



**DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORALHEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS (BHDDH)  
DELEGATED AUTHORITY SOLICITATION SPECIFICATIONS  
THRESHOLDS PROGRAM**

**Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 PM EST April 30, 2026**

**DESCRIPTION:**

BHDDH is soliciting proposals from Developmental Disabilities Organizations (DDOs) licensed by BHDDH interested in acquiring and/or rehabilitating a residence to provide 24-hour residential supports for individuals with a primary intellectual and developmental disability (I/DD) and complex co-occurring behavioral health needs. The physical property must be owned and maintained by the DDO and be utilized to provide residential supports in the manner and scope outlined throughout the delegated authority solicitation specifications. A detailed timeline of when the work will commence and projected start date of services within the residence should be included in the proposal.

For FY26, BHDDH will award funding to one or more DDO to enhance residential capacity. Funding will be allocated through the Thresholds program. The Thresholds Program provides capital funding, including acquisition and rehabilitation, to increase the supply of housing for people with IDD.

NOTE: All proposals submitted in response to this solicitation shall become the property of the BHDDH and may be utilized in any manner and for any purpose by BHDDH. Be advised that proposals and all documents submitted in response to this solicitation are subject to public disclosure as required by applicable state and/or federal laws. If you intend to submit any information with your proposal which you believe is confidential, proprietary or otherwise protected from public disclosure (trade secret, etc.), you must separately bind and clearly identify all such material. The cover page of the separate binding must be red, and the header or footer for each page must provide as follows: “Not Subject to Public Disclosure.” Where authorized by law, and at its sole discretion, BHDDH will endeavor to resist disclosure of properly identified portions of the proposals.

Candidate shall email the proposal with the subject of the email titled “Thresholds Program Proposal” addressed to: Tracy Levesque, Associate Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities. Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., on **April 30, 2026**, to be eligible for consideration. All costs associated with preparing and submitting a proposal is solely the responsibility of the proposer. This solicitation does not obligate BHDDH to select any single proposer and BHDDH reserves the right to cancel the procurement, reject any and all proposals, to retain all proposal materials and to use any material included in the proposal regardless of whether it is selected.

Questions concerning the proposal and/or the proposal process shall be directed to Tracy Levesque via email to [tracy.levesque@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:tracy.levesque@bhddh.ri.gov). All questions must be submitted no later than **April 10, 2026**, directly to Tracy Levesque at the email address listed above. Questions and answers will be distributed via email to the original list of vendors solicited no later than end of day, **April 13, 2026**.

**CONTRACT TERMS:**

30 years with deed restriction and annual lease required.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) within BHDDH is responsible for funding and oversight of services for eligible adults with I/DD throughout the State of Rhode Island. DDD provides oversight to the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for individuals with I/DD in accordance with both its statutory requirements and the Rhode Island Comprehensive 1115 Demonstration Waiver number 11-W-00242/1. The Medicaid 1115 waiver extension, reauthorized on January 1, 2019, constitutes the legal authority granted to the State by federal government to pursue innovations that improve health care access, quality and outcomes and further the goals of the Medicaid Programs.

There are approximately 4,000 people in the State who are actively funded to receive I/DD services through a network of private community I/DD providers and one State run I/DD provider agency. Individuals with disabilities have the right to live in the most integrated, least restrictive setting. The demand for community-based living arrangements and supports is greater than the supply, especially for individuals with I/DD and complex co-occurring behavioral health needs. More targeted and intensive planning is needed to design and deliver appropriate individualized supports for this population.

**SCOPE OF WORK:**

BHDDH seeks proposals for new projects to expand the capacity of supportive housing for persons with IDD and co-occurring behavioral health. The Thresholds Program provides capital funding, including acquisition and rehabilitation.

