DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF HENRICO



**RFP#16-1293-11CS**

**ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM**

**COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**January 6, 2017**

Q1. Could you please provide the contract and pricing for the previous contract as it relates to Solicitation:  16-1293-11CS- Alcohol and Drug Testing Services?

(See attachment E - P. 26 “Service Fees” of the Solicitation:  16-1293-11CS- Alcohol and Drug Testing Services)

*No present contract in place for this service.*

Q2. How is Drug Testing currently being conducted within the Department of Community Corrections and is there currently a provider that is conducting testing for the Courts?

*CCP is currently doing everything that is requested with existing resources. CCP has two different color code systems, we use staff to take the observed screens and have an analyzer in the office to run the test on.*

Q3. If yes, Who is the current vendor providing services and what is their cost for drug testing and or collections?

*No current vendor providing services*

Q4. Is there a certain configuration Court will use most often for testing, i.e. 5-Panel or a 10-Panel test. If so, what would the Court most like to see used on those most often used panels?

*CCP has the ability to test for a variety of drugs of abuse and change up what is tested as needed. CCP is looking to have that same capability from a new supplier. CCP requests all screens tested for alcohol (EtG) and the most common drugs of abuse which are heroin, opiates and cocaine. In addition CCP tests for fentanyl, benzos, tramadol, amphemenies and marijuana.*

Q5. On Pg. 4, Letter F, Sub heading C. Will the re-screen also be an immunoassay or is it GC/MS or LC/MS? Will the Court expect a cost associated with the re-screen or is it expected to be free of charge?

*CCP would anticipate an increased cost if a confirmation was requested but not the rescreen.*

Q6. Question on Page 6, letter G.

Will the Court accept a paper COC for submission to the laboratory if collection information is stored in the IMS for automatic transfer of test result?

*Yes*

Q7. Who is the incumbent provider of these services, if any?

*None*

Q8. What does your agency currently pay for the services described in this bid?

*See response to Question 1.*

Q9. What is your current percent positive rate?

*Varies but on average 15 to 25%*

Q10. We see that there should be an estimated 6000 tests annually. However, could the County please provide a breakdown of volumes by type of test? Historical breakdowns for the past year would be appreciated if future estimates are unknown or would be similar.

C*CP presently take about 150 tests per week and conduct testing 6 days per week.*

Q11. Would the County consider a vendor-provided IMS system that does not track donor payments?

*Yes*

Q12. Would the County consider nitrites as an option for specimen validity test measure instead of oxidants?

*Please offer this for consideration as part of your proposal response. Presently CCP test for dilutions by testing for creatinine, specific gravity and Ph.*

Q13. Regarding Section E on Supplies & Transportation, would the County exclude weekends and federal holidays from the 24-hour response time? If the vendor utilizes a courier such as FedEx, they will not provide pickup options on weekends/federal holidays. However, the vendor could provide a lockbox or other mechanism to safely store the samples for pickup.

*CCP would need to obtain results as quickly as possible for program purposes and Saturday results would be needed by Monday.*

Q14. Will the County consider a laboratory that is DHHS/CLIA certified but does not have CAP-FDT certification? What if the lab has CLIA and SAMHSA certification and state certification but no CAP-FDT?

*CCP test for a variety of substances of abuse which is why the additional certification/accreditation is needed.*

Q15. Regarding turn-around time, would the County consider screen results within one business day following receipt of specimen at the laboratory as opposed to requiring results within one business day of collection?

*Rapid results are essential in Drug Court Program. Results are needed the day following collection.*

Q16. Also regarding turn-around time, would the County please confirm that the turn-around time of "one business day" does not include weekends or federal holidays?

*See Q13 and Q15*

Q17. Please confirm that the results due within one business day is for EIA standard drug screens only, and does not include confirmation testing, which would take additional time, or specialty testing (such as synthetic cannabinoids) which would also take additional time.

