

Request for Proposals to Support the Development of the Saskatoon Action Plan to Reduce Poverty

A community partnership has formed to develop and implement a community plan to reduce poverty in Saskatoon. The partnership includes a comprehensive mix of sectors and interest groups including:

- Community service agencies
- Aboriginal
- Health
- Provincial government
- City/municipal government
- School divisions
- Business and Labour
- Faith
- Poverty advocacy groups
- Individuals with a lived experience of poverty
- University
- Funding bodies

This partnership has an initial goal of developing a community plan to reduce poverty in Saskatoon. This plan will guide the implementation of poverty reduction initiatives in Saskatoon which holds partners mutually accountable. The partnership is governed by a Leadership Group and a Coordinating Group and has initiated, to date, five Action Groups to recommend evidence-based poverty reduction initiatives.

At the direction of the Coordinating Group, the successful individual, collaboration or consulting firm will provide a variety of services over a 4 month period leading to a draft Community Action Plan to Reduce Poverty for presentation to community stakeholders in October 2010. The plan represents the following:

- shared understanding of the issue of poverty in Saskatoon and who is affected
- shared ownership and leadership by community partners across diverse sectors
- integrates the history of poverty reduction work in Saskatoon
- a shared vision for poverty reduction in Saskatoon. Includes broad goals that will be the beginning of a multi-year commitment by community partners; plan will be updated on an ongoing basis
- elicits input and commitment from community stakeholders on specific action strategies to reduce poverty in Saskatoon

The successful proposal will demonstrate the following competencies:

- understanding of poverty as a complex community issue
- experience working across diverse sectors and groups to address complex community issues
- understanding of community development principles
- strong written and verbal communication skills with multiple audiences
- experience securing funding across multiple sectors
- strong connections at a strategic level with key agencies and groups in Saskatoon involved in poverty reduction

Applying these competencies and related skill sets, the successful candidate(s) will be asked to provide services for the following steps:

- create a shared vision that aligns the work of the Leadership Group, Coordinating Group and Action Groups
- develop and lead planning process with Leadership Group to define Action Plan elements
- develop and lead collaborative process for Action Plan development
- develop and lead process to present Action Plan to community stakeholders in October 2010
- lead collaborative process to finalize the plan by November 2010 which will include concrete goals, actions, responsibilities, timelines and initial targets for one year
- attend and actively participate in key meetings of the Leadership Group, Coordinating Group and Action Groups
- develop materials (e.g., templates, presentations, background documents, workshops) as needed to assist the Leadership Group, Coordinating Group and Action Groups with issues they are addressing
- assist Action Groups in conducting environmental scans to ensure their work is coordinated with related work being done in the community
- assist Partnership in identifying and securing possible funding sources to support the work
- work collaboratively with other staff contracted to work on this initiative

The timeframe for this contract is August – November, 2010.

Brief proposals (1-3 pages) are to be submitted by **July 22nd, 2010 by 5:00 p.m.** Proposals must demonstrate required competencies and outline a summary of the planned approach and budget. Proposals must also include resumes for each individual or firm to be involved in the contract. Proposals are to be submitted to:

Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership Coordinating Group

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