



Martin Luther King County Children and Family Commission  
Public Health – Seattle and King County  
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## **Request for Proposal (RFP) Veterans & Human Service Levy Funds Available for Prevention and Early Intervention Programs to Strengthen Families**

The Martin Luther King County Children and Family Commission (CFC) on behalf of the Veterans & Human Service Levy Oversight Board is pleased to announce the availability of prevention/early intervention funding for strengthening families at risk in King County. Funds will be distributed through a competitive request for proposal (RFP) to enhance and/or expand current evidence-based and promising practice programs.

### **Family Focus**

The focus of these funds will be to strengthen King County families with young children—primarily under the age of five—who live in environments where stressors are particularly high. Examples include families who are living in poverty, families of active duty, Guard and Reservists that have/are/will serve our country, families where one or both parents are unemployed or under-employed, families with domestic violence involvement, families experiencing homelessness, and families struggling with substance abuse or mental health problems. Additionally, for some families, limited English proficiency or being new immigrants/refugees can lead to stresses that interfere with healthy child development.

### **Investment Areas**

The document guiding the RFP: The Veterans and Human Services Levy Procurement Plan: Strengthening Families at Risk – Prevention and Early Intervention Programs (procurement plan) calls for the funding of a framework of programs built around strategies that promote an integrative approach that increases the protective factors related to strong families while reducing family risks and deficits. The procurement plan calls for investments in three areas to strengthen families:

- **Home visiting programs** to support the healthy interactions between parent and child in the early months and years of life. Research has shown the link between these programs and the prevention of child abuse and neglect and later prevention of a child's involvement in the criminal justice system.
- **Training** for caregivers and staff that work with high risk children under the age of five and their families. Training in evidence-based curricula has been shown to improve staff skills and help create high quality environments in which children and families learn and grow.
- **Improving access** to services for immigrants/refugees new to this country who are experiencing language and cultural isolation.

### **Building on Current Success**

Following the guidance of the procurement plan, the RFP seeks to build on the success of existing evidence-based and promising practice programs in the community. **Applications for new programs will not be accepted.**

The RFP will solicit proposals from contractors that can demonstrate the ability to achieve the desired outcomes for each investment area outlined in the procurement plan. All applicants will be required to demonstrate their capacity to enhance and/or expand their existing evidence-based or promising practice program with fidelity, demonstrate how they will provide culturally competent services, conduct community based outreach and marketing of the program, work with Levy evaluators, and meet other selection criteria.

### **Funds Available**

\$521,593 total per year available January 2008, allocated to the three investment areas:

- Home Visiting - \$270,000.
- Training--\$94,000 - dedicated for implementation of evidence-based and promising practice curriculum programs. \$82,593 - dedicated for community programs that serve children from high risk families to be trained in the curriculum selected.
- Access—\$75,000.

### **How to Apply for Funding**

The RFP is available online at: <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/cfc/>.

### **Deadline for Applying**

Completed applications for the RFP are due to the CFC on September 28, 2007 by 12:00PM. The deadline is firm. Late applications will not be accepted. See RFP for details.

### **Bidder's Conference Locations**

Children and Family Commission Staff will be available to answer questions regarding all three RFP's on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the times and locations noted below. See RFP's for details.

- 9:00 AM Washington State Cooperative Extension - Renton WA
- 11:00 AM Bellevue City Hall - Bellevue WA
- 1:30 PM 2100 Building – Seattle, WA

### **Timeline for the RFP Process**

August 21, 2007	RFP's for each investment area released
September 5, 2007	Bidders conference covering the RFP
September 28, 2007	Applications Due By 12:00 PM (Noon)
October, 2007	Review of Applications and Interviews
November, 2007	Funding Decisions Announced
January 1, 2008	Funds Available

### **Proposal Evaluation Committee**

A proposal evaluation committee consisting of CFC members, Levy Oversight members and community representatives will review and rate each application based on the criteria stated in the RFP.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE RFP's VISIT: <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/cfc/>**