*Yes. Next day results would be expected for test only not for confirmations. CCP is aware that some tests do take longer to complete than others. Offeror’s should identify any tests that cannot be performed with 24 hour turnaround.*

Q18. We see on Attachment E that there appears to be a spot for "No Sample Collection." Would the County accept bids from vendors who will not be offering collection services as part of this bid, or are third-party collection services required in order to be considered for award?

*CCP is looking for supplier that can take over complete drug testing program, including the randomize call in system, the observed collection of samples and the testing of the samples*.

Q19. We see on Attachment E that there appears to be a "Transdermal" test listed. Would the County consider vendors who do not offer this test?

*Transdermal patch testing method is not used very often. The County would consider proposal if Offeror had a method to acquire the testing method from another source.*

Q20. Regarding the "Standard Confirmation" test, can the County please confirm that this would be priced per drug confirmed?

*Yes if confirmation is requested CCP would expect that to be priced per drug confirmed.*

Q21. Section III Scope of services section A1b, you request custom panels. Does this mean you will be able to add any drug combination or do mean you will be able to add specific drugs to a panel that is standard for the agency?

*CCP is looking to have options of changing up the panels as necessary.*

Q22. Section III Scope of services section A1g, to clarify you just want to be able to keep up with what was paid by a donor-not accept payments correct?

*Offeror would need to have the ability to accept payments in cases where a co-payment would be required. Presently we do not charge for testing but may change in the future and would like Offeror to be able to accept such payments.*

Q23. Section III Scope of services section A1h- please defines vouchers.

*A voucher would be for person who have limited or no ability to pay if the program were to adopt a participant pay method. Presently we do not charge for drug testing.*

Q24. Does the laboratory have to be CLIA certified and CAP-FUDT? Will you accept CLIA only?

*CCP tests for a variety of substances of abuse which is why the additional certification/accreditation is needed.*

Q25. What is the importance and weighted value of having an onsite collector? Is the option being weighed to utilize a laboratory that does not have local collection sites?

*CCP is seeking a supplier to take over complete testing program which would include collection and laboratory.*

Q26. Will this bid go to one or multiple vendors?

*The award will be made to one Offeror.*

Q27. Section III Scope of Services section F1c – Please clarify. “All positive immunoassay screens must be run a second time with a new aliquot of the specimen prior to reporting the positive specimen.” Are you asking the laboratory to re-run the immunoassay prior to running a GC/MS confirmation? Will presumptive immunoassay reports be sent prior to running a GC/MS confirmation?

*Yes. CCP would want to be contacted after the rerunning from positive from immunoassay. CCP would have the option to request confirmation which would incur an additional cost*.

Q28. Section III Scope of Services section K Will affidavits or litigation packages be accepted into evidence as expert testimony? Will teleconference or video testimony be added into evidence? How often has laboratory had to provide expert witness in the past 12 months?

*No expert testimony in past 12 months has been required.*

Q29. Is there a place to find the current contract for this similar service? If not, can the contract be made available per request of the FOIA?

*There is no current contract for these services*

Q30. Will additional questions be allowed once answers to current questions are given?

The period for submitting questions has expired. Proposals are due no later than January 20, 2017, 2:30 p.m.Q35. III. Scope of Services, B. Automated Random Selection Calendar, #1.a. states “Create default parameters that specify testing frequency and test panels, among other attributes.” Can the County please clarify or provide examples of the “other attributes”?

*CCP is looking to be able to switch what is tested for, how often we test and the ability to make changes as often as needed for a specific person being required to test. Being able to make changes would be another attribute.*

Q31. III. Scope of Services, C., Client Notification, #1.f. states the system must “Allow the supervising case manager to post custom text-to-speech messages for an individual donor or group of donors.” Will the County accept and consider proposal from vendors who do not provide this functionality?

*Offerors should provide in their proposal submission detailed information on the services available. CCP is seeking the ability to confirm if the person has already called in and the ability to leave individualized messages.*

Q32. III. Scope of Services, C., Client Notification, #1.h. states “When the functionality is available, allow donors to select a test message option over a call-in option”. Does the County mean “text message” instead of “test message”? If the Offeror does not provide this functionality, would web-based check-in for clients be an acceptable alternative method?

