves at a comparative disadvantage in the evaluation process or risk disqualification of their Proposals.
5.3.5 For Proposers who have successfully negotiated a contract with MDCPS in the past, MDCPS requests that, prior to taking any exceptions to this RFQ, the individual(s) preparing this Proposal first confer with other individuals who have previously submitted Proposals to MDCPS or participated in contract negotiations with MDCPS on behalf of their company, to ensure the Proposer is consistent in the items to which it takes exception.

5.4 Required Contract Terms and Conditions

Any contract entered into between MDCPS and a vendor/Proposer shall include the required clauses found in Attachment K and those required by the Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations as updated.

5.5 Approval Clause

It is understood that if this contract requires approval by the Public Procurement Review Board and/or the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration Office of Personal Service Contract Review and this contract is not approved by the PPRB and/or OPSCR, it is void and no payment shall be made hereunder.

5.6 Attachments

The attachments to this Request for Proposals are made a part of this Request for Proposals as if copied herein in words and figures.
ATTACHMENT A

REQUIRED LETTER OF INTENT

________________________________________
Organization Name

________________________________________
Address

________________________________________
City, State, Zip Code

Leigh Washington, RFP Coordinator
Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services
750 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Leigh Washington:

This letter confirms our intent to submit a proposal pursuant to RFP No. 2019KNFS001.

________________________________________
Organization Name

County(ies) or Statewide

in compliance with the requirements of the letter of intent, ____________________________________________

________________________________________
Organization Name

submits the following information on or before deadline of March 1, 2019, 3:00 p.m., Central Time:

Contact Person’s Name: ____________________________________________

Contact Person’s Title: ____________________________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________________________

Fax Number: ____________________________________________

Tax I.D. Number: ____________________________________________

DUNS Number: ____________________________________________

Physical Address: ____________________________________________

Authorized Official’s Email Address: ____________________________________________

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Authorized Official

Federal Debarment Verification Form
Revised April 5, 2016

ATTACHMENT B

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES
FEDERAL DEBARMENT VERIFICATION FORM

*Please Print Clearly or Type*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgrantee’s/Contractor’s Name</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorized Official’s Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUNS Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you currently registered with <a href="https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns">https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns</a> (Respond Yes or No)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Status (Type Active or Inactive)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Exclusions (Type Yes or No)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I hereby certify that _________________________________ is not on the list for federal debarment on [https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns](https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns) –System for Award Management.

_________________________________________           ___________________
Signature of Authorized Official                                               Date
ATTACHMENT C

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES

PARTNERSHIP DEBARMENT VERIFICATION FORM

*Please Print Clearly or Type*

| Subgrantee’s/Contractor’s Name | |
| Authorized Official’s Name | |
| DUNS Number | |
| Address | |
| Phone Number | |

I hereby certify that all entities who are in partnership with MDCPS (subcontractors, subrecipients, et al.) are not on the federal debarment list on [https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns](https://uscontractorregistration.com/search-sam-cage-duns) – System for Award Management. Proof of documentation of partnership verification with SAM shall be kept on file and the debarment status shall be checked prior to submission of every contract/subgrant and modification to MDCPS.

__________________________________________           ___________  
Signature of Authorized Official                                               Date
ATTACHMENT D

Proprietary Information Form

Did the Proposer submit any information to the MDCPS for the RFP No. 2019KNFS001 which contained trade secrets or other proprietary data which the contractor wishes to remain confidential in accordance with Section 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 of the Mississippi Code?

Yes ________  No _________

If yes, please indicate which parts/pages below that the contractor wishes to designate as proprietary.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

____________________________________________________________________ (No stamped signature)

Signature of Authorized Official/ Title  Date

____________________________________________________________________

Name of Organization
ATTACHMENT E

Acknowledgement of Amendment to RFP No. 2019KNFS001

I, ______________________, acknowledge that RFP No. 2019KNFS001 has been amended on

Authorized Official’s Name

________________ to include the following:

Date

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

I, ______________________, understand that Proposals will only be accepted from Proposers

Authorized Official’s Name

who submit this acknowledgement of amendment #________________

____________________________

Name of Company

____________________________

Authorized Official’s Typed Name/Title

__________________________________(No stamped signature)

Signature of Authorized Official          Date

This acknowledgement should be enclosed in accordance with the instructions located in Section 1.11 of this RFP.
ATTACHMENT F

Proposal Cover Sheet

The Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services is soliciting Proposals from qualified Proposers.

