



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Corrections
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Anchorage Procurement Section

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1800
Anchorage, AK 99501-3569
Phone: 907.334-0851
Fax: 907.269.7345
Email: april.akers@alaska.gov

October 15, 2019

To: Vendor List

Re: Amendment # TWO (2)
RFP# 200000021
SOMP Community Services - Fairbanks
RFP Due Date: 10/21/19 @ 2:00 PM AST

The following question has been asked by a vendor and the department's response:

1. **Vendor:** Question: The curriculum required has not been normed with Alaska native offenders and therefore I cannot consider it evidence based for utilization in Alaska

Department: The University of Cincinnati (UCCI) Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Sexual Offending (CBI-SO) is a structured curriculum intended for individuals who are moderate to high need in the area of sexual offending. This curriculum can be delivered as a stand-alone intervention or incorporated into larger programs, particularly those designed for clients in the correctional system. As the name of the curriculum suggests, this intervention relies on a cognitive-behavioral approach to teach participants strategies for avoiding sexual offending and related behaviors.

Specifically, the program emphasizes skill-building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skills development. The goal is to increase the value participants place on pro-social thoughts and choices. This curriculum was developed in partnership with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections and Volunteers of America. Cognitive behavior therapy has been found to be effective across multiple cultures including Alaska Natives. In fact, the Indian Health Service (HIS) website contains a collection of prevention/intervention strategies designed to improve the health of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations and it recognizes Cognitive behavior therapy as an evidence-based intervention.

The treatment provider's level of cultural competence has the biggest impact on ensuring that treatment services are delivered in a culturally appropriate manner. Research has shown that cultural sensitivity practices can be applied to any type of therapy; these practices may help the client feel more comfortable, making the treatment more effective. Research has helped document the positive effects of cultural sensitivity practices and has also outlined examples of how therapists can be more culturally competent in their interactions with clients of different backgrounds. The Department of Corrections hopes this helps address any concerns related to whether or not a cognitive behavioral base program should be utilized with Alaska native populations.

END OF AMENDMENT #2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Akers".

April Akers
Procurement Specialist