This solicitation is for DDOs to acquire or rehabilitate property to provide housing and residential support services. Successful proposals will serve at least 5 individuals eligible to receive this level of care as determined by the State. The property needs to have at least one apartment or area that meets the needs of the defined population, which may include individuals being discharged from Eleanor Slater Hospital, Rhode Island State Psychiatric Hospital, inpatient acute care settings at other area hospitals, youth transitioning into the adult system or high-risk individuals currently residing in other community-based settings. Successful proposals will employ a model that serves individuals who may have persistent psychiatric symptoms and/or behaviors that require specialized programming. Such programming will include an intense level of supervision and clinical intervention through increased staffing, enhanced clinical expertise and specialized behavioral programming.

Successful proposals must include the provision of 24-hour residential supports for individuals with a primary I/DD and complex co-occurring behavioral health needs. Providers with a history of providing person-centered supports with adherence to therapeutic best practices are invited to

submit a proposal. Residential supports are expected to commence at the earliest opportunity following the Thresholds award.

Upon execution and delivery of an award in accordance with this request, the properties shall be subject to Deed Restrictions to be recorded and filed in the official public land evidence records of the city or town in which the Real Property is located. The restrictions may include but not be limited to occupancy qualification and terms, the amount of the occupant's gross income that can be charged for rent, vacancy and expiration guidelines, restricted use periods, ownership, resale and default provisions.

### **ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED WITH THE PROPOSAL**

brief description of the agency, including but not limited to the following:

1. Name of the principal(s) of the agency.
2. Name, business telephone number and business e-mail address of a representative of the agency authorized to discuss your proposal.
3. Locations of all offices of the agency.
4. Number of employees of the agency.
5. Expiration date of DDO license.

Successful proposals require a detailed plan to comply with the following:

- Adhere to a person-centered modality and provide therapeutic best practices.
- Maintain a staff composition to include master's level clinicians and behaviorists with the demonstrated clinical skills to assess, develop, train and implement clinically indicated behavioral plans and interventions. The staff, including direct support professionals, should have prior experience working with individuals with I/DD.
- Maintain staff safety care training and certification.
- Provide the enhanced staffing pattern necessary to manage an I/DD population with co-occurring behavioral health and substantial behavioral management needs.
- Make a good faith effort to maintain the eligible individual in the community-based residence. If an individual needs to be hospitalized, or admitted to another higher-level temporary care, for any reason, the agency agrees to work collaboratively with the hospital or other entity throughout the individual's admission to ensure a smooth transition back to their residence.
- Adhere to all State and Federal Regulations.

### **PROPOSAL:**

#### **1. Technical Proposal**

Narrative and format: Vendors must submit a technical proposal which addresses each of the following elements and is limited to six (6) pages (this excludes any appendices and as appropriate, resumes of key staff that will provide services covered by this request):

- A. Staff Qualifications: Provide staff resumes/CV and describe qualifications and experience of key staff who will be involved in this project, including their experience working with individuals with I/DD.
- B. Capability, Capacity, and Qualifications of the Vendor: Provide a detailed description of the Vendor's experience as a BHDDH licensed DDO. In particular, support your capacity to perform the scope of work. List a minimum of three (3) relevant client references, to include client names, addresses, contact names with emails and phone numbers, dates of service and type(s) of service(s) provided.
- C. Work Plan: Describe in detail the framework within which requested services will be performed. The following elements should be included: anticipated number of residents, identify plan to purchase, new/rehabilitation of existing property, name of any subcontractors planned to be involved, provide appropriate background information for each person or entity, identify the person's responsibilities, and outline their capabilities.
- D. Approach/Methodology: Define the methodology to be used for management of protected health information (PHI). Describe your agency's information security systems and the steps that your agency takes to safeguard client communication, confidential information, and client data. Include in your response whether your agency performs penetration testing, your agency's encryption methods, and whether client data is stored onshore or offshore.

## 2. Cost Proposal

The cost of services is one of the factors that will be considered in awarding this contract. The information requested in this section is required to support the proposal.

