FY 2026 – 2028 Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) and Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder (BHSUD)

Frequently Asked Questions
March 12 - 31, 2025

1. **QUESTION: Will the slides be available after meeting.**

   RESPONSE: The Technical Assistance Conference slides will be made available after the meeting and they will be posted on the FAA website: https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx.

2. **QUESTION: April 7th at 11:59 PM?**

   RESPONSE: The NOFO closes on April 7, 2025 at 12 pm-Noon.

3. **QUESTION: FAA categories don't have separate funding?**

   RESPONSE: The total estimated FAA funds available is $5,439,539 and is not broken down by category.

4. **QUESTION**: **In regards to situational funds available, what would be some examples of types of funding?**

   RESPONSE: The Department implemented a Department of Justice Grant, Comprehensive Opioid Stimulant Substance Use Program (COSSUP) initiative for justice involved individuals with substance use disorder. This initiative established a policy for permissible situational funds that were needs-based and identified in the participant's individualized recovery plan. Permissible use of these funds may include, but not be limited to, addressing individual needs such as eyeglasses, prescribed medications, drug court fines, fees required to restore driver's licenses and other one-time costs that are necessary to help participants achieve individualized recovery plan goals.

5. **QUESTION: If applying for both, OSF and FAA BHSUS categories, would, would it have to be something if you're going in the same category, would it have to be a different initiative? Or can you can it be an expansion of the?**

   RESPONSE: An applicant is required to submit separate applications for proposals funded with OSF or FAA funds.

6. **QUESTION: Requirement for audited financial statements?**
   RESPONSE: An audited financial statement is required unless the agency is under the single audit threshold.

7. **QUESTION: If an Agency has a program, can it be budget some out of OSF and some out of FAA funding?**

   RESPONSE: No, a proposed program budget cannot comingled OSF and FAA funds.

8. **QUESTION: For SAMIS Requirement #46 Year End Financial Statements, can we submit our independent audit (again, since it asks for it in #44) if it includes our year-end financial statements for the most recently concluded fiscal year?**

   RESPONSE: Yes, Applicant's should submit their most recent Year End Financial Statements.

9. **QUESTION: Can you give correct contract period? Last slide says August 2025 through September 2025**

   RESPONSE: The Opioid Settlement Funds contract period is 08/01/2025 – 09/30/2026 with two automatic one-year renewal periods, and the FAA contract period is 10/1/2025 - 9/30/2028 with two automatic one-year renewal periods.

10. **QUESTION: You discussed single point of contact for assessment. How will this be implemented?**

    RESPONSE: The neutral care coordination white paper (Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan 2024, Appendix B) is posted as a resource.

11. **QUESTION: Contact information for questions re: RCI metric?**

    RESPONSE: Resilience / Recovery Capital Index content and resources are included in the NOFO. Additional questions can be directed to CSD-FAARFP@pbc.gov.

12. **QUESTION: Would you please explain room and board levels 2 and 3.**

    RESPONSE: These levels refer to longer-term mental health residential treatment facilities as defined in State of Florida regulations.

13. **QUESTION: With affordable housing and lack of housing in our area, is there anywhere in the NOFO that provides financial assistance for housing.**

    RESPONSE: The answers to questions may be found in writing and will be on the FAA page under the General Resource section. It will be updated on a rolling basis through the end of the NOFO application period. Following is our FAA NOFO webpage https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx

14. **QUESTION: Understanding the emphasis on community education and outreach, does the NOFO allow for for-profit vendors to apply directly, or would we need to partner with a nonprofit as the lead applicant? Or should we await future solicitations related to marketing and outreach services?**

    RESPONSE: For-profit entities are excluded from applying for OSF and FAA funds as an applicant or via an OSF sub-agreement with a funded non-profit organization.
    This is not to say that a for-profit entity should not/cannot collaborate with a nonprofit; just that the collaboration cannot be funded with FAA or OSF funds.

15. **QUESTION: For each sub category such as housing, peer support and employment support, do each of these categories require its own application.**

RESPONSE: Yes, each offered service program requires is own application to be submitted.

