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OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SECTION I: ANNOUNCEMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Unit: [PFC Resource Center](#)
Title: [Landscaping Services](#)

Issue Date: [April 12, 2021](#)
Close Date: [May 14, 2021](#)

Send All Proposals To:

RFP: Partnership for Children Resource Center [Landscaping Services](#) Proposals
Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.
Attention: Anna Marie Hall, Contracts Coordinator
351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 200
Fayetteville, NC 28303

Questions may be directed to: [Mike Yeager, Facility Operations Manager](#) at [910-826-3056 or myeager@ccpfc.org](#)

Interested parties must submit a signed proposal via email to amhall@ccpfc.org and amhallccpfc@gmail.com by 5:00pm on the Close Date as specified above. LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SECTION II: SCOPE OF WORK

The Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Local Partnership") is soliciting proposals to establish a contract through competitive negotiations. The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to acquire the goods and/or services of a qualified contractor (hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor") to provide [landscaping services to the Partnership for Children Family Resource Center as detailed on Page 2.](#)

This proposal is for two years of service, [July 1, 2021](#) through [June 30, 2023](#).

Details of the project include:

The Contractor will provide landscaping services the Partnership for Children Family Resource Center to include:

I. General Guidelines:

Due to the high volume of activity in the parking lot during the Family Resource Center's regular business hours Monday through Saturday, these services must be provided on Sundays between 8:00am and 9:00pm.

II. Spring Clean-Up

During the spring months (March – June), at least one general clean-up shall occur. This should include the following:

- Pruning of plant material to remove deadwood; and
- Application of a pre-emergent herbicide to mulched areas, groundcover areas, sidewalk cracks, curb expansion joints, and around other immovable objects on the property.

III. Plant/Shrub Care

Throughout the year, plants and shrubs shall be cared for according to the following guidelines:

- **Pruning**
Pruning shall be guided by the plant's bloom time to enhance the health, aesthetic appearance, and functional performance of each plant. Informal shrubs shall be pruned in a manner necessary to encourage the shrub's natural shape not less than twice per year. Formal shrubs shall be pruned in a manner necessary to maintain the Partnership's desired appearance as needed, but not less than three times and not more than five times per year. Deciduous trees up to 15' in height shall be pruned once per year between January and March to include removal of crossing branches, thinning branches to allow for good light penetration and air circulation, and removal of dead or diseased branches. All growth not considered to be of the species will be removed, i.e. vines and other undesired growth.
- **Pest Management**
The Contractor shall be responsible for the detection, monitoring, and control of plant damaging insects by making regular inspections of plant material and treating plants as necessary. Pest management will be conducted on plants of up a height of 25'.
- **Fertilization**
Shrubs shall receive a slow release fertilizer with a ratio approximating 3-4-2, or per formula deemed applicable to age, size, and condition of plants, at a rate of 4lbs per 100 square feet, in two or more applications between April 1 and June 30. Trees two caliper inches and smaller that occur in shrub beds will be fertilized at the same rate and on the same schedule.
- **Weed Control**
Plant beds and mulched areas will be chemically treated and/or hand weeded as needed throughout the year in order to keep the areas free of weeds and unwanted grasses to provide an aesthetically pleasing bed. Plant beds and mulched areas may be treated using pre-emergent and post-emergent herbicides as necessary to prevent further weed growth. An herbicide will be applied on a continuous basis to all sidewalks, curbs, and other hard surfaced areas to prevent unwanted growth.
- **Stake and Guy Wire Monitoring and Removal**
Plants that are staked and guyed shall be monitored regularly and guy wires shall be loosened as necessary to prevent girdling and/or weakened growth.

