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Bobby Jindal, Governor
Suzy Sonnier, Secretary

June 15, 2012

Ms. Sandra Gillen, Director
Office of Contractual Review
P. O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9095

Re: Cancellation of Request for Proposals (RFP) for Transitional Living Apartments for the Department of Children and Family Services

Dear Ms. Gillen:

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is canceling the Request for Proposals for Transitional Living Apartments because it has determined that this procurement is not in full compliance with state procurement procedures. The RFP contained standard Hudson and Veteran Small Entrepreneurship Initiatives language that would have jeopardized the funding for the procurement and the daily contractor rate for services included in the RFP does not accurately reflect the costs of providing the required services.

45 CFR 92.36 deals with procurement under Federal Block Grants and is made applicable to the Department's IV-E funding by 45 CFR 1355.30. The Department funds the Transitional Living Program in part with Title IV-E funding. 45 CFR 92.36 (c)(2) requires DCFS to conduct its procurements in a manner "that **prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed in-state or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals**". The Hudson and Veteran Small Entrepreneurship Initiatives language is designed to provide a preference for certain Louisiana owned small businesses which amounts to an in-state or local geographical preference. As the federal regulation applicable to Title IV-E funding prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed in-state or local geographical preference in the evaluation of bids or proposals, the funding for the procurement is jeopardized.

The daily contractor rate included in the RFP is \$72.76. It has been determined through feedback from current providers and internal research that the required services can not be provided at the proposed rate in the RFP. Continuing with this RFP will result in an insufficient proposal response to meet the needs of the Department.

In conformity with Commissioner Rainwater's memorandum of December 22, 2011 which provides for the exclusion of the Veteran and Hudson and Initiative language from RFPs where the "inclusion will jeopardize funding for the procurement", and to ensure that defined rate setting procedures are followed, the Department will reissue the Transitional Living Apartment RFP



excluding the above language and including an appropriate rate for services. It is in the best interests of the state to conduct the procurement in accordance with state procedures. Attached please find a copy of the LaPAC posting of the cancellation.

If you have any questions, please contact Candice LeBlanc at 342-5744

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Villemarette". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "V".

Brent Villemarette
Deputy Secretary of Programs

Attachment



NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Request for Proposals for the Transitional Living Apartments for the Department of Children and Family Services is being cancelled as of June 15, 2012. The department has determined that this procurement was not in full compliance with state procurement procedures.

Thank you for your participation in this procurement process and we hope that you will continue to participate in future RFP procurements of the department.