16. **QUESTION: Where on the site will the answers to questions be found in writing and that will be on the FAA page.**

RESPONSE: The answers to questions be found in writing and twill be on the FAA page under the General Resource section, and that will be updated on a rolling basis through the end of the NOFO. Following is our FAA NOFO webpage https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx

17. **QUESTION: The online SAMIS guide says the invitation code is FAA2025. What is the code?**

RESPONSE: BHSUD2026

18. **QUESTION: The slide showed 11:59 PM**

RESPONSE: Consistent with the NOFO Guidance Document, the slide has been updated to reflect 12:00 PM-Noon

19. **QUESTION: Can an agency apply for single categories without offering other services? i.e. Outpatient counseling without also providing the other FAA services?**

RESPONSE: Yes, an agency can apply for a single category to provide one (1) of the services.

20. **QUESTION: Do patients need to be dual diagnosed?**

RESPONSE: No, individuals do not need to be dual-diagnosed.

21. **QUESTION: So they don't have to need mental and substance use therapy?**

RESPONSE: No, individuals do not have to need mental and substance use therapy.

22. **QUESTION: Can the client just need mental health therapy?**

RESPONSE: Yes, the agency or therapist should decide with the individual what mode of therapy is best suited for the individual seeking therapy.

23. **QUESTION: For OSF - is this open to mental health and substance use disorders**

RESPONSE: All applicants are following the priority populations for each of the categories

24. **QUESTION: Clarification on SBIRT?**

RESPONSE: Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment content and resource links are provided at page 11 and 12 of the NOFO

25. QUESTION: Is it only in primary care setting?

RESPONSE: SBIRT can be utilized in both a primary care and/or a behavioral health setting. There are references, links within the NOFO document that will do a deeper dive into SBIRT (see pages 11 and 12 of the NOFO).

26. QUESTION: Are agencies allowed to submit multiple applications to the OSF/FAA Behavioral Health NOFO? For instance, can an agency apply for one project under an OSF priority category and another separate application under an FAA priority category?

RESPONSE: Yes, the agency can submit multiple applications requesting funds for multiple programs.

27. QUESTION: Is the character count on every question a minimum or a maximum

RESPONSE: The character counts in parentheticals are the maximum character count allowed.

28. QUESTION: Is this question required for applications seeking funding through the OSF Recovery Supports category?

16. Individual, Family and Community (10,000 Characters)

(A). For proposals addressing individual, family, and/or community resilience: describe with detail what strategy/strategies will be utilized; why the strategy/strategies were selected, and what outcomes are expected.

(B). Describe the menu of services that will be available including but not limited to:

the intended beneficiary/beneficiaries of the services/supports

strategies for addressing family members and members of the community that are not direct recipients of services/supports

·strategies for outreach and engagement

RESPONSE: Yes, the question"16. Individual, Family and Community" is required to be answered by applicants.

29. QUESTION: What would some examples of types of Situational funding be?

RESPONSE: Examples of situational funding may include but not be limited to: eye glasses, fees to reinstate a driver's license or obtain an identification card to get employment, work-related clothing, interview appropriate clothing, etc.. Any items funded with the situational funds must align to the individual's recovery plan.

30. QUESTION: How will stable housing be addressed with a lack of affordable housing?

RESPONSE: There are NO housing funds offered for housing in the FY 2026-2028 BHSUD OSF and FAA BHSUD NOFO. This is an issue much larger than the NOFO that the County continues to work to address.

31. QUESTION: Can more than one staff work on the application in SAMIS

RESPONSE: Yes, multiple users can work on the application and have edit rights.

32. QUESTION: In some of the required outcome measures, it talks about referring to a recovery center if you are already a recovery center. Is there a different way of handling that outcome?

RESPONSE: If your agency already offers comprehensive services, to address this, consider some of the following approaches to address the outcome indicated:

Clarify Referral Definitions: Define "referral" within your organization to encompass both internal and external services. This means documenting when clients transition between different programs or levels of care within your center as internal referrals. Such clarity ensures that all service transitions are accurately captured in your outcome measures.

Implement Comprehensive Case Management: Develop a robust case management system that tracks client progress across various programs within your facility. This system should monitor internal referrals, treatment milestones, and client outcomes, providing a holistic view of each individual's recovery journey.

33. QUESTION: The cover sheet in SAMIS for the OSF & FAA Funds is populating as a PDF when downloaded. But in the instructions it says to upload as .doc or .docx can I get the form somewhere else or just use the PDF.

RESPONSE: Please use the fillable PDF provided via the link. The instructions have been updated in Amendment 1 to NOFO.

