

Children’s Board of Hillsborough County  
PRO 2025 – 02 Request for Proposal (RFP)  
Level (3 ) Leading Grant  
Mentoring Program for Children with Varying Abilities

**Answers to Questions – Through 09/17/2024**

**Question 1: Is a 501c3 utilizing a private school space to provide mentoring/tutoring services allowable?**

*Answer: CBHC is not seeking to fund service locations within private schools or tutoring. Please see Section One of the RFP.*

**Question 2: Why is year one only from 1/25 to 9/25?**

*Answer: Board review for approval of funding recommendation takes place on 11/21/2024 followed by contract development. If awarded funding, the contract starts 1/27/2025 and goes through the end of the fiscal year 9/30/2025 for Year One.*

**Question 3: How many applications are anticipated to be funded?**

*Answer: One agency is anticipated to be funded through this RFP.*

**Question 4: Can you define or provide examples of “varying abilities” as it relates to this RFP?**

*Answer: As it relates to this RFP, “varying abilities” refers to the range of abilities in the areas of physical, cognitive/intellectual, expressive, sensory, and social emotional well-being in which special accommodations or adaptations are required to meet a child’s developmental or medical needs.*

**Question 5: Is this RFP subject to renewal after the two-year funding cycle is over on 9/30/2026?**

*Answer: Not determined at this time.*

**Question 6: What if we applied for a grant to help offset but have not been notified if we have received it yet?**

*Answer: If you anticipate the receipt of other funding, you may include it in your proposed budget as an “other funding source”. In the narrative for the funding source, please be sure to specify that the funds have been applied for but you not yet been notified if you will receive them.*

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**Question 7: How does the CBHC define “varying abilities”?**

*Answer: Please see the answer to Question 4.*

**Question 8: Is the info session mandatory to apply?**

*Answer: No*

**Question 9: Can existing CBHC funded programs facilitated by the Children’s Home Network (SEEDS, RAISE, CSS) be used as a referral source for clients for the proposed mentoring program?**

*Answer: At this time, it cannot be determined if it is a duplication of services.*

**Question 10: Under “Statement of Purpose” in section 1 of the RFP, it states CBHC is not seeking to fund, among other things, programs that serve families with an open dependency case. Are all children of varying abilities in foster care categorically ineligible to receive mentorship funded by this RFP?**

*Answer: CBHC funding or resources shall not be used to supplant funding for activities which other local, state, or federal governmental agencies are obligated by statute, administrative rule, or local ordinance to support. Please also see Section 1.1 General Requirements bullet two.*

**Question 11: May a proposal encompass mentorship for children of varying abilities in foster care in addition to those outside the dependency system so long as the mentorship is not delivered to dependency-involved families as part of the case planning process?**

*Answer: Please see the answer to Question 10.*

**Question 12: Is the intent of this RFP to provide mentorship to children of varying abilities, caregivers of children of varying abilities, or both? If both, must a proposal encompass mentorship for both caregivers and children, or may a proposal encompass mentorship for only one of the two?**

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*Answer: The intent of the RFP is for children with varying abilities and their families to be served. Mentoring should be included for children with varying abilities. Families may receive other support services that support the child with varying abilities. However, the Children’s Board is not seeking to fund mentoring for adults.*

**Question 13: Can CBHC provide a definition of “varying abilities” as it pertains to this RFP?**

*Answer: Please see the answer to Question 4.*

**Question 14: Will this funding opportunity be available for a renewal after the grant contract expires?**

*Answer: Please see the answer to Question 5.*

**Question 15: Would you please define what “children of varying abilities” means within the context of this RFP? If you need more context, more particularly, is “children of varying abilities” meant to be inclusive of all children, including those with unique support needs (like IEP’s or 504 plans, as an example), or is it meant to be exclusive to those children who have unique/additional support needs to be “ready to learn and succeed”?**

*Answer: Please see the answer to Question 4.*

**Question 16: Would it be acceptable to utilize the first two months for training and planning, thereby minimizing our expenses? We believe this approach would position us to effectively ramp up services significantly starting in the third month.**

*Answer: Start up activities should be documented on the Implementation Plan- Attachment #4. See Section 2.2.3 of the RFP for more information about the Implementation Plan.*

**Question 17: Alternatively, would it be feasible to implement a scaled-back version of our program during the initial two months, focusing on training and planning until the CBHC funds become available?**

*Answer: If awarded , the Grantee may incur expenses on the contract start date. CBHC will pay on a cost reimbursement basis. Please see Appendix #1 Section 2.7 for additional information.*