IV. Lawn Management

- **Mowing**
Mowing will be performed every seven days as needed in order to maintain an aesthetically pleasing appearance and a finished height of 2-4" throughout the mowing season. Grass clippings shall not remain in plant beds and mulched areas after mowing.
- **Trimming**
Contractor shall perform trimming on all turf that cannot reasonably be mowed using a monofilament type trimmer concurrently with mowing to maintain a well-defined and attractive interface of turn and other site amenities. Trimming height shall be consistent with the mowing height of adjacent turf.
- **Edging**
Contractor shall power-edge hard surfaced areas (sidewalks, curbs, etc.) as needed during the growing season to maintain a neat and orderly appearance. Edge shall be ¼" to ½" in width along any hard surface-turf interface. Mulched areas shall be maintained with a tucked or cut edge of 1 ½" to 2" deep to retain mulch.
- **Raking**
Leaf removal shall commence when deciduous trees begin to lose their leaves and will cease when all leaves have fallen and trees are barren.
- **Fertilization**
Once per year during the growing season, the Contractor shall be responsible for applying an industry acceptable fertilizer and weed control treatment conducive to centipede grasses for southern climates.
- **Seeding**
Turf will be seeded in areas as needed, at appropriate times, to maintain continuous turf appearance.

V. Designated Beds Management

The Contractor will continuously evaluate cover material for effectiveness and appearance purposes. As needed, the Contractor will provide written recommendations and cost estimates to the Facilities Operations Manager for approval.

VI. Removal of Debris

Prior to each mowing, all reasonable trash, sticks, and other unwanted debris shall be removed from lawns, plant beds, and paved areas. The Contractor shall be responsible for disposal of all debris removed. Leaves collected during the falling season shall be removed by the Contractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of all staking and guying materials used. Removal and disposal of all debris from the curbs, parking areas, and landscaped grounds shall continue throughout the year, even after the mowing season has ended.

VII. Parking Lot

Parking Lots and sidewalks, to include the entry door areas, will be blown clean of foreign materials, and curbs will be blown free of grass clippings and other debris as part of the routine weekly service schedule.

Important Notice Regarding Contract Requirements:

In addition to other contractual obligations and requirements, Contractors awarded contracts for service where they or their staff, agents or representatives may be present outside of normal business hours for the Partnership for Children Resource Center are required to submit to the Local Partnership the following documentation:

*A photograph of and a criminal background check for every employee, agent or representative who may provide services under the Contract **before that employee, agent or representative begins work** within the Partnership for Children Resource Center and at least annually, thereafter. Criminal background checks provided by the Contractor for each employee, agent or representative must cover a period of not less than seven (7) years and include records for all addresses at which the employee, agent or representative has resided during that time period. Background checks older than 60 days at the time of receipt by the Local Partnership will not be accepted. To ensure adherence to federal and state laws and regulations, criminal background checks will be accepted from an established, reputable reporting agency pre-approved by the Local Partnership; or a source subsequently approved in writing by the Local Partnership's President. Criminal background checks will be accepted, reviewed and maintained in accordance with the Local Partnership's Policy governing such, a copy of which can be provided to the Contractor upon request.*

SECTION III: EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL – The information in this section must be completed by the offeror.

By submitting this proposal, the offeror certifies the following:

- The proposal is signed by an authorized representative of the company;
- The offeror has, or can obtain, insurance certificates as required within ten (10) calendar days after notice of intent to award; The Local Partnership requires a minimum aggregate General Liability coverage of \$1,000,000 and Workers' Compensation Coverage. Additional insurances may be required dependent upon the services being provided;
- All labor costs, both direct and indirect, have been determined and are included in the proposal cost;
- The offeror can and will provide the specified performance bond or alternate performance guarantee (if applicable); and
- The offeror has read and understands the conditions set forth in the Request for Proposals and agrees to them with no exceptions.

Therefore, in compliance with this Request for Proposals, and subject to all conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees, if this proposal is accepted within not less than ninety (90) days from the Close Date, to furnish the subject goods and/or services.

OFFEROR: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____
TELEPHONE NO.: _____
FAX NO.: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
FEDERAL TAX ID NO.: _____
LICENSE NUMBER(S): (if applicable) _____

****Please complete the form above in its entirety. In the event that your company is selected to provide the goods and/or services proposed, we must have your Federal Tax ID Number in order to prepare Contract Documents.***

****Attach copies of your company's insurance, bonding and workers' compensation information.***

BY: _____
(Signature)

TITLE: _____

PRINTED NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SECTION IV: COST PROPOSAL – The information in this section must be completed by the offeror.