34. QUESTION: How do I add a person to work on NOFO with me?

RESPONSE: Please follow the steps outlined in the SAMIS Access Guide, which is available on our FAA NOFO page, to add a user for NOFO work.

https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/PDF/2025/SAMIS_ACCESS_GUIDE.pdf

38. QUESTIONs A, B, and C: Could you please clarify these questions:

Outcome	Communities will be resilient and recovery ready
Indicator	Community-based initiatives will be facilitated in a minimum of 20 municipalities that will encourage the development of resilient and recovery ready communities by September 30, 2027.

A. *Can you provide examples of documentation that demonstrate this outcome has been achieved?*

RESPONSE: The NOFO outlines required and other activities, key principles, values and strategies related to resilient and recovery ready communities. Documentation could consist of, but not be limited to: project activities, attendance, as well as other measurable

outcomes identified from actions taken to achieve resilient and recovery ready communities.

Outcome	Increased resilience at the Community level.
Indicator	Communities will increase resilience factor scores by at least one (1) point, and reduce risk factor scores by at least one (1) point, as determined by an analysis of community resilience/ recovery indexing from baseline to next RCI assessment within the fiscal year.

B. Can you clarify how this measurement is conducted and who is responsible for completing the RCI assessment to establish baseline data?

RESPONSE: Award Recipients will work collaboratively with the Community Services Department's university research partner and the County's resilience and recovery indexing partner to deploy the RCI survey and perform baseline and subsequent analysis and assessments.

Additional information about the RCI can be found in Attachment 3: Recovery Capital and the Recovery Capital Index (RCI): A Quick Guide.

Outcome	Improve the knowledge and perception about mental illness and substance use disorder, harm reduction.
Indicator	Individuals will improve knowledge and perception about mental illness and substance use disorder, and about harm reduction as evidenced by an increased score of at least 75% following training as measured by apre-post assessment

C. Does the organization develop the pre- and post-assessments for this outcome, or are they created externally?

RESPONSE: The organization is responsible for developing pre- and post-assessments for this outcome.

39. QUESTION: **Is the character count on every question is a minimum or a maximum.**

RESPONSE: The character counts in parentheticals indicate the maximum character count.

40. QUESTION: Are agencies allowed to submit multiple applications to the OSF/FAA Behavioral Health NOFO? For instance, can an agency apply for one project under an OSF priority category and another separate application under an FAA priority category?

RESPONSE: Yes, agencies may submit as many separate applications for OSF and/or FAA categories as they wish.

41. **QUESTION: If awarded, will the new FAA funds count towards the FAA 25% cap of the Agency's total budget. And is it inclusive of OSF.**

RESPONSE: Yes, if awarded new FAA funds, they will be included in the 25 % cap of the budget calculation. No, the 25% cap limit is not applicable to OSF.

42. **QUESTION: To use on that individual, right? Is this open to clients with a mental health diagnosis for OSF?**

RESPONSE: Yes, both OSF and FAA funds can be used to serve persons with a mental health diagnosis.

43. **QUESTION: Are there like vouchers of some sort. A lot of these communities are in need from transitioning from a residential facility to a recovery home that seems to be a fear. Is that under like the recovery?**

RESPONSE: No, there are no housing vouchers or funding for housing in this NOFO.

44. **QUESTION: Is a justice involved or impacted individual considered at risk or that doesn't meet enough of the criteria for the preferred party?**

RESPONSE: The NOFO does not exclude justice involved or impacted persons as long as there is mental health and/or substance use involved.

45. **QUESTION: Will only audited financials be accepted?**

RESPONSE: An audited financial statement is required unless the agency is under the single audit threshold.

46. **QUESTION: A new logic model does not have dropdown menus. Can we should just copy and paste the required outcomes from the NOFO guidance document into the blank logic model.**

RESPONSE: Yes, copy and paste the required outcomes from the Guidance Document into the blank logic model template.

47. **QUESTION: When applying for the OSF Program Service, there are three options for applications, correct? Each number is a separate grant application or is category number 2 an option for 4 separate grant application? Under the FAA BHSUD, I have a similar question. There are 3 separate grants, correct? Or can we apply for one under crisis support, one for Case Management/Care Coordination, Peer Support?**

RESPONSE: An applicant is required to submit separate applications for proposals funded with OSF or FAA funds. An agency can apply for a single category to provide one (1) of the services.