Date Submitted: ______________

Amount of Funding Requested: $ _______________ (include all associated costs with no additional or hidden fees)

Proposer Organization Information:

Name of Organization: ________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________

Authorized Official: _________________________________________________________________

Phone: (___) ___________________ Email: ______________________________________________

Tax I.D. No.: ___________________ DUNS No.: _________________________________

BUSINESS ID No. (Issued from Mississippi Secretary of State’s Office): ______________________

Contact Person for Proposer:

Name: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________

Phone: (___) ___________________ Email: ________________________________
In addition to providing the above contact information, please answer the following questions:

How many years has the firm been in business to perform the services outlined in this RFP?____________________________________________

Please provide the physical location and mailing address of your company’s home office, principal place of business, and place of incorporation.______________________________________________________________________________

If your company is not physically located in the region, how will you supply the services outlined in the RFP?__________________________________________

List all licenses or permits your company possess that are applicable to performing the services required in this RFP.______________________________________________________________________________

Describe any specific services which your company offers along with any specialized experience, certification, and/or education of your current staff.______________________________________________________________________________

By signing below, I certify that the abovementioned information is true and complete and I have the authority to bind the company. I do not have any questioned costs, audit, monetary and/or unresolved findings with MDHS, Division of Program Integrity. I understand that as a condition of award, I may be required to present documentation which verifies the accuracy of the information on this Proposal Cover Sheet. Any incorrect and/or missing information is considered non-responsive and is subject to rejection.

Signature of Authorized Official/Title (No stamped signature)  Date

RFP No.2019KNFS001
ATTACHMENT G

Proposal Form for Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study Services

Categories of Services to be provided. Proposer must mark each category for which they wish to be considered.

○ Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposer</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study Contract Rate Schedule

The total compensation for these services is $___________________.

Must include an itemized breakdown of the above-referenced budget categories and explain how each line item was calculated. All pricing should be based on contract deliverables on page 1 and include all associated costs with no additional or hidden fees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total</th>
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By signing below, the company representative certifies that he/she has authority to bind the company, and further acknowledges and certifies on behalf of the company:

_________________________________
Authorized Representative Signature
ATTACHMENT H

MDCPS STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. That he/she has thoroughly read and understands the Request for Proposals and Attachments thereto;

2. That the company meets all requirements and acknowledges all certifications contained in the Request for Proposals and Attachments thereto;

3. That the company agrees to all provisions of the Request for Proposals and Attachments thereto including, but not limited to, the Required Clauses to be included in any contract resulting from this RFP (Attachment I);

4. That the company will perform the services required at the prices indicated above;

5. The company represents that its workers are licensed, certified and possess the requisite credentials to perform Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study services.

6. NON-DEBARMENT-By submitting a Proposal, the company certifies that it is not currently debarred from submitting proposals for contracts issued by any political subdivision, agency of the State of Mississippi, or any other state and that it is not an agent of a person or entity that is currently debarred from submitting proposals for contracts issued by any political subdivision, agency of the State of Mississippi, or any other state.

7. INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION-The company certifies that the prices submitted in response to the solicitation have been arrived at independently and without (for the purpose of restricting competition) any collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Proposer or competitor relating to those prices, the intention to submit a proposals, or the methods or factors used to calculate the prices proposals/offered.

8. PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR’S REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES-The prospective contractor represents as a part of such Independent Contractor's proposals or proposal that such Independent Contractor has/has not (please circle applicable word or words) retained any person or agency on a percentage, commission, or other contingent arrangement to secure this contract.

9. REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES-The company represents that it has/has not (please circle applicable word or words) retained a person to solicit or secure a State
contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or other contingent fee, except as disclosed in the company’s proposals or proposal.

10. **REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES**-The bidder, Proposer independent contractor represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate

**MDCPS STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the Mississippi Personal Service Contract Review Board Rules and Regulations.

