

Solicitation Summary for MFIP Employment Services

Date of Solicitation: September 22, 2023

Number of Proposals Received: 2 (Avivo, Midway Home Services)

Review Team Agencies:

- Dakota County (Jenny Douville, Jill Pittelkow)
- Kraus Anderson (Joel Akason)
- Dakota Electric (Jeff Rainey)
- Dakota County Technical College (Michael Berndt)

Services Description: The primary purpose of this program is to provide MN Family Investment Program (MFIP) participants with assistance in overcoming barriers to employment and other relevant services that lead to independence from public assistance and result in long-term self-sufficiency. Dakota County will be selecting up to two providers that will be eligible for renewal of their contracts. Funding levels for program year 2024 have not yet been established, however, Dakota County expects to have approximately \$1,043,244.00 in funding for the period of January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024.

Primary Deliverables: Fund amounts are subject to change based on state allocation levels and availability. Contract amounts will be amended annually with the providers selected through this RFP process. Effective dates of any contracts awarded under this RFP process are subject to change consistent with County mandates and provider performance relative to contracted program measures and standards.

Dakota County provides access to computer labs, conference rooms and on-site offices. A presence in the CareerForce Centers located in West Saint Paul and/or Burnsville is required. Dakota County MFIP participants are also eligible to receive support services, training funds and transportation assistance funded from sources outside this proposal.

Solicitation Selection Criteria:

Timeliness	5
Completeness	5
Overall Quality & Level of Professionalism	5
Overall Response	5
Workforce Center Presence	5
Staff Development and Supervision	15
Financial Literacy	10
Inclusion, Equity and Diversity	10
Retention and Follow-up Services	15
Innovative Practices	10
Past Performance	20
Organizational Capacity	10
Budget	5

Evaluation Results:

After a thorough review, the review panel recommended to award contracts with: Avivo, who is our current contracted provider.

Rationale of Recommended Vendor: Avivo has a mature system in place for managing staff performance and developing both technical competency and equity-informed practice. Avivo has a clear philosophy that includes career advancement, established communication channels, and offering a suite of services. Clear examples were provided from Avivo of innovative practices. Avivo is a well-established agency that has previously and currently contracts with Dakota County for these services. The proposal that was submitted is well written, well organized, with solid metrics that demonstrate clear capability of continuing to provide this service.