48. **QUESTION: If the agency submits an Supportive Services application targeting Supportive Employment, are we able to direct the services on current active clients within the agency who have expressed an interest in increasing their earning potential through employment and expressed their struggles with behavioral/mental**

health/trauma/substance use, or would we need to serve families with children throughout the county who are referred to the agency for job services who are not currently active in one of our core programs?

RESPONSE: Answer: The Agency could provide additional services through FAA with an individual who is interested in improving earning potential through different employment. This FAA NOFO does not include services to children, those services are now being funded by the Youth Services Department.

49. **QUESTION**: **Do the families served in the Supportive Services category need to have a documented diagnosis or is self-reported acceptable?**

RESPONSE: Answer: Individuals served may have a history of trauma and have self-reported it

50. **QUESTION**: **When selecting the category, the choice is Peer Support Services instead of Support Services.**

B.   Financially Assisted Agency (FAA)
    1. Peer Support Services Category
    2. Community-Based Treatment and Services Category
    3. Deep-End Treatment Category

RESPONSE: The typo has being corrected in SAMIS.

51. **QUESTION: Question 39 is not in SAMIS and is in the NOFO.**

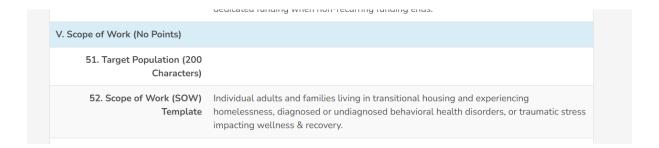**39. Community Resources (4,000 Characters)**

Identify any programs or services in the community that can support your project. Provide a brief explanation of what kind(s) of support can be provided. Identify if other programs or services noted here will be involved as a collaborator, partner or in some other capacity.

RESPONSE: The typo has been corrected in SAMIS.

52. **QUESTION**: **The instructions tab says to select the indicator and outcome from a dropdown, but I don't see any dropdown menus in this template. Is there meant to be a drop down or should we just write them into the columns?**

RESPONSE: This Logic Model attachment was updated and posted in SAMIS.

53. **QUESTION:** I **just wanted to bring to your attention a minor issue with SAMIS. Under the Scope of Work section, the Target Population field and the attachment field are switched. As a result, when you input the Target Population information and "save" it, it looks as though you left the question blank. I am including a screenshot below so you can see. Not a big deal, but I just want to make sure the reviewers know that the question is answered directly below the blank field.**

V. Scope of Work (No Points)	
51. Target Population (200 Characters)	
52. Scope of Work (SOW) Template	Individual adults and families living in transitional housing and experiencing homelessness, diagnosed or undiagnosed behavioral health disorders, or traumatic stress impacting wellness & recovery.

RESPONSE: This issue has been resolved.

54. **QUESTION**: **In SAMIS, if you select FAA Behavioral Health as the funding category, it lists the following options: Peer Support Services, Community-Based Treatment and Services Category, and Deep-End Treatment Category.**

This is different than the categories stated in the NOFO. The NOFO lists them as: Support Services (no reference to peers here), Community-Based Treatment and Services, and Deep-End Treatment. In the NOFO document, Peer Support is then one subcategory, along with several others.

Is there any way to update the categories to reflect the NOFO guidance document? We applying under the broad Support Services category, and then selecting Housing Supportive Services as the sub-category.

1. Select the Funding Source *	B. Financially Assisted Agency (FAA) ⌄
2. Select the Category *	Select One ✓ 1. Peer Support Services Category
	2. Community-Based Treatment and Services Category
	3. Deep-End Treatment Category (FAA)

RESPONSE: The issue has been handled: the category Peer Support Services was updated to Support Services.

55. **QUESTION: Must the Roma Logic Model fit on one page?**

 RESPONSE: Preferably but not required to fit on one page.

56. **QUESTION**: **Are the outcomes and indicators in the TA Webinar slides required based on the Category and Sub-category chosen?**

RESPONSE: Yes, The outcomes and indicators that are in the NOFO Guidance are REQUIRED outcomes.

57. **QUESTION**: **The section and document title "OSF Required..." suggests that it is only to be completed if the agency is requesting OSF funds, NOT FAA funds. However, I do not believe that to be accurate.**

RESPONSE: The Cover Sheet is required for all submitted proposals (i.e., OSF and FAA) and will be updated in SAMIS.