Company Name: ________________________________________________________________

Printed name of authorized representative: __________________________________________

Date: __________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ______________________________________________________________________

*Note: Please be sure to circle the applicable word or words on numbers 9 (Prospective Contractor’s Representation Regarding Contingent Fees) and 10 (Representation Regarding Contingent Fees) above. Failure to circle the applicable word or words and/or sign the proposals form may result in the proposals being rejected as non-responsive. Modifications or additions to any portion of this proposal may be cause for rejection of proposals.*
ATTACHMENT I

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

REFERENCE 1
Name of Company: ________________________________
Dates of Service: __________________________________
Contact Person: ___________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________________________
Telephone Number: _________________________________
Cell Number: ______________________________________
E-mail: __________________________
Alternative Contact Person (optional): __________________
Telephone Number: _________________________________
Cell Number: ______________________________________
E-mail: __________________________
Description of services including start and end dates
ATTACHMENT I

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

REFERENCE 2
Name of Company: ____________________________________________
Dates of Service: ______________________________________________
Contact Person: ________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _________________________________________________
Telephone Number: ____________________________________________
Cell Number: _________________________________________________
E-mail: _______________________________________________________
Alternative Contact Person (optional): ____________________________
Telephone Number: __________________________________________
Cell Number: _________________________________________________
E-mail: _______________________________________________________
Description of services including start and end dates
ATTACHMENT I

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

REFERENCE 3
Name of Company: ________________________________________________
Dates of Service: ________________________________________________
Contact Person: _________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________________________________
Telephone Number: ______________________________________________
Cell Number: ____________________________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________________
Alternative Contact Person (optional): ________________________________
Telephone Number: ______________________________________________
Cell Number: ____________________________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________________________
Description of services including start and end dates
Proposer must submit at least three (3) references for contracts of similar size and scope, including at least two (2) references for current contracts or those awarded during the past three (3) years. Proposer may submit as many references as desired by submitting as many additional copies of Attachment I, Professional References, as deemed necessary. References will be contacted in order listed until two (2) references have been interviewed and Reference Score Sheets completed. No further references will be contacted; however, proposers are encouraged to submit additional references to ensure that at least two (2) references are available for interview. MDCPS staff must be able to contact two (2) references within two MDCPS business days of quote opening for proposer to be considered responsive.

ATTACHMENT J

Reference Score Sheet

TO BE COMPLETED BY MDCPS STAFF ONLY

LOCATION (city, county, region or statewide):[______________________________]
Applicant Name: ____________________________________________________________
Reference Name: ____________________________________________________________
Spoke to: ________________________________________________________________
Score: ________________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Able to provide services in a timely manner?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Satisfied with _______ services provided? If no, please explain.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposer easy to work with?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposer listened when you had an issue and readily offered a solution? If never an issue, please check here_______.)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would you recommend?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each “yes” is one point; each “no” is zero points. Proposer must have a minimum score of “4” from two references (total of “8” points) to be considered responsible and for its bid to be considered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you have any business or professional interest in the applicant’s organization? If yes, please explain.</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Called by:__________________________________________________________

Date/Time:____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
## ATTACHMENT K

### Proposal Exception Summary Form

List and clearly explain any exceptions, for all Proposal Sections and Attachments, in the table below. Indicate “N/A”, if there are no exceptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFP Reference</th>
<th>Proposer Proposal Reference</th>
<th>Brief Explanation of Exception</th>
<th>MDCPS Acceptance (sign here only if accepted)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference specific outline point to which exception is taken</td>
<td>Page, section, items in Proposer’s proposal where exception is explained</td>
<td>Short description of exception being made</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
For Illustrative Purposes Only

ATTACHMENT L

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES
CONTRACT FOR ___________________________ SERVICES

1. Parties. The parties to this contract are the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services (hereinafter “MDCPS”) and [Independent Contractor] (hereinafter “Independent Contractor”).

2. Purpose. The purpose of this contract is for the MDCPS to engage Independent Contractor and Independent Contractor hereby agrees to render certain professional services described in Paragraph 3, “Scope of Services.”

3. Scope of Services. Independent Contractor will perform and complete in a timely and satisfactory manner the services described in the “Scope of Services” attached hereto as Exhibit A, and the “2nd Modified Mississippi Settlement Agreement and Reform Plan,” attached hereto as Exhibit B, and incorporated herein by reference.

4. Consideration. As consideration for the performance of this Contract, the Independent Contractor shall be paid a fee not to exceed __________($__________) in accordance with the Budget attached hereto as Exhibit C. It is expressly understood and agreed that in no event shall the total compensation paid hereunder exceed the specified amount of __________($__________).

5. Period of Performance. This contract will become effective for the period beginning [add date] and ending on [add date], upon the approval and signature of both parties hereto.

6. Renewal of Contract: The contract may be renewed at the discretion of MDCPS upon written notice to Independent Contractor to each contract anniversary date for a period of four successive one-year periods under the same prices, terms, and conditions as in the original contract and/or subsequent contracts. The total number of renewal years permitted shall not exceed [four], or extend past [add date]. However, if MDCPS does not intend to renew the contract, the [Independent Contractor’s Name] shall be notified in writing prior to the contract anniversary date.

