



Request for Quote: 2019-002 Evaluation

Indianapolis Private Industry Council, Inc., d/b/a EmployIndy is seeking quotes from qualified vendors for the evaluation of system impact and programmatic outcomes of YES Indy.

Background

EmployIndy guides the local workforce ecosystem and makes strategic investments to remove barriers to quality employment for underserved and underrepresented residents. As the workforce development board for Marion County, guided by 21 business, civic, education and non-profit community leaders, EmployIndy invests \$18.5 million in public, private and philanthropic funds for both youth and adults annually.

Evaluation: Project Scope and Specifications

EmployIndy has received more than \$18.3M from the Lilly Endowment over the past sixteen years to provide youth employment services to youth and young adults to ensure they have access to employment and educational opportunities that lead to self-sufficiency. In 2018, EmployIndy proposed to make enhancements to the program through a series of programmatic and systemic improvements over two years aimed to further the impact of investment. Lilly Endowment provided EmployIndy with two grants; the first to continue provision of youth employment services and the second to create the Youth Employment System in Indianapolis.

Youth Employment Services (YES) Indy

YES Indy allows youth and young adults, ages 16-24, to secure and grow in a job through the provision of career coaching, education and training, and critical barrier-busting supports. Currently, EmployIndy contracts with 11 community-based organizations to provide YES services to 933 opportunity youth in Marion County. Enhancements made in 2018 and 2019 included bringing the management of the program and employer engagement activities in-house, improved data collection with a new client tracking system, analysis of our target population and program re-branding, and a more rigorous and competitive process for provider selection.

Youth Employment System

The Youth Employment System grant was awarded to help EmployIndy build a system for youth employment and education opportunities that provides participants access to a continuum of quality services that are integrated and scalable. EmployIndy concentrated this investment in five critical areas:

- Outreach, recruitment, and engagement;
- Building the capacity, and coordinating communities of practice, for

- direct-service providers;
- Achieving economies of scale through employer connectivity;
- Integrating data; and
- Performance measurement and accountability.

EmployIndy seeks a rigorous and intentional program evaluation of YES investments in 2018 that will correlate data points and provide EmployIndy with the necessary information to make informed decisions regarding how to best invest YES Indy dollars to achieve client success. EmployIndy is seeking guidance on how to evaluate both programmatic and system improvement, whether independently, concurrently or jointly, and would like to complete a full evaluation between January and April, 2020. Evaluation and research should include but not limited to:

- Measuring system improvements against quality outcomes;
- Analyzing participant characteristics;
- Evaluating specific training and industries;
- Assessing which services have a direct impact on obtaining retention goals and milestones;
- Assessing which trainings have a direct impact on increasing wages;
- Evaluating training plan objectives and any direct impact on obtaining retention goals and milestones;
- Identifying service providers with the most success reaching performance outcomes and milestones;
- Evaluating past performance, budget and service gaps, and the ability to effectively reach and engage the target population;
- Interviewing program participants, providers, partners and employers.

Response

EmployIndy is seeking quotes from qualified vendors who are capable of addressing the above stated required functionalities. Please provide a complete written response to this RFQ.

The following information should be included:

1. Company Overview:
 - a. Provide a brief organizational summary.
2. Project:
 - a. Describe approach to design and planning of the project.
 - b. Describe the overall proposed approach to the creation and implementation of program evaluation, from beginning to completion.
 - i. What phases and structure do you suggest?
 - c. Include timeline detailing design, planning, implementation and completion of project.
 - d. Include recommendations for additional specifications to enhance the product.
 - i. Should the evaluation be done on the two grants simultaneously? If so, how?

3. Fee Schedule:

- a. Provide estimated cost and hours.

Entities may submit questions to sphillips@employindy.org until Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 5:00 pm ET. A response to all questions will be available no later than close of business on Friday, October 18, 2019 and posted at www.employindy.org.

Applicants must submit one (1) electronic copy of responses. Please note that EmployIndy will not reimburse vendors for any costs they incur in developing their response.

All responses should be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. EST, October 25, 2019 to Sara Phillips at sphillips@employindy.org.