Please provide your cost to provide the goods and/or services. The cost(s) provided must be good through **June 30, 2023**.

Please detail your pricing details below:

Invoicing Schedule: (Check one)

- ☐ At the beginning of each month for services rendered during the previous month
- ☐ At the completion of each task or deliverable
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Other (*please specify*)

Please list the days and times you are available to provide the goods and/or services described in Section II: Scope of Work.

Please provide any additional information you feel is important.

SECTION V: REFERENCES

Offeror must supply at least three references for firms for which it has done similar or related work during the past three years.

1. Agency or Firm Name _____
Business Address _____
Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Description of Services _____

2. Agency or Firm Name _____
Business Address _____
Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Description of Services _____

3. Agency or Firm Name _____
Business Address _____
Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Description of Services _____

4. Agency or Firm Name _____
Business Address _____
Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Description of Services _____

5. Agency or Firm Name _____
Business Address _____
Contact Person _____
Phone Number _____
Description of Services _____

SECTION VI: GENERAL INFORMATION ON SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

1. **EXCEPTIONS:** All proposals are subject to the terms and conditions outlined herein. All responses shall be controlled by such terms and conditions and the submission of other terms and conditions, price lists, catalogs, and/or such other documents as part of an offeror's response will be waived and have no effect either on this Request for Proposals or on any contract that may be awarded resulting from this solicitation. OFFEROR SPECIFICALLY AGREES TO THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH BY SIGNATURE TO THE PROPOSAL.
2. **ORAL EXPLANATIONS:** The Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. shall not be bound by oral explanations or instructions given at any time during the competitive process or after award.
3. **REFERENCE TO OTHER DATA:** Only information, which is received in response to the RFP, will be evaluated; reference to information previously submitted shall not be evaluated.
4. **ELABORATE PROPOSALS:** Elaborate proposals in the form of brochures or other presentations beyond that necessary to present a complete and effective proposal are not desired.
5. **COST FOR PROPOSAL PREPARATION:** Any costs incurred by offerors in preparing or submitting offers are the offeror's sole responsibility; the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. will not reimburse any offeror for any costs incurred prior to award.
6. **TIME FOR ACCEPTANCE:** Each proposal shall state that it is a firm offer, which may be accepted within a period of not less than ninety (90) days.
7. **PRICES IN EFFECT:** Proposed prices shall remain in effect for the life of the contract.
8. **TITLES:** Titles and headings in the RFP and any subsequent contract are for convenience only and shall have no binding force or effect.
9. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPOSALS:** In submitting its proposal, the offeror agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of the proposal to any source outside of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. until after the award of the contract. Offerors not in compliance with this provision may be disqualified, at the option of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc., from contract award. Only discussions authorized by the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. are exempt from this provision.
10. **RIGHT TO SUBMITTED MATERIAL:** All responses, inquiries, or correspondence relating to or in reference to the RFP, and all other reports, charts, displays, schedules, exhibits, and other documentation submitted by the offerors shall become the property of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. when received.

SECTION VII: PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

1. Offerors are urged to submit a proposal for establishing, performing and/or providing the goods and/or services described herein. All proposals must be submitted strictly in accordance with the requirements for the Request for Proposal. Failure to furnish any required information with your proposal is grounds for rejection, at the option of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.
2. Each offeror shall demonstrate in its proposal that the firm and its management and employees are experienced and competent and that it has the background, training and experience to perform the services required by the Request for Proposal. This can be done by submitting, as an attachment, a Capability Statement of the firm.
3. Submit one signed proposal, digitally, to the address indicated on page 1 of this RFP.
4. All proposals must be received by the issuing agency not later than 5:00 pm on the date specified on page 1 of this RFP; as indicated by the date/time stamp on the electronic mail message containing the proposal.
5. At their option, the evaluators may request oral presentations or discussion with any or all offerors for the purpose of clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the proposal. However, offerors are cautioned that the evaluators are not required to request clarification; therefore, all proposals should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the offeror.
6. Proposals will be evaluated according to completeness, content, experience providing similar services, response time, the ability of the offeror and its staff, and cost. Award of a contract to one offeror does not mean that the other proposals lacked merit, but that, all factors considered, the selected proposal was most advantageous to the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.
7. In addition to any other evaluation criteria identified in the solicitation document, the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. shall, for the purposes of evaluating the proposal, consider the following factors to ensure that any award will be in the best interest of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.: total cost; level of quality information as provided by references; availability of pertinent skills; prior service history to the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.; and licensing/registrations as appropriate.
8. Offerors are cautioned that this is a request for offers, not a request to contract, and the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc. reserves the right to reject any and all offers when such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, Inc.
9. The evaluators reserve the right to request financial information as specified below. If requested, vendors must provide financial references in one of the forms outlined below within five (5) days from receipt of request: most recently accredited balance sheet; certified letter of credit or Performance Bond; statement from the company's financial institution indicating financial stability of the company.
10. If your firm is the successful vendor as a result of this solicitation, formal award will not be finalized until your firm has submitted all required insurance certificates.