7. Method of Payment. Independent Contractor agrees to accept payments referenced in
Paragraph 4, “Consideration”, to be paid as billed by Independent Contractor, upon review and approval by MDCPS. Independent Contractor agrees to submit invoices to MDCPS that contain a detailed account of each billing. The final invoice is to be submitted no later than fifteen (15) days after the contract end date. Independent Contractor is classified as an independent contractor and not a contractual employee of MDCPS. As such, any compensation due and payable to Independent Contractor will be paid as gross amounts. Independent Contractor invoices shall be submitted to the Agency as set forth in Paragraph 27. Independent Contractor invoices shall be submitted to MDCPS at contract.invoices@mdcps.ms.gov by the 10th day of each month following completion.

8. Applicable Law. The contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi, excluding its conflicts of laws, provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the federal courts in the State or in a court of competent jurisdiction in Hinds County, Mississippi. Independent Contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

9. Availability of Funds. It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of the MDCPS to proceed under this agreement is conditioned upon the appropriation of funds by the Mississippi State Legislature and the receipt of state and/or federal funds. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State of Mississippi to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to MDCPS, MDCPS shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to Independent Contractor, to terminate this agreement without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to the MDCPS of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

10. Representation Regarding Contingent Fees. Independent Contractor represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure a state contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except as disclosed in Contractor’s bid or proposal.

11. Representation Regarding Gratuities. The Independent Contractor represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations.

12. Compliance with Laws. Independent Contractor understands that MDCPS is an equal opportunity employer and therefore, maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful and Independent Contractor agrees during the term of the agreement that Independent Contractor will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and provision of services. Independent Contractor shall comply with, and all activities under this agreement shall be subject to, all applicable
federal, State of Mississippi, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.

13. Insurance. Independent Contractor represents that it will maintain workers’ compensation insurance as required by the State of Mississippi which shall inure to the benefit of all the Independent Contractor’s personnel provided hereunder; comprehensive general liability or professional liability insurance, and employee dishonesty insurance or fidelity bond insurance with third party liability coverage. All general liability, professional liability, employee dishonesty, and fidelity bond insurance will provide coverage MDCPS as an additional insured. MDCPS reserves the right to request from carriers, certificates of insurance regarding the required coverage. Insurance carriers must be licensed or hold a Certificate of Authority from the Mississippi Department of Insurance.

14. Indemnification. To the fullest extent allowed by law, Independent Contractor shall indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless, protect, and exonerate the agency, its commissioners, board members, officers, employees, agents, and representatives, and the State of Mississippi from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, suits, actions, damages, losses, and costs of every kind and nature whatsoever including, without limitation, court costs, investigative fees and expenses, and attorney’s fees, arising out of or caused by Independent Contractor and/or its partners, principals, agents, employees and/or subcontractors in the performance of or failure to perform this agreement. In the State’s sole discretion, Independent Contractor may be allowed to control the defense of any such claim, suit, etc. In the event Independent Contractor defends said claim, suit, etc., Independent Contractor shall use legal counsel acceptable to the State. Independent Contractor shall be solely responsible for all costs and/or expenses associated with such defense, and the State shall be entitled to participate in said defense. Independent Contractor shall not settle any claim, suit, etc. without the State’s concurrence, which the State shall not unreasonably withhold.

15. Stop Work Order.

1) Order to Stop Work: MDCPS, may, by written order to Independent Contractor at any time, and without notice to any surety, require Independent Contractor to stop all or any part of the work called for by this contract. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding 90 days after the order is delivered to Independent Contractor, unless the parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, Independent Contractor shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the parties shall have agreed, MDCPS shall either:

   a) cancel the stop work order; or,

   b) terminate the work covered by such order as provided in the Termination for Default clause or the Termination for Convenience clause of this contract.
2) Cancellation or Expiration of the Order: If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order, or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, Independent Contractor shall have the right to resume work. An appropriate adjustment shall be made in the delivery schedule or Independent Contractor price, or both, and the contract shall be modified in writing accordingly, if:

   a) the stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in Independent Contractor’s cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this contract; and,

   b) Independent Contractor asserts a claim for such an adjustment within 30 days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that, if MDCPS decides that the facts justify such action, any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this contract.

3) Termination of Stopped Work: If a stop work order is not canceled and the work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order shall be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

4) Adjustments of Price: Any adjustment in contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the Price Adjustment clause of this contract.

