



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING FACILITATION

ISSUED: Monday, December 5, 2022

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday, December 16, 2022

R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE Request for Proposals for Strategic Planning Facilitation

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I. Project Overview

The R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE coalition is seeking proposals from qualified consulting firms to facilitate the development of a comprehensive three-year strategic plan for the coalition. This strategic plan will outline goals and objectives that will guide priorities based on considerable research, and extensive input from coalition members, community members, and other key stakeholders. R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE is seeking an organization with 5-10 years of strategic planning experience that is familiar with SAMHSA’s Strategic Prevention Framework as well as SAMHSA’s six Center for Substance Abuse Prevention strategies. The goal is for this strategic plan is to be developed and available for implementation by June 2023. The strategic plan is of great importance because the coalition has recently undergone a rebranding process and needs guidance on how to do effective drug (mis)use prevention work that takes into account the relationship between drug (mis)use and mental wellness, as well as life in a post-pandemic environment. The substance (mis)use playing field has changed significantly, so as preventionists, we must rise to meet the occasion.

II. Organizational Background

R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE, formerly known as MCSAP (Milwaukee County Substance Abuse prevention Coalition), is a Milwaukee-based coalition that places a special focus on preventing the (mis)use of drugs through the methodology outlined by SAMHSA’s Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) and SAMHSA’s six Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) strategies, as an effort to improve the longevity and quality of life in Milwaukee. This coalition was established in 2011, and in 2013 the fiscal agent contract was awarded to Community Advocates, Inc. Since then, the coalition has grown immensely and undergone a few critical changes. We consistently partner with between 30-50 organizations representing various community sectors across the suburbs of Milwaukee County, as well as the City of Milwaukee. These strategic partnerships give us access to overdose databases and various substance use statistics that provide guidance for our impact strategies.

Our previous strategic plan was created to guide the work done from 2019-2021. After the 2020 pandemic, the need for change in methodology for effective prevention work became abundantly clear. In 2021, with this desired shift in efforts, the need for a rebrand was identified as well. Throughout the year 2022, the coalition underwent a rebrand process. It is now known as R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE, with R.I.S.E. being an acronym for “Resources for Inclusive Substance Education.”

III. Current Mission and Vision Statements

Mission Statement: “The R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE coalition raises awareness on substance (mis)use, and, through inclusive education, elevates our entire community, from our youth to our elders, out of the harms caused by substance (mis)use.”



Vision Statement: “Prevent and reduce substance use and misuse in the Milwaukee County area.”

IV. Current Situation

We need a strategic plan because the term of our previous strategic plan has come to an end. In addition to that, there is an identified need of an effective direction for drug (mis)use prevention in a post-pandemic environment that takes into account mental health and wellbeing as a priority of focus. Some positive outcomes that we see coming from this strategic plan are, the reduction of health disparities in drug (mis)use, identification of what substances are affecting the different areas of the city of Milwaukee and its surrounding municipalities, as well as guidance in developing a wide range of strategies for community engagement, discussion, and program development.

V. Project Scope and Deliverables

- A needs assessment (qualitative and quantitative) of the current situation in post-pandemic Milwaukee broken down by:
 - race/ethnicity,
 - gender,
 - sexual orientation
 - age brackets (children, youth, emerging adults, adults, elderly),
 - municipality/city,
 - drug type, and
 - mental wellness trends (as associated to drug usage - protectives factors and disorders)
 - Policies/Legislation that affect substance use in Milwaukee
- A complete strategic planning document for 2023-2026 that is inclusive of evidence-based and/or evidence-informed substance (mis)use prevention strategies that will be effective in a post-pandemic environment
- Potentially, renewed organization vision, mission, and core value statements

VI. Proposal Requirements

- a. Vendor information: history, contact information, and website if applicable
- b. Biographies of key staff
- c. Provide an overview of your proposed strategic planning process / your overall project approach
- d. A description of the vendors approach to effectively and equitably engage coalitions, youth, families, and community stakeholders in the strategic planning process and in conducting community needs assessments



- e. Description of how the vendor will become acquainted with R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE (Executive Committee and full coalition) and Community Advocates, as well as how they plan to create, collaborate, and engage with a strategic planning team made up of the aforementioned groups
- f. Provide details of the expectation of R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE and/or Community Advocates staff throughout the process.
- g. Proposed work schedule and project timeline including an identification of high-level phases of the proposed strategic planning process that is inclusive of progress updates to the R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE Executive Committee and Community Advocates leadership
- h. List any potential risks that could take the strategic planning process off-track
- i. In an appendix section, provide at least 2 examples of past work with references and contact information of organizations that vendor has completed strategic planning work for, including post-Covid pandemic, if available
- j. Options for continued engagement with the vendor through implementation; all proposals must include a 1-year follow-up opportunity
- k. Comprehensive budget

VII. Submission Deadline / Response Time

All submissions must be submitted no later than 5pm CST on Friday, December 16, 2022.

Selected Applicant will receive their Notice of Award by Thurs. Dec. 22, 2022

Requests for Information

Questions related to this RFP should be submitted to the R.I.S.E. Drug Free MKE Coordinator, Ismael Luna: iluna@communityadvocates.net, no later than Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Please specify “RFP for Strategic Planning Facilitation” in the subject line.

VIII. Submission Details / Contact information

Interested organizations should submit complete proposals to Ismael Luna: iluna@communityadvocates.net, cc’ing Gloria Marfo: gmarfo@communityadvocates.net, no later than 5pm CST on Friday, December 16, 2022.

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