58. **QUESTION**: **The cover sheet is typically one of the last documents completed given the fluidity of the grant writing processes. However, it appears this must be completed before the system will let the user continue to work on other sections of the NOFO. Can this be adjusted?**

RESPONSE: The Cover Sheet's placement in the NOFO hasn't changed for this NOFO. I suggest you upload a "draft" cover sheet and update it before submitting the Proposal in SAMIS.

59. **QUESTION: For those applying for FAA, Community-Based Treatment and Services Category, Subcategory Case Management/Care Coordination, we understand that our focus population to be served is Young Adults, Adults and Families. If a family is referred, how is the primary client decided within that family? Do all family members get included in the count of those receiving services?**

RESPONSE: The adult is the primary person for services. Please note the following language from the NOFO: NOTE: Effective with this NOFO, CSD is shifting FAA funded youth and youth/family-focused behavioral health services to the Youth Services Department (YSD). Specifically, the services that YSD will administer are within the Support Services and Community-Based Treatment and Services categories

60. **QUESTION: It is our understanding that Palm Beach County has purchased Recovery Capital Index® (RCI) delivered by automated SMS and email to clients through a web-based platform. Will all Providers who are awarded funding have access to use this platform for the delivery of these assessments to clients? Will this come at a cost to Providers. If unable to use the county's platform, will Providers be expected to pick up the expense of these assessments?**

RESPONSE: The County has a contract with the vendor and agencies will not need to pay for access to or use of the platform.

61. **QUESTION: There is no Question 39 in the application system, but there is in the NOFO. Community Resources: Identify any programs or services in the community that can support your project. Provide a brief explanation of what kind(s) of support can be provided. Identify if other programs or services noted here will be involved as a collaborator, partner or in some other capacity. Will this be updated in the application system, or how would you like us to respond to this question?**

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved

62. **QUESTION: Question 51 in the application system states we are to respond to that Target Population, but it doesn't allow us to type anything in as there is no text box, only what seems to be an upload area for the SOW. How should this be addressed?**

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved

63. **QUESTION: Question 52 seems to be where we are to upload our SOW. It also has a text box area. Is this where we should respond to question 51?**

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved

64. **QUESTION: The very end of the application in the application system reference HUD BUILDS NOFO Program requirements, but we can find nothing in the NOFO that addresses what needs to be placed in this section. Is this a section that needs to be addressed in this specific application?**

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved.

65. **QUESTION: When the switch to a NCCE happens in FY 26, can we serve a client who calls us directly? Who walks into our agency? Or do we have to refer them to contact the NCCE to be assessed and placed with an agency? Will this apply to all service categories under the FAA?**

RESPONSE: The 2024 Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Plan outlines a Mission for the County's work which is to ensure access to individualized person-centered, recovery-oriented care and supports through integrated and coordinated services using a "no-wrong door" approach for all Palm Beach County residents in need. As the County transitions to the NCCE, it will engage providers to appropriately balance a "no wrong door" approach with an aim of the NCCE which is to remove any barriers being experienced by individuals seeking care that will help ensure this approach. In the interim, additional NCCE information can be found in the Master Plan and its appendix B which can be found at the resources and documentation section of the NOFO webpage.

66. **QUESTION: What is the definition of "services" as it relates to the outcome for Case Management/Care Coordination regarding being successfully linked to services?**

RESPONSE: Per the Outcome, when referencing services, it is in the context of providing a warm hand-off to an organization that will meet the individuals' needs. The "services" are in the context of referral & linkage to any additional support for the individual through case management/care coordination. Preferably this should occur in our Resource & Referral Portal.

67. **QUESTION: Can you provide criteria and/or examples that differentiate a treatment plan from an individualized recovery plan, as they relate to the outcomes for Outpatient Services? Does this apply to someone who is not using substances and only being served for mental health?**

RESPONSE: A treatment plan is a documented plan that describes the patient's condition and the therapeutic interventions that will be provided to help them reach their goals. It outlines the clinical services, procedures, expected outcomes, and expected duration of the treatment.

SAMHSA also recognizes the importance of addressing social determinants of health as key levers to achieving improved outcomes for people with behavioral health conditions.an individualized recovery plan helps keep individual's on track with their recovery goals. IRPs are broader in scope and can include anything else a person identifies as necessary to support their recovery. This should include an assessment of an individual's risk / resilience factors which may identify things such physical health, housing, education, employment, finances, legal, family, social life, intimate relationships, and spiritual goals.