*See Q31. CCP would consider this as an option.*

Q33. III. Scope of Services, F. Laboratory Testing, #1.h., Cut-off levels: Will the County accept and consider proposals from vendors who apply cut-off levels that may differ from those indicated in the RFP but which are compliant with the guidelines handed down by CAP-FDT and/or SAMHSA, as well as widely accepted by Federal agencies and a majority of reputable drug testing laboratories?

*Offerors shall provide as part of their proposal submission any variance to specific requirements.*

Q34. Who is the current laboratory providing testing services?

*Currently CCP does not have a contract.*

Q35. What are the fees the County currently pays for these services?

*See response to Q1*

Q36. Is the current contract available for interested Offeror to examine? If so, how may Offeror request a copy?

*See response to Q1*

Q37. Of the 500 specimens collected per month, on average, how many are urine versus oral fluid, hair or blood?

*All are urine specimens.*

Q38. What is the estimated or historical positivity rate for urine and oral fluid specimens (the percentage of specimens that screen positive for one or more substances)?

*CCP currently using urine test at present time. There is a low % of positive responses for more than 1 substance.*

Q39. III. Scope of Services, F. Laboratory Testing, 1. a. states that the laboratory must be certified by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Clinical Laboratory Improvements Act (CLIA) and the College of American Pathologists – Forensic Drug Testing (CAP-FDT).

*CCP tests for a variety of substances of abuse which is why the additional certification/accreditation is needed.*

Q40. Will the County accept and consider proposals from vendors who hold either College of American Pathologists – Forensic Drug Testing (CAP-FDT) accreditation or SAMHSA certification (but not both), in addition to CLIA certification? SAMHSA certification is specific to Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs (such as Department of Transportation employees) and only covers five

(5) specific substances (amphetamines, cocaine, opiates, Cannabinoids and PCP). College of American Pathologists – Forensic Drug Testing (CAP-FDT) accreditation was specifically created to accredit laboratories who perform testing for criminal justice, public safety, social services and similar agencies. Like SAMHSA, CAP-FDT accreditation requires labs to adhere to rigorous forensic standards and quality guidelines. But, CAP-FDT standards apply to forensic drug testing for all drugs tested and not just the five substances as outlined under SAMHSA and includes standards requiring customer service and results interpretation assistance, whereas SAMHSA does not. Very few laboratories hold both SAMSHA (DHHS) and CAP-FDT certification/accreditation.

*See response to Q4*

Q41. III. Scope of Services, D. Specimen Collections:

* 1. How many Patient Service Centers (PSCs), whether located within a County provided space or in a vendor facility, does the County anticipate requiring?

*One (1)*

* 1. Is there a particular county facility near which the vendor PSC should be located? Within a certain distance?

*CCP is located at the County of Henrico, Virginia Western Government Complex on Parham Road. If collection is performed off site it would request a facility near a near a central bus line location such as the Willow Lawn area.*

* 1. Where are specimens collected under the current contract and who collects them?

*Presently CCP staff collects specimens at the office located in the Western Government Complex on Parham Road.*

* 1. What are the current hours of operation for specimen collection?

*Presently testing occurs 6 days per week with testing hours on some early morning and/or late afternoons and Saturday for 1 hour.*

* 1. Can the County elaborate on the hours of availability expected on weekends and holidays, i.e., how often weekend/holiday collection may be required?

*CCP requires testing every weekend (with few exceptions) on Saturday with a minimum of 1 hour availability. Testing would be required on weekdays for a minimum of several hours each day.*

Q42. III. Scope of Services, E. Supplies & Transportation:

1. May specimens be transported to the laboratory via FedEx?

*Yes*

1. How frequently does the County require specimens to be picked up (e.g., daily, twice per week, etc.) and from how many different locations?

*Once per day would be sufficient.*

Q43. Could you please provide the contract and pricing for the previous contract as it relates to Solicitation:  16-1293-11CS- Alcohol and Drug Testing Services?

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*See response to Q1*