16. Termination. The Commissioner may terminate this contract with or without cause upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Independent Contractor.

17. Termination for Convenience.

   1) Termination. The Commissioner or designee may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. The Commissioner or designee shall give written notice of the termination to Independent Contractor specifying the part of the contract terminated and when termination becomes effective.

   2) Independent Contractor's Obligations. Independent Contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work and on the date set in the notice of termination Independent Contractor will stop work to the extent specified. Independent Contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. Independent Contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Commissioner or designee may direct Independent Contractor to assign Independent Contractor’s right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the State. Independent Contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination.
and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so.

18. Termination for Default.
   1) Default. If Independent Contractor refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this contract with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this contract or any extension thereof, or otherwise fails to timely satisfy the contract provisions, or commits any other substantial breach of this contract, the Commissioner or designee may notify Independent Contractor in writing of the delay or nonperformance and if not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by the Commissioner or designee, such officer may terminate Independent Contractor’s right to proceed with the contract or such part of the contract as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform. In the event of termination in whole or in part, the Commissioner or designee may procure similar supplies or services in a manner and upon terms deemed appropriate by the Commissioner or designee. Independent Contractor shall continue performance of the contract to the extent it is not terminated and shall be liable for excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods or services.

   2) Contractor's Duties. Notwithstanding termination of the contract and subject to any directions from the procurement officer, Independent Contractor shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of Independent Contractor in which the State has an interest.

   3) Compensation. Payment for completed services delivered and accepted by the State shall be at the contract price. The State may withhold from amounts due Independent Contractor such sums as the Commissioner or designee deems to be necessary to protect the State against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders and to reimburse the State for the excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods and services.

   4) Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance. Except with respect to defaults of subcontractors, Independent Contractor shall not be in default by reason of any failure in performance of this contract in accordance with its terms (including any failure by Independent Contractor to make progress in the prosecution of the work hereunder which endangers such performance) if Contractor has notified the Commissioner or designee within 15 days after the cause of the delay and the failure arises out of causes such as: acts of God; acts of the public enemy; acts of the State and any other governmental entity in its sovereign or contractual capacity; fires; floods; epidemics; quarantine restrictions; strikes or other labor disputes; freight embargoes; or unusually severe weather. If the failure to perform is caused by the failure of a subcontractor to perform or to make progress, and if such failure arises out of causes similar to those set forth above, Independent Contractor shall not be deemed to be in default, unless the services to be furnished by the subcontractor were reasonably obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Independent Contractor to meet the contract requirements. Upon request of Independent Contractor, the Commissioner or designee shall ascertain the facts and
extent of such failure, and, if such officer determines that any failure to perform
was occasioned by any one or more of the excusable causes, and that, but for the
excusable cause, Independent Contractor’s progress and performance would have
met the terms of the contract, the delivery schedule shall be revised accordingly,
subject to the rights of the State under the clause entitled in fixed-priced contracts,
“Termination for Convenience”. (As used in this Paragraph of this clause, the term
“subcontractor” means subcontractor at any tier).

5) **Erroneous Termination for Default.** If, after notice of termination of Independent
Contractor’s right to proceed under the provisions of this clause, it is determined
for any reason that the contract was not in default under the provisions of this
clause, or that the delay was excusable under the provisions of Paragraph (4)
(Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance) of this clause, the rights and
obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for
termination for convenience of the State, be the same as if the notice of termination
had been issued pursuant to such clause.

6) **Additional Rights and Remedies.** The rights and remedies provided in this clause
are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this
contract.

19. **Termination Upon Bankruptcy.** This contract may be terminated in whole or in part by
MDCPS upon written notice to Independent Contractor, if Independent Contractor should
become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or
involuntary, or upon the execution by Independent Contractor of an assignment for the
benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, Independent Contractor shall be
entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory work performed under
this contract, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total contract price.

20. **Modification or Renegotiation.** This agreement may be modified only by written
agreement signed by the parties hereto. The parties agree to renegotiate the agreement if
federal and/or state revisions of any applicable laws or regulations make changes in this
agreement necessary. Modifications shall not be initiated by the Independent Contractor
within the last 90 days of the contract period, without prior approval from the
Commissioner’s Office.

