



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of Corrections
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Anchorage Procurement Section

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To: All Health Care Practitioners (ANP – MD)

Letter of Interest (LOI) for **Tele - Psychiatric Services (Anchorage)**

The Department of Corrections is seeking a qualified State of Alaska licensed Health Care Practitioner or agency to provide tele-psychiatric services to offenders housed within eight rural facilities throughout the State of Alaska for the Department of Corrections. Services will be provided out of the Anchorage Office. Travel will not be required.

Important Note: The department prefers that all interested in providing this service live within the Anchorage or Mat-Su valley area. However this does not excluded others who may live in other areas of Alaska but they must be able to guarantee services can be provided as specified in this LOI.

The contractor will be responsible for the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of offenders along with staff collaboration and consultation.

General Responsibilities Include:

Assessment:

The contractor will be responsible for the initial and ongoing assessment of those offenders identified/triaged and referred by correctional staff in the rural facilities served via tele-psychiatry. The contractor will:

- Conduct thorough review of documentation from previous internal and community providers along with relevant collateral information.
- Obtain and accurately documents a relevant mental health history.
 - a. Perform a comprehensive mental health assessment
 - b. Perform a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation, that includes evaluation of mental status, current and past history of violence, suicidal or self-harm behavior, substance use, level of functioning, health behaviors, trauma and social and developmental history
- Identify and analyze factors that affect mental health such as:

- a. genetics b. family c. environment
- d. trauma e. psychodynamics f. culture & ethnicity
- g. spiritual beliefs & practices h. physiological processes i. coping skills
- j. cognition k. developmental stage l. socioeconomic status
- m. gender n. substance use

Diagnosis:

The contactor is responsible for the diagnosis of mental health, psychiatric disorders, and related health status. This diagnostic process includes critical thinking, differential diagnosis, and the integration and interpretation of various forms of data. The contactor will:

- Identify both typical and atypical presentations of psychiatric disorders and related health problems.
- Differentiate psychiatric presentations of medical conditions from psychiatric disorders and arranges appropriate evaluation and follow-up.
- Develop a differential diagnosis derived from the collection and synthesis of assessment data.
- Diagnose psychiatric disorders.
- Differentiate between exacerbation and reoccurrence of a chronic psychiatric disorder and signs and symptoms of a new mental health problem or a new medical or psychiatric disorder.
- Diagnose commonly occurring complications of mental health and psychiatric disorders, including physical health problems.
- Evaluate potential abuse, neglect, and risk of danger to self and others, such as suicide, homicide, and other self-injurious behaviors, and assists in securing the least restrictive environment for ensuring safety.

Treatment:

The objectives of planning and implementing therapeutic interventions are to assist offender in achieving an optimal state of health and functioning within a correctional environment. The contactor will:

- Develop a treatment plan for mental health problems and psychiatric disorders based on bio-psychosocial theories, evidence-based standards of care, and practice guidelines.
- Treat acute and chronic psychiatric disorders and mental health problems.
- Plan care to minimize the development of complications and promote function and quality of life using treatment modalities such as, but not limited to, psychotherapy and psychopharmacology.
- Prescribe psychotropic and related medications based on clinical indicators of an offender's status, including results of diagnostic and lab tests as appropriate, to treat symptoms of psychiatric disorders.
- Manage psychiatric emergencies by determining the level of risk and initiating and coordinating effective emergency care.
- Recognize and accurately interprets the offender's implicit communication by listening to verbal cues and observing non-verbal behaviors.
- Identify, measures, and monitors clinical and related behavioral outcomes to determine the effectiveness and appropriateness of the plan of care.
- Make appropriate referrals to other health care professionals and community resources for individuals and families.
- Apply ethical and legal principles to the treatment of patients with mental health problems and psychiatric disorders.
- Prescribe pharmacologic agents for patients with mental health problems and psychiatric disorders based on individual characteristics, such as culture, ethnicity, gender, religious beliefs, age, and physical health problems.
- Ensure offender safety through the appropriate prescription and management of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions.

Staff Collaboration & Consultation:

The contactor will work as part of an interdisciplinary team including mental health, nursing, medical and security staff. The contractor will also act as a consultant to security and medical staff to recommend interventions to aid in the management of the offender population served by these eight rural facilities. The contractor will:

- Prioritize, coordinate, and meets multiple needs and requests of culturally diverse patients.
- Use sound judgment in assessing conflicting priorities and needs.
- Maintain a therapeutic team.
- Consult with other health care and psychiatric providers with the Department.

Qualifications & Experience:

- Minimum one year providing direct psychiatric services in a professional setting.
- License in the State of Alaska to provide services.

Service Schedule:

The total number of hours will be 1625 hours annually. Normal work hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, however this time frame maybe flexible. Work will not be required on observed state or federal holidays.

Contractor will be required to work 50 weeks annually at up to 32.5 hours per week. Contractor will be allowed 2 weeks' vacation time per year. DOC staff will cover during any absences.

DOC Will Provide:

- Area to work and tele - psychiatry equipment.
- Up to \$2000 in Liability Insurance
- Background Clearance

Required Documents: *(if interested)*

- Resume/Vitae *(current)*
- References
- Summary of any current or past litigation.
- Conflict of Interests *(if applicable)*

Other Documentation Requirements:

Copies of these documents are required before a contract can be awarded, but not limited to.

- Alaska Business License
- Professional License
- Required Insurances
- DEA Licenses

All services and hours are subject to change and may be flexible.

If you are interested please send a copy of a current resume along with the other the required documents list above no later than **December 15,2014** to my attention via fax (907-269-7345), or email (*preferred*) to gary.bailey@alaska.gov

If you are not interested but know someone who may be interested in providing this service please forward this LOI on to them.

Your services would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You,

“ORIGINAL SIGNED”

Gary Bailey
Procurement Specialist II