

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:

Public Behavioral Health Benefit Package Development

Issued by:

MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY



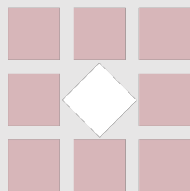
**Release Date:
September 10, 2025**

**Proposal Due Date:
October 8, 2025**

Promoting Mental Wellness & Recovery Since 1968

Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

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OVERVIEW

Vision and Mission of the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County

Vision: A compassionate community that embraces recovery and mental wellness.

Mission: To cultivate a high-quality network of resources that inspires personal recovery and promotes mental wellness for Lucas County residents.

SUMMARY

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County (MHRSB) seeks to contract with a vendor to develop a comprehensive public behavioral health benefit package for eligible Lucas County residents.

INTRODUCTION

The MHRSB of Lucas County is a governmental entity established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 340 to plan, fund, monitor, and evaluate the public behavioral health system of Lucas County. Funds come primarily from federal, state, and local levies. As such, the MHRSB of Lucas County serves as the local behavioral health authority and contracts for services through community-based agencies.

The current landscape of behavioral health services within Lucas County faces several challenges including increased demand for services, limited licensed workforce, increased acuity and intensity of clientele, and precarious funding sources. From FY23 to FY24, there was nearly a 36% increase in treatment related spending totaling \$5,040,865.61. While FY25 expenses are still being determined, the actual spending is already 2.36% higher than FY23 expenses with anticipated treatment expenses over the budgeted \$5,914,954 for FY25. More people are coming in for services and with the potential loss of Medicaid expansion, more individuals may be eligible for Board funded treatment services. With the unprecedented growth in treatment expenses, we need to find effective ways for managing treatment related expenses and payments. This public behavioral health benefit package is intended to help address these challenges by providing a robust framework for services that are responsive to community needs, financially responsible, and clinically effective.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The MHR SB is committed to promoting behavioral health equity and reducing disparities across underserved populations. The proposal should describe and demonstrate the applicant's focus for ensuring that diversity, equity, and inclusion are considered in the key activities and deliverables. Progress to overcome disproportionate challenges based on race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, physical disability status, involvement in the criminal legal system, and socioeconomic level is best accomplished when the applicant's values diversity and inclusion as central to their work.

SCOPE OF WORK

The selected contract will be responsible for the following **key activities** and **deliverables**:

1. Design a public behavioral health benefit package for Lucas County residents meeting the *Eligibility for Board-Funded Treatment Services* guidelines (**Appendix A**) resulting in a comprehensive document outlining all aspects of the proposed behavioral health benefit package, including service descriptions, eligibility criteria, medical necessity guidelines, provider qualifications, reimbursement methodologies, and quality metrics.
2. Recommend an implementation plan, including necessary regulatory changes, stakeholder engagement strategies, and communication plans.
3. Design a utilization review process to ensure quality and compliance with the benefit package.
4. Develop detailed cost models for each proposed behavioral health service, considering different levels of care, provider types, and service delivery modalities.
 - a. Project the total cost for the proposed benefit package over a 5-year period.

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal applicant will have psychiatric/clinical expertise, actuarial expertise, knowledge of Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Service Boards in Ohio, and knowledge of Ohio Medicaid.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to individuals or organizations. Individuals cannot be a MHR SB Trustee or employee. All qualified applicants are encouraged to submit a proposal. Individuals and organizations should not have any type of conflict of interest with the MHR SB's funded system of care. The MHR SB strives for diversity and inclusivity in our purchasing practices. If your organization is a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) please indicate that in your proposal.

TIMELINE

Project deliverables need to be accomplished by March 30, 2026.

PROPOSAL ELEMENTS AND FORMATTING

Proposals should include the following:

Element	Page limit
Coversheet with Contact Information	1
Applicant's History and Qualifications	3-4
Plan to Accomplish Key Actions & Deliverables	5-6
Experience on Similar Projects (if applicable)	2-3
References	1
Budget and Narrative	Not included in page limits
Maximum number of pages	15

Coversheet with Contact Information: Please identify the RFI subject, your name and organization, and contact information.

Applicant's History and Qualifications: Provide a summary of your history in behavioral health, working with Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Service Boards, knowledge of Medicaid, and qualifications that are aligned with ensuring the deliverables of the RFI.

Plan to Accomplish Key Actions & Deliverables: Describes your workplan and the key actions you will take to ensure accomplishment of deliverables. If you are not planning to accomplish all deliverables, clearly identify which ones you will work towards and the rationale for which deliverables will not be addressed in the proposal.

Experience on Similar Projects: Provide a summary of experience and success with similar projects.

Budget and Narrative: Provide a budget with a detailed narrative of costs related to the deliverables. Budget can be in the applicant's preferred format.

References: Include 2-3 references, with contact information, that can speak to your abilities to accomplish the deliverables in this RFI.

Document Formatting

Proposal must be written in the English language, be single sided, and singled space with a minimum font size of 10. The font used should be New Times Roman, Arial, Helvetica, or other sans-serif type font.

SCORING RUBRIC

Proposals will be evaluated based on their overall value and alignment with the RFI. The following are the scores for each section.

Requirements	Available Points
Adherence with Submission Criteria	2
Coversheet with Contact Information	2
Applicants' History and Qualifications	15
Plan to Accomplish Key Actions & Deliverables	40
Experience on Similar Projects (if applicable)	15
References	6
Budget and Narrative	20
Total Available Points	100

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Interested applicants should submit written proposals via email to:

[**Ejones@lcmhrsbsb.oh.gov**](mailto:Ejones@lcmhrsbsb.oh.gov)

Subject line should read:

Public Behavioral Health Benefit Package Development RFI

Proposals should be received by 5:00 PM on October 8, 2025. The MHRBSB maintains sole discretion to select a proposal and subsequent vendor, or not, based upon its evaluation of submitted materials and ancillary information that may be obtained from external sources. Proposals should not include proprietary information as all submissions will be considered public records.