



Helping People with Developmental Disabilities Reach Their Maximum Potential

San Joaquin County

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Stanislaus County

Branch Office
1620 Cummins Drive
Modesto, CA 95358
Phone: 209-529-2626
Fax: 209-526-5763

Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties

Branch Office
704 Mountain Ranch Rd #203
P. O. Box 1420
San Andreas, CA 95249
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Request for Proposal/Letter of Intent

To Qualified Service Providers

Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) Fiscal Year (2021-2022)

Project Type: (Crisis Prevention and Intervention) Center for START Services

Deadline for Submission: December 13, 2021

Background: Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) is a private, non-profit corporation that contracts with the State of California to provide diagnostic, evaluation, case management, and early intervention services to people with developmental disabilities. VMRC purchases essential services for people with developmental disabilities. Additional background information about VMRC is available on our website located at <https://www.vmrc.net/>

Description of Project:

The Center for START Services, developed in 2009, is a national initiative based at the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability/UCED that provides educational and capacity-building services, promotes, and evaluates evidence-informed practices and approaches, and facilitates START model program implementation across the United States with the aim of improving the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and behavioral health needs.

START (an acronym for Systemic, Therapeutic, Assessment, Resources, and Treatment) is a tertiary care research-based model of services and supports for individuals ages six and older diagnosed with IDD and mental and behavioral health needs. A START program's goal is to improve diagnosis and treatment, support effective services, create service linkages, promote health and wellness for both the individual with IDD and the caregiver, and decrease the need for emergency services.

Learn more about START on the CSS website:

<https://www.centerforstartservices.org/start-overview-video>

The START service model is a comprehensive approach to crisis prevention and intervention for people with developmental disabilities and co-occurring mental health conditions. The model provides crisis planning and wraparound services that help support individuals at risk for acute crisis or loss of residential placement, and individuals who are currently experiencing crises.

The START model is an evidence informed model that will train and certify identified individuals as Certified START Coordinators who will provide services and supports in the mental health aspects of IDD and includes the following: comprehensive clinical assessment, consultation, outreach, training, cross systems linkages and 24- hour mobile crisis response. START evidence informed methods will be used and include cross systems crisis prevention and intervention plans, linkage agreements, mental health/clinical assessment, outreach and therapeutic coaching, diagnosis and treatment planning, data collection and evaluation with the use of the START Information Reporting System (SIRS) database, report writing, and all needed materials to ensure fidelity to the START model.

Please take the opportunity to visit the Center for Start Services website for more information about “START”

<https://centerforstartservices.org/>

Interested parties are invited to submit a letter of Intent and an application packet for the development and operation of the proposed service to VMRC by **Monday December 13, 2021.**

\$300,000.00 in start-up funding is available for the development of this project.

Targeted start date for service is **July 1, 2022.**

Scope of Service:

The University of New Hampshire Center for START Services provides training and certification in the START model to community providers who make up the local START teams. Each local START team will consist of a *program director, clinical and medical directors, START coordinators, therapeutic coaches, coordinator team leads, coaching team leads, and administrative support.*

The selected service provider will be expected to support VMRC consumers (ages 6 and over) with crisis planning and wraparound services to individuals at risk for acute crisis or loss of residential placement, and individuals who are currently experiencing crises in their family home, their home or in community settings.

The START Model will support consumers in all five VMRC counties (Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne) , ages 6 and up.

Qualifications/ Eligibility of Applicants:

- Applicants must be eligible for vendorization in accordance with Title 17 Section 54310 (d) and (e).
- Current Vendors of VMRC or other regional centers are encouraged to apply but must be in “good standing” (free from “Sanctions” , must not be currently on a “Corrective Action Plan” from their vendorization regional center , must not be currently subject to any active investigation related to health and safety (abuse, neglect)
- Board members and employees of Valley Mountain Regional Center are prohibited from applying. Refer to Title 17 Section 54314 for a full listing of ineligible applicants.

Application Package:

All applicants must include the following in their application:

1. Letter of Intent (should be no more than **20** pages) typed and double-spaced, in English, including:
 - A) Applicant’s philosophy and values.
 - B) Statement of qualifications
 - C) A detailed description of the proposed services and treatment strategies to be provided (clinical strategies, behavior management strategies)
 - D) Strategies for obtaining and retaining qualified staff to serve all five VMRC counties.
2. A section on equity and diversity that shall include, but shall not be limited to:
 - A) A statement outlining the applicant’s plan to serve diverse populations, including, but not limited to, culturally and linguistically diverse populations;
 - B) Examples of the applicant’s commitment to addressing the needs of those diverse populations; and

- C) Any additional information that the applicant deems relevant to issues of equity and diversity.
- 3. Qualifications of all applicants (Resume and any “certification,” or “license”)
- 4. Request for Proposal Application Form
- 5. Start-Up budget proposal
- 6. Operations Budget Proposal
- 7. Timeline for completion of the project (strategic plan)

Criteria for Selection:

A Review Committee will evaluate each applicant’s RFP Application Packet and may request an interview prior to making its final selection. Applicants should be prepared to answer questions about the contents of the Application Packet and details regarding the proposed service before a panel of Review Committee members. The applicant’s demonstrated commitment to serving people with developmental disabilities will be given special consideration.

Valley Mountain Regional Center and the Center for Start Services will host an **informational session for interested service providers** via Zoom on Friday **December 3, 2021, from 1-2 PM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82162040450?pwd=aTV2WDhFZ0I3V2YyMmNRcFITY01qZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 6204 0450 Passcode: 791786

Reservation of Rights:

VMRC reserves the right to select a provider for the services described in this Request for Proposal without further negotiations. VMRC may, at its sole discretion, select no applicant for these services if, in its determination, no applicant is sufficiently responsive to the need.

Costs for Proposal Submission:

Applicants responding to this Request for Proposal shall bear all costs associated with the development and submission of their RFP Application Packet. No costs shall be charged to VMRC, the Department of Developmental Services, or the State of California.

Deadline:

RFP Application Packets must be received no later than Monday December 13, 2021. Application Packets will be stamped with the date and time of receipt. RFP Application Packets with time/date stamps and postmarks after Monday December 13, 2021. will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant. Faxed submissions will not be accepted.

Submit by mail to:

Brian L. Bennett
Director of Community Services
Valley Mountain Regional Center
PO Box 692290
Stockton, CA 95269-2290

Submit by e mail to:

bbennett@vmrc.net