68. **QUESTION: Is the attachment of the actual RCI tool missing or intentionally not provided?**

    RESPONSE: See resources and documentation on NOFO webpage under General Recourses section:
    https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx

69. **QUESTION: Are we required to apply the RCI to individuals at specific time intervals, such as every 30 days, 60 days, etc., or can we determine that time-frame?**

    RESPONSE: Time intervals are specified in the NOFO and can be automated through the RCI platform in consultation with the County.

70. **QUESTION: Can you define and give examples of "Recovery Community Centers" as it relates to the outcomes for Outpatient Services? Do they exist for only mental health if someone is not using substances?**

    RESPONSE: RCCs aim is to support individuals in building recovery capital which encompasses both internal resources and external community resources, to sustain long-term recovery. RCCs must be open to anyone, including people in recovery, those not yet in recovery, family members, and allies and provide an array of non-clinical services including, but not limited to, peer supports, recovery coaching, social events, skill-building and educational workshops. Thus, RCCs do exist for individuals with mental health concerns but who are not using substances.

71. **QUESTION: Can you confirm if the below statement means we are to come up with our own indicator for each outcome? And if so, does that have to fall within Year 1, Years 2 & 3, or all three years? "Additionally, applicants are to provide at least one appropriate indicator per outcome in each proposal submitted."**

    RESPONSE: This is being removed. Applicants do not need to provide an additional indicator and are to use the ones provided in the NOFO.

72. **QUESTION: Are the recommended best practices for Outpatient Services, pages 18-19, correct? It is just a list of the types of outpatient services that can be provided.**

    RESPONSE: The list is a non-exhaustive example. Additional resources are posted on the FAA website. It too is a non-exhaustive list of evidence-based and best practices.

73. QUESTION: Does the statement "Demonstrate how resilience will be measured and improved" mean using the RCI we are required to use?

RESPONSE: Yes, it does mean using the RCI as well as other resilience / risk related data points utilized by the provider.

74. QUESTION: There is nothing labeled as Attachment 4: Resource Document Best Practices Research Optimized when clicking the link

RESPONSE: See resources and documentation on our FAA NOFO webpage under General Resources section: https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/PDF/2025/ATTACHMENT%204%20Resource%20Documents%20Best%20Practices%20Research.pdf

75. QUESTION: Could you please assist with the applicant's question regarding the Logic Model?

RESPONSE: There was an issue with the budget sheet template (Attachment 12), but it has now been resolved.

76. QUESTION: I don't see a link on SAMIS to download the CQM template.

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved, and the template is now available for download.

77. QUESTION: The NOFO provides naming convention and instructions for uploading partner letters (Q19), but there is no upload link in SAMIS. Should this be a narrative-only question?

RESPONSE: The issue has been resolved. Please follow the instructions as outlined in Question 19.

78. QUESTION: I cannot find Attachment 4 at the link provided. Can you please provide guidance on that?

RESPONSE: The issues has been resolved. Please use the link to access Attachment 4 under General Resource's section at: https://discover.pbcgov.org/communityservices/financiallyassisted/Pages/RFP.aspx

79. QUESTION: The Focus Population Question field is formatted differently than all of the other ones. Because of its unique formatting, it squishes all of the paragraphs into one very long string of text, perhaps making it more difficult for the reader to read. I just thought I'd mention it because I think if it was formatted like the rest of the narrative fields, it would be easier for the reviewers to see the information in the way that the applicant intended it to be read. It's the only field formatted as a single line rather than as a block text field.

RESPONSE: This issue requires further investigation. To ensure timely submission of the application, please prepare the response in Microsoft Word and then copy and paste it into SAMIS.

80. **QUESTION: Questions 18 and 22 appear to be requesting similar information. Are you able to provide clarification on these questions?**

RESPONSE: Questions 18 and 22 are asking for different information. Question 18 is focused on what will be used to assess the program including specific instruments, assessments, etc. and provide details about what you are measuring with the tools you identify as well as how it relates to program outcomes and effectiveness.

Question 22 asks for a description of the methods of evaluation and how it will be implemented and inform any modifications to the program if the results are not what were expected.

81. **QUESTION: If we are only applying for FAA funds do we need to provide an answer to question 50 or does the question apply for both funding sources? We are aware that all fields are required and we will have to enter something into SAMIS.**

RESPONSE: Question 50 applies only to Opioid Settlement Funds. The answer options for this question will be updated to include a "N/A" option.

