North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Section/Branch: Women’s Health Branch

RFA Questions and Answers

RFA #368, RFA Title: Perinatal/Neonatal Outreach Coordinator Program
Addendum Number: 1

If applicable, Bidder’s Conference Date: September 12, 2019
Questions Received Until: September 20, 2019
Summary of Questions and Answers Release Date: October 7, 2019

Questions and Answers (list all questions and answers in numerical order)

1. **Question:** On Page 5 of the RFA in the second sentence it states that a funded program can work outside of their perinatal designated Perinatal Care Region, but on page 6 it states that institutions should be physically located in the Perinatal Care Region that they propose to serve. Please clarify.

   **Answer:** Agencies inside and outside of the Perinatal Care Region are eligible and encouraged to apply if they meet the to apply, but agencies within the perinatal care Region will have priority. Agencies outside of the region will have to demonstrate that they have the capacity to make relationships with birthing facilities within the Perinatal Care Region and are able to serve the entire region.

2. **Question:** Are Perinatal Care Regions IV and VI being considered for this funding?

   **Answer:** Perinatal Care Regions IV and VI are not being considered for funding during this iteration of the grant.

3. **Question:** How do we obtain a list of the hospitals in a particular region?

   **Answer:** A list of all the counties per region is available in Appendix B of the RFA Application. It will be the responsibility of the applicant to identify those hospitals in their intended region.

4. **Question:** What are the Perinatal Care Regions of focus?

   **Answer:** This RFA focuses on Perinatal Care Regions I, II, III and V. Applicants are required to identify a reason

5. **Question:** Is it a requirement that the Perinatal/Neonatal Outreach Coordinator be a registered nurse?
Answer: Yes, the requirement is that the Perinatal/ Neonatal Outreach Coordinator position be a registered nurse in the State of North Carolina; has a MSN/MPH or other related degree; experience providing technical assistance, working collaborative teams and working on quality improvement projects; a minimum of two year’s clinical experience in obstetrical and/or neonatal care (inpatient, outpatient, or both).

6. **Question**: Can the letters of support for birthing facilities be from the healthcare system in general, or do they need to come from each individual facility?

**Answer**: The letters of support can originate from the healthcare system. Applicants should verify that the letter explicitly states that all the healthcare system’s birthing hospitals in the Perinatal Care Region support the application and are willing to participate.

7. **Question**: Is there an opportunity to know who may apply to avoid duplication of efforts in same region and encourage collaboration in the front end?

**Answer**: The identity of applicants will not be shared with other applicants. Potential applicants are encouraged to discuss the funding opportunity with other institutions in their Perinatal Care Region.

8. **Question**: Would this program encompass a maternal mental health component as well to address perinatal mental health disorders?

**Answer**: This grant funding focuses on risk appropriate care and improving maternal and neonatal referral patterns among hospitals to prevent maternal and neonatal deaths. The designation of risk appropriate care is assessed using CDC’s Levels of Maternal and Neonatal Care Assessment Tool (LOCATe); this tool was created by AAP, ACOG and SFMF to hospitals readiness to respond to help ensure that pregnant women and infants at high risk of complications receive care at a birth facility that is best prepared to meet their health needs. This grant does not directly address perinatal mental health disorders.