21. **Anti-assignment/Subcontracting.** Contractor acknowledges that it was selected by the State
to perform the services required hereunder based, in part, upon Contractor’s special skills
and expertise. Contractor shall not assign, subcontract, or otherwise transfer this
agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the State, which the
State may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny without reason. Any attempted
assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No
such approval by the State of any subcontract shall be deemed in any way to provide for
the incurrence of any obligation of the State in addition to the total fixed price agreed upon
in this agreement. Subcontracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this
agreement and to any conditions of approval that the State may deem necessary. Subject to
the foregoing, this agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the parties.

22. **Non-Solicitation of Employees.** Each party to this agreement agrees not to employ or to solicit for employment, directly or indirectly, any persons in the full-time or part-time employment of the other party until at least six (6) months after this agreement terminates unless mutually agreed to in writing by the State or Contractor.

23. **Waiver.** No delay or omission by either party to this agreement in exercising any right, power, or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by contract, at law, or in equity shall constitute an acquiescence therein, impair any other right, power or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by any means, or operate as a waiver of such right, power, or remedy. No waiver by either party to this agreement shall be valid unless set forth in writing by the party making said waiver. No waiver of or modification to any term or condition of this agreement will void, waive, or change any other term or condition. No waiver by one party to this agreement of a default by the other party will imply, be construed as or require waiver of future or other defaults.

24. **E-Payment.** Independent Contractor agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi’s electronic payment and remittance vehicle. The agency agrees to make payment in accordance with Mississippi law on “Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies,” which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the agency within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Mississippi Code Annotated § 31-7-301 et seq.

25. **E-Verify.** If applicable, Independent Contractor represents and warrants that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008, and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 71-11-1 et seq. The term “employee” as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State of Mississippi. As used herein, “status verification system” means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. Independent Contractor agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security when required, Independent Contractor agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. Independent Contractor further represents and warrants that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws. The breach of this agreement may subject Independent Contractor to the following:

1. termination of this contract for services and ineligibility for any state or public contract in Mississippi for up to three (3) years with notice of such cancellation/termination being made public;

2. the loss of any license, permit, certification or other document granted to Independent Contractor by an agency, department or governmental entity for the right to do business in Mississippi for up to one (1) year; or,
(3) both. In the event of such cancellation/termination, Independent Contractor would also be liable for any additional costs incurred by the State due to Contract cancellation or loss of license or permit to do business in the State.

26. **Transparency.** This contract, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the “Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983,” and its exceptions. See Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* and Mississippi Code Annotated § 79-23-1. In addition, this contract is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 27-104-151 *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed contract is required to be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration’s independent MDCPS contract website for public access at [http://www.transparency.mississippi.gov](http://www.transparency.mississippi.gov). Information identified by Independent Contractor as trade secrets, or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information or any other information which is required confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes, will be redacted.

27. **Paymode.** Payments by state agencies using the State’s accounting system shall be made and remittance information provided electronically as directed by the State. These payments shall be deposited into the bank account of Independent Contractor’s choice. The State may, at its sole discretion, require Independent Contractor to electronically submit invoices and supporting documentation at any time during the term of this Agreement. Independent Contractor understands and agrees that the State is exempt from the payment of taxes. All payments shall be in United States currency.

28. **Procurement Regulations.** The contract shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations, a copy of which is available at 501 North West Street, Suite 701E, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 for inspection, or downloadable at [http://www.DFA.ms.gov](http://www.DFA.ms.gov).

29. **Severability.** If any term or provision of this Contract is prohibited by the laws of the State of Mississippi or declared invalid or void by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Contract shall not be affected thereby and each term and provision of this Contract shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

30. **Trade Secrets, Commercial and Financial Information.** It is expressly understood that Mississippi law requires that the provisions of this contract which contain the commodities purchased or the personal or professional services provided, the price to be paid, and the term of the contract shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information and shall be available for examination, copying, or reproduction.

31. **Requirements Contract.** During the period of the contract, Independent Contractor shall provide all the service described in the contract. Independent Contractor understands and agrees that this is a requirements contract and that MDCPS shall have no obligation to Independent Contractor if no services are required. Any quantities that are included in the
The amount is only an estimate and Independent Contractor understands and agrees that MDCPS is under no obligation to Independent Contractor to buy any amount of the services as a result of having provided this estimate or of having any typical or measurable requirement in the past. Independent Contractor further understands and agrees that MDCPS may require services in an amount less than or in excess of the estimated annual contract amount and that the quantity actually used, whether in excess of the estimate or less than the estimate, shall not give rise to any claim for compensation other than the total of the unit prices in the contract for the quantity actually used.

32. **Entire Agreement.** This Contract constitutes the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes and replaces any and all prior negotiations, understanding, and agreements, written or oral, between the parties relating thereto.