82. **QUESTION: Clarification in the differences between Outpatient Services and In-Home or Onsite Day Treatment**

   Page 18, Section 2, A & B

   Our program is an evidence-based intervention program that operates in the schools. It follows a 13-week program, very similar to outpatient treatment. The description of In-home or Onsite Day Treatment appears to be more intensive than Outpatient Services, and less appropriate for the intensity of our school-based program. Please clarify if Outpatient Services can occur within a school-based setting.

RESPONSE: The school setting you described would fit within Outpatient Services.

83. **QUESTION: Clarification regarding Outpatient Services - Page 23, Community-Based Treatment and Services Category, Outpatient Services subcategory, Non-Residential (this service subcategory only includes adolescents aged 15 – 18 in the focus population.**

   Our current school-based non-residential program admits youth that may be 13 or 14, which is outside the age range in the NOFO for this category. We do not like to turn youth away in the school setting as it is not in their best interest. Also, the District expects us to be available to all their students. We are in high schools, so most youth are between 15 and 18, however, not all. Would it be possible to expand this age group so that 13 and 14 year olds would have access?

RESPONSE: The adolescent age range for Non-Residential Service Category is being modified from 15-18 years of age to 13-18 years of age and will be reflect in Amendment 2 to the NOFO Guidance Document and in the SAMIS Proposal module.

QUESTION: In-patient/Residential Services for Adolescents Outcomes - Page 31, Outcome 1

The first outcome states "Increase the resilience of program Participants" and refers to utilization of the RCI. In the Measurement Tools section below the table on that same page, it says the RCI is expected to be utilized with the Young Adult and Adult population (not adolescent population). We spoke with the Director of Operations for Face it Together, who agreed that the RCI is not appropriate for our target population. Please clarify if utilization of this instrument is a requirement for this population. If the RCI is not being utilized for this population, it will impact the scoring of several areas of the NOFO, placing the applicant automatically at a disadvantage compared to other agencies.

RESPONSE: The County, Florida Atlantic University and CommonlyWell are partnering to validate an adolescent RCI. During the FY 2026 contract term, the County anticipates engaging providers as part of a transition period to implement its use. Applicants can respond to the related NOFO question(s) that there is not a current adolescent RCI validated and that the applicant agrees to implement its use once a validated instrument is available. Applicants should also make part of their response how they plan to integrate resiliency, resilience and risk factors into its adolescent programming as well as identify alternative means to measure such.

The other 2 outcomes should be used and the RCI specific one may be skipped for this population.

84. **QUESTION: Application: Page 46, Question 15 - This question asks how our program will incorporate the RCI. The RCI is not required for our Community-Based Treatment and Services program, and not likely applicable for our In-patient/Residential Services for Adolescents program. What verbiage would you like us to use to clearly articulate to reviews that this question is not applicable?**

RESPONSE: The County, Florida Atlantic University and CommonlyWell are partnering to validate an adolescent RCI. During the FY 2026 contract term, the County anticipates engaging providers as part of a transition period to implement its use. Applicants can respond to the related NOFO question(s) that there is not a current adolescent RCI validated and that the applicant agrees to implement its use once a validated instrument is available. Applicants should also make part of their response how they plan to integrate resiliency, resilience and risk factors into its adolescent programming as well as identify alternative means to measure such.

85. **QUESTION: Definitions: Page 54, the definition of "Adolescents."**

The definition states that it's only applicable to the Deep-End Treatment Non-Residential Services category. However, on page 23, it is also used in terms of the Community-Based Treatment and Services Category, Outpatient Services subcategory, Non-Residential. Please clarify.

RESPONSE: The Article will be updated. Adolescents - Individual(s) ages 15 to 18. For FAA funds, the only Category applicable to adolescents is Deep-End Treatment – all services and Community-Based Treatment & Services -Non-Residential Services Only.

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86. **QUESTION: Are all four outcomes required for all participants under all Outpatient (Counseling/Therapy) and Non-Residential Services, or can this depend on the type of services the participant is engaged in (for example outcomes 1, 2 and 3: resilience, treatment/recovery plan, and engagement for someone in MH therapy without co-occurring SUD; and outcome 1 only: resilience, for a participant in a drop-in support group)**

   RESPONSE: All outcomes are required for all services within the subcategories. The outcomes are applicable to all persons regardless of condition.