Provide a cost proposal for the required services that includes the following information:

1. Provide a cost proposal for providing the Scope of Work.
2. Provide an itemized breakdown of billing rates and hourly costs, list of key personnel and their hourly rates, reimbursable expenses, etc. for any services that may be requested in addition to the services previously described.
3. Provide any other fee information applicable to the engagement that has not been previously covered that you wish to bring to the attention of BHDDH.

### Insurance Requirements:

In accordance with this solicitation, or as outlined in Section 13.19 of the General Conditions of Purchase, found at <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/220-30-00-13> and General Conditions - Addendum A found at <https://ridop.ri.gov/about-us/procurement-statutes-and-regulations>, the following insurance coverage shall be required of the awarded vendor(s):

#### *General Requirements:*

- 13a)  Liability - \$1 million per occurrence and \$1 million aggregate. The State should be an additional insured on a primary and non-contributory basis with a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State.

13b)  Workers' compensation - \$100,000 each accident, \$100,000 disease or policy limit and \$100,000 each employee. There is to be a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State.

13c)  Automobile liability - \$1 million per occurrence. The State must be an additional insured on a primary and non-contributory basis with a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State.

13d)  Crime - \$500,000 per occurrence or 50% of contract amount, whichever is greater.

***Professional Services:***

13e)  Professional liability ("errors and omissions") - \$2,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 annual aggregate. A waiver of subrogation in favor of the State to the extent that coverage to the Contract Party is not impaired. – Any individual doctors and nurses should have medical malpractice insurance of at least \$1 million per claim and \$3 million annual aggregate.

13f)  Environmental/Pollution Liability when past, present or future hazard is possible - \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

13g)  Working with Children, Elderly or Disabled Persons – Physical Abuse and Molestation Liability Insurance - \$1 Million per occurrence. Policy is to include the State as an additional insured for work performed by the vendor for the State to the extent that coverage is not subject to an insured versus insured exclusion. Additional insured status for the State would be on a primary and non-contributory basis. It shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State.

***Information Technology and/or Cyber/Privacy:***

13h)  Technology Errors and Omissions - Combined single limit per occurrence shall not be less than \$5,000,000. Annual aggregate limit shall not be less than \$5,000,000.

13i)  Information Technology Cyber/Privacy – minimum limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 annual aggregate (Includes paper and digital media.). If Contract Party provides:

a)  key back-office services Contract Party shall have a minimum limit of \$10,000,000 per occurrence and \$10,000,000 annual aggregate;

b)  if Contract Party has access to Protected Health Information as defined in HIPAA and its implementing regulations, Personal Information as defined in in R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-49.3-1, et seq., or as otherwise defined in the Contract (together Confidential

Information”), Contract Party shall have as a minimum the per occurrence, per annual aggregate, the total rounded product of projected number of persons data multiplied by \$25 per person breach response expense per occurrence; but no less than \$5,000,000 per occurrence, per annual aggregate; or,

- c)  if the Contract Party provides or has access to mission critical services, network architecture and/or the totality of confidential data \$20,000,000 per occurrence and in the annual aggregate.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION - SOLICITATION SPECIFIC**

Technical proposals must receive a minimum of 55 (78.5%) out of a maximum of 70 points to advance to the cost evaluation phase. Technical proposals scoring less than 55 points shall not have the accompanying cost or ISBE participation proposals opened or evaluated; such proposals shall not receive further consideration.

Technical proposals scoring 55 points or higher shall have the cost proposals evaluated and assigned up to a maximum of 30 points, bringing the total potential evaluation score to 100 points. As total possible evaluation points are determined, vendor ISBE proposals shall be evaluated and assigned up to 6 bonus points for ISBE participation.

Proposals shall be reviewed and scored based upon the following criteria:

Criteria	Possible Points
Staff Qualifications	10 Points
Capability, Capacity, and Qualifications of the Vendor	30 Points
Work Plan	20 Points
Approach/Methodology	10 Points
<b>Total Possible Technical Points</b>	<b>70 Points</b>
Cost proposal	30 Points
<b>Total Possible Evaluation Points</b>	<b>100 Points</b>

**Proposal Timeline:**

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