33. **Approval Clause.** It is understood that if this contract requires approval by the Public Procurement Review Board and/or the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration Office of Personal Service Contract Review and this contract is not approved by the PPRB and/or OPSCR, it is void and no payment shall be made hereunder.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have affixed their signatures on the date indicated below, after first being authorized so to do.

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES**

By: ______________________________

Authorized Signature

Printed Name: Jess H. Dickinson

Title: Deputy Commissioner

**INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR’S NAME**

By: ______________________________

Authorized Signature

Printed Name: _________________________

Title: ________________________________
ATTACHMENT M

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MINORITY VENDOR SELF CERTIFICATION FORM

Please complete the following information on this form and return immediately to the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration, Attention: Vendor File Maintenance, P.O. Box 1060, Jackson, Mississippi 39215. Forms may also be faxed to (601) 359-5525.

Name of Business: _____________________________________________

Address: ________________________ Post Office Box: _______________

City: ________________ State: ________________ Zip: ____________

Telephone: _____________ Tax I.D.: _______________________

SAAS Vendor #s (if known): ________________________________

MINORITY STATUS

As used in this provision, means a business concern that (1) is at least 51% minority-owned by one or more individuals, or minority business enterprises that are both socially and economically disadvantaged and (2) have its management and daily business controlled by one or more such individuals as ascribed under the Minority Business Enterprise Act 57-69 and the Small Business Act 15 USCS, Section 637 (a). See back of form for more information. Should you require additional information regarding your Minority Status, or need assistance in completing this form please call the Mississippi Development Authority, Minority Business Enterprise Division at 601-359-3448.

___Applicable                                ____Not Applicable

IF MINORITY STATUS IS APPLICABLE, PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE CODE BELOW:

Minority Business Enterprise                             Women Business Enterprise

___A (Asian Indian)                                     ___M (Asian Indian)

___B (Asian Pacific)                                    ___N (Asian Pacific)

___C (Black American)                                   ___O (Black American)

___D (Hispanic American)                                ___P (Hispanic American)

___E (Native American)                                  ___Q (Native American)

___R (Other) Non Ethnic Women                           ___R (Other) Non Ethnic Women

The undersigned certifies under the penalties (administrative suspension and/or ineligibility for participation) set forth in the Minority Business Enterprise Act 57-69, and the Small Business Act 15 USCS, Section 637 (a), that the company classification and selected information above is true and correct. The undersigned will advise of any change in such classification at once.

Business: _____________________________________________ Certified by: ________________________________

Date: __________ Title: ______________ Name Printed: ________________________________

RFP No.2019KNFS001
ATTACHMENT N

2nd Modified Mississippi Settlement Agreement and Reform Plan

(See Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services Website)

https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/olivia-v-lawsuit/
ATTACHMENT O

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company A=$150,000</th>
<th>Company A=35</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company B=$160,000</td>
<td>Company B=150,000/160,000=.9375 x 35=32.8125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company C=$180,000</td>
<td>Company C=150,000/180,000=.8333 x 35=29.1666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Company A is the lowest proposer; therefore, the total evaluation points for price=35
ATTACHMENT P

Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services

Pre-Applicant’s Statement of Acknowledgment

I understand and acknowledge that my signature on the attached contract and other documents and exhibits does not constitute a contract until same is approved and signed by the Commissioner of the MDCPS, who is that agency’s official signature authority.

I further understand and acknowledge that the Commissioner of MDCPS may direct Kinship Navigator Feasibility Study services Program Unit, to reject any or all proposals.

Name_____________________________________________________________

Organization________________________________________________________

Signature of Authorized Representative: ________________________________

Date_______________________________________________________________
ATTACHMENT Q
Budget Narrative

Must include an itemized breakdown of the above-referenced budget categories and explain how each line item was calculated. All pricing should be based on contract deliverables in Section 2.2 and include all associated costs with no additional or hidden fees.

