

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Management Services for Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0024
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council authorize the execution of an annual contract with Evidence-Based Associates, LLC (Powder Springs, GA) for management services for the Georgia Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant for the Muscogee County Juvenile Court on an as-needed basis.

Evidence Based Associates will provide the following services:

- A. Confirm a budget, assist with the selection of therapeutic service providers, manage the direct service providers, ensure fidelity of services implemented, provide reports showing results of the programs, provide the County with all information necessary to apply for funding for annual JJIG grant, and meet the goals established by the State and the County for performance and delivery of services to the families.
- B. Provide training to key stakeholders, regional groups and/or circuits on evidence-based programming for juvenile offenders upon request. The training will include information on the research base behind each of the models, including program outcomes, cost-benefit analysis, program eligibility, referral criteria and other areas of interest as identified by the groups. These sessions will be open to all stakeholders, policymakers and practitioners.
- C. Assign a part-time project manager who will ensure strict adherence to each of the selected program’s established protocols.
- D. All evidence-based program therapists, supervisors and facilitators will receive required initial and ongoing training in the models from the respective national dissemination organizations to ensure model adherence. Contractor will broker the training, this training for all selected service providers, and engage in additional provider readiness, technical assistance, and support activities to ensure provider effectiveness.
- E. The subcontractor of Evidence-Based Associates will provide functional family therapy (FFT) services and multisystemic therapy (MST) services.

The initial term of the contract shall be for one year with the option to renew for four additional twelve-month periods. The contract renewal will be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

Annual Contract History:

The previous 5-year contract was awarded to Evidence Based Associates, LLC (Powder Springs, GA) on April 11, 2017, per Resolution No. 100-17.

RFP Advertisement and Receipt of Proposals:

RFP specifications were posted on the web pages of the Purchasing Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry and DemandStar on January 28, 2022. This RFP has been advertised, opened and evaluated. One proposal was received on March 4, 2022 from the following vendor:

Evidence-Based Associates (Powder Springs, GA)

The following events took place after receipt of proposals:

RFP MEETINGS/EVENTS		
Description	Date	Agenda/Action
Pre-Evaluation Meeting	05/20/22	The Purchasing Manager advised evaluation committee members of the RFP rules and process, and the using department representative provided an overview. The sole proposal was forwarded to each committee member to review.
1 st Evaluation Meeting	06/09/22	The committee reviewed the proposal and determined clarifications were not required.
Evaluation Ballots	06/09/22	Evaluation ballots were forwarded to the voting committee members.
Evaluation Results	06/10/22	The voting committee members unanimously recommended award to the sole vendor of Evidence-Based Associates, LLC.

Evaluation Committee:

Proposals were reviewed by the Evaluation Committee, which consisted of two voting members from Muscogee County Juvenile Court and one voting member from Troy State University.

Two additional representatives from Muscogee County Juvenile Court served as alternate voters.

Award Recommendation:

Based on the final evaluation ballots results, the Committee unanimously recommends award to Evidence-Based Associates, LLC.

Vendor Qualifications:

- Evidence-Based Associates was founded in 2004 and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Empower Community Care. Evidence-Based Associates is a national health care management and technical assistance provider.
- The principal office of the firm is located in Florida, with an office in Powder Springs, GA; Oviedo, FL; and Washington, DC.
- Collectively, the Evidence-Based Associates’ leadership team has over 150 years of experience in the fields of juvenile justice and human services.

- Evidence-Based Associates will subcontract with Grace Harbour, Inc. for the delivery of functional family therapy (FFT) and multisystemic therapy (MST). Grace Harbour was founded in 2006 and has an office in Columbus, GA.
- Grace Harbour is certified by the Georgia Department of Community Health to provide outpatient drug abuse treatment and education programs for adults and adolescents; is in good standing with the Functional Family Therapy, LLC; is licensed by the Multisystemic Therapy Institute to use the multisystemic therapy system in the treatment of antisocial behavior in youth; and is accredited by CARF International Headquarters.
- The staff of Evidence-Based Associates and Grace Harbour includes a current, Georgia-certified Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Master Social Worker and a Licensed Professional Counselor.
- Three (3) most recent entities for which similar work has been performed.
 - *Hall County (GA) Juvenile Court* *July 2021 – June 2022*
Managing entity for functional family therapy and multisystemic therapy.
 - *Chatham County (GA) Juvenile Court* *July 1, 2021 – June 2022*
Managing entity for multisystemic therapy and trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy.
 - *Clayton County (GA) Juvenile Court* *July 1, 2021 – June 2022*
Managing entity for multisystemic therapy and aggression replacement therapy.

The City’s Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-110, (Competitive Sealed Proposals (Negotiations)) governs the RFP Process. During the RFP process, there is no formal opening due to the possibility of negotiated components of the proposal. In the event City Council does not approve the recommended offeror, no proposal responses or any negotiated components are made public until after the award of the contract. Therefore, the evaluation results and cost information has been submitted to the City Manager in a separate memo for informational purposes.

Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: Multi-Government Project Fund – Superior Court – Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant II – Juvenile Court – Contractual Services: 0216-500-3128-JUVE-6319.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH EVIDENCE-BASED ASSOCIATES, LLC (POWDER SPRINGS, GA) FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE GEORGIA JUVENILE JUSTICE INCENTIVE GRANT FOR THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JUVENILE COURT, ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

WHEREAS, an RFP was administered (RFP No. 22-0024) and one proposal was received; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by Evidence-Bases Associates, LLC was deemed responsive to the RFP; and,

WHEREAS, the contract period shall be for one year with the option to renew for four additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal is contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an annual contract with Evidence-Based Associates, LLC (Powder Springs, GA) for management services for the Georgia Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant for the Muscogee County Juvenile Court, on an as-needed basis. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: Multi-Government Project Fund – Superior Court – Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant II – Juvenile Court – Contractual Services: 0216-500-3128-JUVE-6319.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2022 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Barnes voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.
- Councilor House voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.
- Councilor Woodson voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor