

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare

Request for Letters of Interest for

Community Violence Intervention Pilot

December 2024

Overview:

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is requesting letters of interest, from qualified interested parties, for the implementation of Nebraska LB1412 2024 (page 22) which includes a pilot program related to gun violence. This program is intended to assess the degree of community exposure to acts of violence, identify treatment services, use evidence-supported assessment procedures and intervention strategies, build a sustainable and accessible program beyond the pilot community, and conduct evaluations for such post-traumatic stress disorder assessment and treatment services. This pilot program is expected to begin immediately upon award and must conclude on or before September 30, 2025.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare has up to \$500,000 in funding to assist with the implementation of this pilot program.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare reserves the right to request further information from respondents after the scheduled deadline if necessary for the evaluation of funding allocation.

Eligibility and Restrictions:

The applicant:

1. Must be a Nebraska-based nonprofit organization that has the status of a tax-exempt organization under section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and
2. Must be an organization located in a city of a metropolitan class (in this case Omaha)

Schedule of Events:

Release of Request for Letters of Interest 10:00 a.m. (CST)	December 20, 2024
Letters Due to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare by 4:00 p.m. (CST)	January 27, 2025
Review Committee Meets (Interviews Conducted if Needed)	January 30, 2025 - January 31, 2025
Review and Recommendations By Behavioral Health Advisory Committee	February 5, 2025
Approval of Selected Applications by Region 6 Governing Board	February 12, 2025
Written Allocation Announcements of Grant Funding Disseminated by Regional Governing Board and Contract Negotiations Begin	February 13, 2025

Letters of Interest Deadline:

The due date for receipt of letters is January 27, 2025, and all letters must be received in Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare's office by 4:00 p.m. (CST). All letters must include one original document and 12 copies and be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Letters must be sent or delivered to:

**Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare
4715 S 132nd Street
Omaha, NE 68134
Attention: Jennifer Sanders**

Rejection of Letters:

Before the evaluation of the letters by the review committee, a specific review of each letter of interest will be completed to determine if the submission has followed the basic standards for consideration. Reasons for rejection at this stage include:

1. The letter was not received by the deadline posted or at the location specified.
2. The letter was not submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper.
3. Twelve (12) copies were not provided.
4. A budget document was not included.

Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare retains the right to reject any and all applications. The Regional Governing Board shall provide written notice to the respondent whose application was rejected.

Limits on Communication:

All questions regarding the request for letters must be presented in writing to be answered. Applicants may submit written questions to the Manager of System Initiatives at jsanders@regionsix.com. Responses to all written questions will be provided directly to those who submitted the question and then posted to the Region 6 website at Regionsix.com.

Except for written communication as outlined above, prospective applicants are prohibited from contacting Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare personnel, Behavioral Health Advisory Committee members, and/or Regional Governing Board members regarding the request for letters process during all phases of the application process and until determinations are made and announced.

If there are changes or important interpretations to be communicated to prospective applicants before the application due date, those will be posted on the Region 6 website at Regionsix.com.

NOTE: Communication posts can be made to the website up to the closing date/time. It is the responsibility of the organization submitting an application to monitor the website for additional communication.

Evaluation of Letters of Interest:

Each letter will be independently evaluated by members of a review committee established by Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare. This committee may include, but is not limited to: consumers, representatives of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health, Region 6 Regional Governing Board, and/or Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare staff.

Review committee names and any working documents, including applicants' scores, will not become public information nor will they be released to individual applicants. Recommendations from the review committee will be forwarded to the Regional Governing Board for final determination.

Applicants may be invited to appear before the review committee to respond to questions regarding their proposal if needed.

Announcement of Funding Allocations:

Applicants will be notified by mail of the final funding decisions. All decisions regarding funding allocations will be made on February 12, 2025, by the Regional Governing Board.

Project Details

Funds Available- Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare has a total of \$500,000 for this project.

Timeframe – All expenses must be billed to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare on or before September 30, 2025.

Goal- To develop a pilot program that will assess the need for substantial efforts to prevent Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder through the reduction of community gun violence.

Objectives – To assess the degree of community exposure to acts of violence, including, but not limited to:

- Children and/or families within a city of the metropolitan class and within three miles of a major airport who have witnessed incidents of gun violence, fighting or shooting, hearing gunshots, or experiencing an act of community violence. See LB1412 page 22 for further details.
- Identify treatment services: use the best available evidence-supported assessment procedures and intervention strategies that include non-office-based treatment settings and parent-operated programs.
- Build a sustainable and accessible program beyond the pilot community to engage community partnerships with key stakeholders, including, but not limited to, churches, law enforcement agencies, civic organizations and businesses.
- Conduct periodic evaluations for such post-traumatic stress disorder assessment and treatment services, including costs and settings for care, and proximal and distal client outcomes.

General Instructions on Submission of Letters of Interest

The Letter of Interest must address the questions below:

1) Organizational Capability: Briefly describe your organization's ability to successfully complete the pilot project, including:

- The person of contact for the project.
- A brief history of the organization applying and why they are qualified to take on this project.

- The organization's understanding of the geographic location of the pilot project and experience working with this community.
- If this is a joint application with more than one organization, please speak to the relationship and collaboration between the organizations involved.

2) Purpose: Explain your understanding of the purpose of this pilot project and how your organization will meet the needs of the pilot project outlined in Nebraska LB1412 (page 22). Explain what recent experience(s) you have had in working with victims of violence and/or what formal research your organization has conducted with victims of violence, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and/or community violence.

3) General Overview: Provide a general overview of how the components of the project will be organized and completed. State the service(s) that will be provided as the result of this project, data that will be collected, outcomes that will be measured, etc.

4) Sustainability: Address how this service component of the project will be sustained following the funding deadline (September 30, 2025).

5) Deliverables and Timelines: Below are the deliveries for the project. Address how you will accomplish each deliverable, the steps you will take to complete each activity, who will be involved, and the timeline in which each deliverable will be completed.

a. Completion of the pilot project to assess the needs for substantial efforts to prevent post-traumatic stress disorder through the reduction of community gun violence. This pilot program must serve children and families within a city of metropolitan size (in this case, Omaha) and within three miles of a major airport (in this case, Eppley Airfield). The pilot project shall assess the degree of community exposure to acts of violence, including, but not limited to, witnessing incidents of fighting or shooting, hearing gun shots, or experiencing an act of community violence.

b. Identify treatment services, using the best available evidence-supported assessment procedures and intervention strategies that include non-office-based treatment settings and parent-operated programs.

c. Build a sustainable and accessible treatment program beyond the pilot community to engage community partnerships with key stakeholders, including, but not limited to, churches, law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, and businesses.

d. Conduct periodic evaluations for such Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder assessment and treatment services, including costs and settings for care and proximal and distal client outcomes.

e. Prepare a detailed written report of all of the efforts, expenditures, and outcomes worked on in this project. The draft report will be sent to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare for review. Once reviewed, final copies of the report will be sent to Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (Division of Behavioral Healthcare), and the Human Services Committee of the Nebraska Legislature.

6) Communication: How will the project leader communicate with Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare on the project (start-up, updates through development, project completion, etc.)?

7) Funding: Identify all funds being requested and submit a budget (using attached budget forms) showing how all requested funds will be used. List any additional funds outside of those provided through this Request for Letters process, both public and/or private that are contributing toward this project (if any). Describe the intended, specific use of the funds requested.