The Budget Narrative is used by contractors to provide a complete description of each item of cost under each budget category for each budget activity under the contract. The budget narrative shall include any relevant information necessary to describe the item of cost, or the source of funding the cost, or the method of allocating the cost to the contract and/or budget activity. Description of Item and Basis for Valuation or Cost: Enter a brief description of each line item and the basis for valuation of the item or cost. Each position authorized under salaries and wages, and each item under fringe benefits or equipment shall be specifically identified. For example:

I. Administration Budget Activity

Salaries  Project Director - This position handles the administrative functions involved in running the four locally operated day care centers. The ratio of children eligible under this contract to the total children served at each center is 25%, which will be used to allocate shared costs. Full-time position, 25% of time at $25,650 per year  $6,412.50
  Secretary/Bookkeeper – This position maintains all records for the day care centers. Full-time position, 25% of time at $13,960 per year  $3,490.00
  Total Administration Salaries  $9,902.50

Fringe Benefits  FICA - 7.65% of gross salaries  Workmen’s Compensation - 3% of gross salaries  Health Insurance - $120 per mo. per employee for 12 mos.
  x 25%  $757.54  $297.08  $720.00
  Total Administration Fringe Benefits  $1,774.62

Travel  Project Director is anticipated to visit day care sites at least quarterly. Mileage estimated at 600 miles x $0.51 per mile x 25%  In-Service Training (2 sessions at $240 each x 25%)  $76.50  $120.00
  Total Administration Travel  $196.50

Commodities  Office Supplies - Paper, pens, calculator tape, etc. $200 x 25%  Office Furniture - Secretarial Desk at $300 and Chair at $100 x 25%  $50.00  $100.00
  Total Administration Commodities  $150.00

I. Administration Budget Activity (continued)
Indirect Costs The organization-wide indirect cost rate agreement distributes all general administrative costs and central office facilities cost based on the total amount of direct salaries and fringe benefits of full-time employees. The approved indirect cost rate is 7% x Admin. Salaries - $9,902.50 + Fringe Benefits $1,774.62
  Total Indirect Costs $ 817.40

Total for the Administration Budget Activity $12,841.02

II. Child Day Care Budget Activity

Salaries  4 Day Care Supervisors at $20,000 per year - $ 80,000 x 25%  $20,000.00
  12 Day Care Teachers at $17,000 per year - $204,000 x 25%  $51,000.00
  12 P-T Teachers Aides at $7.50/hr x 5 hrs per day x 260 x 25%  $29,250.00
  Total Salaries  $100,250.00

Fringe Benefits  FICA - 7.65% of gross salaries $7,669.13
  Workmen’s Compensation - 3% of gross salaries $3,007.50
  Health Insurance - $120/ mo. x 12 mos. x 16 F-T employees x 25%  $5,760.00
  Total Fringe Benefits $16,436.63

Travel  Mileage to attend in-service training at central office twice per year for each Day Care Supervisor 500 miles x 4 x $0.51 x 25%  $255.00
  In-Service Training for 16 full-time employees (2 sessions at $240 each x 25%)  $1,920.00
  Total Travel  $2,175.00

Contractual Services  Software - License agreements for the use of new software proposals necessary to effectively operate each of the four child care centers, including:
  Office management programs $200 x 4 x .25%  $200.00
  Curriculum and training programs $300 x 4 x .25%  $300.00
  Utilities for each of the four (4) child care centers, including:  Telephone service - 4 centers x $80 per month x 12 months x 25%  $960.00
  Electric - 4 centers x $200 per month x 12 months x 25%  $2,400.00
  Water/Sewer - 4 centers x $50 per month x 12 months x 25%  $600.00
  Total Contractual Services $4,460.00

II. Child Day Care Budget Activity (Continued)

Commodities  Art Supplies (4 centers @ $100 per year x 25%)  $100.00
  Paper Supplies - towels, tissues, diapers, etc. (4 centers @ $600 per year x 25%)  $600.00
  Replacement furniture:  64 chairs @ $25.00 each x 25%  $400.00
  16 small tables @ $50.00 each x 25%  $200.00
  Total Commodities  $1,300.00

Capital Outlay- Equipment  Four (4) Commercial grade Refrigerators (one at each location) at $2,000 each x 25%  $2,000.00
One color printer at $300 x 25% $75.00  
Total Capital Outlay - Equipment $2,075.00

Capital Outlay -

Other Use Allowances for compensation for the use of the four child care center buildings based on the acquisition cost of the buildings and computed at an annual rate not exceeding two percent (2%) of the acquisition cost, as follows:
1. Center A at $52,000 acquisition cost x 2% use allowance x 25% $260.00
2. Center B at $60,000 acquisition cost x 2% use allowance x 25% $300.00
3. Center C at $64,000 acquisition cost x 2% use allowance x 25% $320.00
4. Center D at $110,000 acquisition cost x 2% use allowance x 25% $550.00
Total Capital Outlay - Other $1,430.00

Total for the Child Day Care Budget Activity $128,126.63

Total: $140,967.65