SECTION VIII: CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A copy of our complete terms and conditions will be provided upon request. Below are those terms identified by our contract staff as most frequently discussed with Contractors upon award and execution of a Contract.

Availability of Funds:

The Parties to this Contract agree and understand that the payment of the sums specified in this Contract is dependent and contingent upon and subject to the appropriation, allocation, and availability of funds for this purpose to the Local Partnership. In the event funds are unavailable, the Local Partnership may terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor specifying the effective date of termination.

Statement of No Overdue Tax Debts:

The Contractor certifies that it does not have any overdue tax debts, as defined by N.C.G.S. §105-243.1, at the federal, State, or local level. The Contractor understands that any person who makes a false statement in violation of N.C.G.S. §143C-6-23(c) is guilty of a criminal offense punishable as provided by N.C.G.S. §143C-10-1.

Relationship of the Parties:

- A. The Contractor is and shall be deemed to be an independent contractor in the performance of this Contract and as such shall be wholly responsible for the work to be performed and for the supervision of its employees. The Contractor represents that it has, or shall secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Contract. Such employees shall not be employees of, or have any individual contractual relationship with, the Local Partnership.
- B. The Contractor shall not subcontract any of the work contemplated under this Contract without prior written approval from the Local Partnership. Any approved subcontract shall be subject to all conditions of this Contract. The Local Partnership shall not be obligated to pay for work performed by any unapproved subcontractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for the performance of all of its subcontractors.
- C. No assignment of the Contractor's obligations or the Contractor's right to receive payment hereunder shall be permitted.
- D. Except as herein specifically provided otherwise, this Contract shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Parties hereto and their respective successors. It is expressly understood and agreed that the enforcement of the terms and conditions of this Contract, and all rights of action relating to such enforcement, shall be strictly reserved to the Local Partnership and the named Contractor. Nothing contained in this document shall give or allow any claim or right of action whatsoever by any other third person. It is the express intention of the Local Partnership and the Contractor that any such person or entity, other than the Local Partnership or the Contractor, receiving services or benefits under this Contract shall be deemed an incidental beneficiary only.
- E. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of North Carolina (the "State"), the Division of Child Development and Early Education of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (the "Division"), The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. ("NCPC"), the Local Partnership and any of their officers, agents and employees, from any claims of third parties arising out of any act or omission of the Contractor in connection with the performance of this Contract.

Insurance:

Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Contractor and is of the essence of this Contract. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State of North Carolina. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized by the Commissioner of Insurance to do business in North Carolina. The Contractor shall at all times comply with the terms and conditions of such insurance policies, and all requirements of the insurer under any such insurance policies, except as they may conflict with existing North Carolina laws or this Contract. The limits of coverage under each insurance policy maintained by the Contractor shall not be interpreted as limiting the Contractor's liability and obligations under this Contract.

During the term of this Contract, the Contractor shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with such terms and limits as may be reasonably associated with this Contract. At a minimum, the Contractor shall provide and maintain Workers' Compensation/Employer's Liability, Commercial General Liability, and Automobile Liability Insurance covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles used in the performance of this Contract as required to protect the State, the Division, NCPC, and the Local Partnership against claims that may arise from the Contractor's performance.