

Youth Shelter RFP Responders Conference
June 23, 2021

Q: Does overnight staff need to be equipped to do an admission or can that be done with on-call clinical staff?

A: An on-call model would be able to work to deal with after hour admissions. Dakota County will communicate ahead of time as much as possible to give the provide notice of youth arriving.

Q: With the potential admission of youth with a history of violent behavior and risk of running, what are you hoping for in a provider for this facility?

A: Non-secure facilities that Dakota County Community Corrections uses for youth are licensed through the Department of Corrections and/or DHS. Please see the following link for further framework:
https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/CRF-program-types-chart_tcm1053-384501.pdf

Q: Did the previous shelter have the ability to do holds so they could take youth with behaviors that were deemed risky?

A: No, the previous shelter did not have the ability to do holds.

Q: With regards to staffing the site, are you looking for staff other than DSP such as Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Professionals?

A: We expect staff at different levels of credentialing. We would expect that people in leadership positions have more of a mental health professional background. Providers are able to contract with a group in order to provide programing for youth who might be in the shelter.

Q: What is the number of individuals who are served annually and what is the average length of stay?

A: We do not have great data from the old shelter for annual number served. Average length of stay was around 16 days. 50% of youth were between the ages of 12 and 15, 50% were 16 or 17 years old. 60% male, 40% female.

Q: Would the shelter provider be able to provide mental health services and bill the county for these services?

A: Yes, the shelter provider would be able to bill the county for these services.

Q: Will there be additional start up funds available to the shelter provider from Dakota County or Washington County?

A: No, Dakota County and Washington County will not be able to provide any additional startup funds.

Q: Should the shelter provider build in the start up costs to their first-year operating costs?

A: Yes. Please make a note of that in the budget you submit.

Q: If a provider is picked and the negotiations break down over the per diem rate, will the provider still be expected to fulfill the terms of the agreement?

A: Until the contract is fully executed, either party can walk away.

Q: What daily rate should we include in our budget per client? Are we proposing the daily rate or does the county offer guidance?

A: Dakota County is looking for providers to propose that as well as the lease amount for the site.

Q: Is Dakota County willing to give an amount that they are hoping to get back per year?

A: Dakota County is not able to do that at this time, but we understand proposals are non-binding.

Q: Has there been any discussion with the department of education or the local school district about whether or not they would be providing educational services in the shelter or whether the provider should be building in personal costs around that?

A: The previous shelter contracted with the local school district to have schooling available on site and the youth did not need to be bussed out.

Q: Will there be a zoning process or local improvement to go through at the shelter location?

A: The city is currently saying that the use will be similar enough that there will not be zoning issues or a need for a conditional use permit process.

Q: Are the rooms designed for single or double use?

A: The rooms are currently being used for single use but could be transitioned to double use.

Q: What date are you hoping to open on?

A: It will likely be open in early 2022.