87. **QUESTION: Is the RCI required for every program participant regardless of type of service, or can another resilience measure be used if better suited to the service type (for example the CD-RISC for drop-in support groups due to length)**

   RESPONSE: The RCI is required for every program regardless of the type of service. The agency is welcome to use the CD-RISC; however, for this NOFO the RCI is a required tool.

88. **QUESTION: Does the software expense for RCI calculation and analysis need to be included as a budget line item for the current application due Monday, April 7, 2025 by 12:00 pm noon? (I.e., it will be covered by PBCCSD.)**

   RESPONSE: No, the County has a contract with the vendor; agencies will not need to pay for access to or use of the platform.

89. **QUESTION: Is the % of effort by a staff member working on program evaluation with the CSD's university research partner and the County's resilience and recovery indexing partner an allowable expense?**

   RESPONSE: Yes, it is an allowable cost.

90. **QUESTION: A question has come up regarding the required information for the Budget Template. Are we to fill out detailed information (revenue and expenses by line item) for other non-county funders for the project? The sample budget shows that we should include this information, however all of the cells in these other funder columns are grayed out on the template tab, and the instruction tab says not to complete the grayed out cells.**

   RESPONSE: We encourage the applicant to complete the template as thoroughly as possible including for other funding sources. Feel free to fill in the gray cells as needed. That guidance to not enter data there will be removed in future versions.

91. **QUESTION: RCI. We are applying under Community Education and Engagement – Community Education/Recovery Ready Communities. I believe our evidence-based, best practices model to equip the public to respond effectively and without judgment to substance use and mental health crises will result in early (or at least earlier) interventions that strengthen resilience capital in Palm Beach County with respect to substance use. This community education component is reflected in the 2024 BHSUD**

plan. However, the RCI Survey Indicators appears to be addressed directly to the SUD population in recovery, rather than the broader community organizations and citizens who will participate in and be impacted by our education program. Could you advise re: the best approach for questions 15 and 17?

RESPONSE: We cannot provide advice on how best to answer questions 15 and 17. However, the narrative in the NOFO for the subcategory is detailed and identifies resources. The NOFO also states proposals submitted for the OSF Funding shall agree to participate in the County's Shaping a Healthier Palm Beach County campaign. The campaign utilizes a modified resilience capital index which will allow community-level risk and resilience factors to be assessed. Lastly, the RCI information in the NOFO has both the survey and the RCI Quick Guide which the questioner should review.

92. QUESTION: **Program sub category for Support Services will not populate.**

RESPONSE: This issue has been fixed.

93. QUESTION: **A question has come up regarding the required information for the Budget Template. Are we to fill out detailed information (revenue and expenses by line item) for other non-county funders for the project? The sample budget shows that we should include this information, however all of the cells in these other funder columns are grayed out on the template tab, and the instruction tab says not to complete the grayed out cells.**

RESPONSE: Yes, fill out the budget form, the form's fields have been corrected. Applicants are strongly encourgaged to complete the template as thoroughly as possible including for other funding sources. The guidance to not enter data has been removed.

94. QUESTION: **Will the RCI assessment be input into ClientTrack and then reports will be derived from there, or should our agency propose to use its own database (ETO) to collect the assessment results? I am trying to complete the Outcome Tool section and it would be helpful to know what system the county will require for the RCI data to be collected and reported on.**

RESPONSE: No, the County has a contract with the vendor; agencies will not need to pay for access to or use of the platform

95. QUESTION: **Does the software expense for RCI calculation and analysis need to be included as a budget line item for the current application due Monday, April 7, 2025 by 12:00 pm noon? (I.e., it will be covered by PBCCSD.)**

RESPONSE: No, the County has a contract with the vendor; agencies will not need to pay for access to or use of the platform.

96. QUESTION: **Is the % of effort by a staff member working on program evaluation with the CSD's university research partner and the County's resilience and recovery indexing partner an allowable expense?**

RESPONSE: Yes, it is an allowable cost.

97. QUESTION: **If we are not applying for Housing support services do we need to respond to question 56? I have provided the question below.**

56. **HUD BUILDS NOFO Program Specific Requirements (Unscored Equity Responses)**

RESPONSE: The question was removed from the application since it does not apply to this NOFO. The issue has been fixed.