

**THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES
&
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF FAITH BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

REQUEST FOR GRANT APPLICATION R-89-01-0878

PART I: On-Line Question and Answer Document - FINAL

March 21, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Karin VanZant
Executive Director
Think Tank, Inc.

Q1. The budget form in the attachment section of the website does not seem to be hyperlinked. Will you be posting this form soon?

A1. [The budget document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site.](#)

March 22, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Cathy Corcella
The Raison Group
Columbus, Ohio 43209

Q2. The link for Attachment F does not seem to be active and I cannot access budget documents.

A2. [Budget Document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site.](#)

Q3. The RFGA indicates that it was issued on 3/18 but I do not believe it was posted on the web site until late in the day on 3/21. Will there be a deadline extension?

A3. [The deadline has been extended from April 18th to May 2nd at 3:00PM. All proposals must be delivered to:](#)

[Office of Contracts & Acquisitions
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414](#)

March 24, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Beverly Y. Wilkes
Director of Grants & Compliance
Community Housing Network, Inc.
Columbus, OH 43215

Q4. Could you please define "Ohio nonprofit 501c3 faith and community-based organizations"? If an organization serves a specific community (e.g., County) and is a nonprofit (501c3) would that organization qualify as a faith and community-based organization?

A4. Please refer to section 1.1 within the RFGA under "purpose" and section 2.1 for explanation. Organizations must be able to show they are a non-profit with a 501(c)(3) with a location in Ohio.

Q5. If an organization has already received federal funding in the past, is it eligible for this RFP?

A5. YES.

March 24, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Wilma V. Torres, MBA, CCAP
Director of Planning & Development
Mahoning Youngstown Community Action Partnership
Youngstown, Ohio 44503

Q6. Attachment F: Project Budget Form is not highlighted and therefore I could not print it, is it currently not available?

A6. The budget document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site.

March 24, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Calvin L. Williams
Program Director
Lighthouse REAL Dads
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

Q7. Is it the expectation that the lead agency have a collaborative partner in each of the counties that comprise the region?

A7. No, it is not.

March 25, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Charlene W. Allen

Q8. What is the procedure to get a copy of previous approved RFGA for this initiative? I would like to pick up one on Wednesday while in Columbus for the bidders conference.

A8. The Ohio Fatherhood Initiative Project is a new initiative thus, copies of previously funded programs are unavailable. According to Section 1.9 Communication Prohibitions, requests for information on previously funded programs must be made to the ODJFS Office of Legal Services.

Q9. Unable to print the forms; can you please correct.

A9. **The budget document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site**

Q10. Can the cost of the background checks be submitted in the budget?

A10. **Per Section 2.1, D, the applicant is responsible for those costs.**

Q11. What is a MPCCT program?

A11. **This was a “typo.” We apologize for any misunderstanding; it should have read Ohio Fatherhood Initiative OFI.**

March 25, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Sharon Hedrick
Butler County Community Grant Consortium
Butler County United Way

Q12. Is it possible to have all attachments available in fill-able pdf or word document format?

A12. **You may copy or cut and place the RFGA attachments in your document, but we cannot supply the documents in any other format.**

Q13. Attachment F does not appear to be a valid link to a document. When will this be available?

A13. **The budget document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site.**

March 25, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Mickey Bright Griffin, D.Min.
Director of Programming and Development, and
Jeff Hunsaker
Horizon Communities Program Manager
Horizon Communities in Prison
Winter Park, FL 32790-2547

Q14. Do all the partners need to be within the region selected, or may they be in several regions?

A14. **We are looking for organizations to operate programs within a specific region. That said, you may service more than one region but must submit a separate complete proposal for any additional region you wish to service. If one or more organizations happen to be located outside your region but will help you service the region in which you are applying to work, that would be permissible.**

Q15. I understand no e-mail replies will be made, and answers posted on your website.

A15. Correct.

March 25, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

April Steffy

Vice President/Chief Administrative Officer

Community Connection for Ohio Offenders, Inc.

Columbus, OH 43205-2342

Q16. If an agency proposes to serve incarcerated fathers, these fathers could be incarcerated throughout the state although they will return to a certain county. Does the applicant select the region according to the prison location, or the county to which the fathers are returning? Is it possible to serve multiple regions given the incarceration locations throughout the state?

A16. The county into which they are returning unless you are servicing them pre-release – in which case it is the county in which they are in prison. If you want to service more than one region, you will need to submit a separate complete proposal.

Q17. "ODJFS responses to all questions asked via the Internet and during the Bidders' /Applicants' Conference will be posted on the Internet website dedicated to this RFGA, for reference by all potential applicants." Will that will posted after the conference? I do not see any questions or responses at the time of this writing.

A17. The e-mail questions and the Pre-Bid Conference questions will be posted on the ODJFS Web site. Please refer to that site for the documents.

Q18. Please define "operational partnerships."

A18. Those organizations with whom the lead agency will work in order to provide services within your grant application/program.

Q19. Attachment F is not a downloadable file. Please provide access to this form.

A19. The budget document was posted on March 28, 2008 on the ODJFS Web site.

Q20. Scope of Work (page 13) a list of six areas of success are listed. This list is repeated again under Section 3.4 Specifications of Deliverables (page 15), but on page 15 it states that a "minimum of two" of the areas must be addressed by the proposed program. Please confirm that you are seeking a "minimum of two" areas to be addressed and not all six.

A20. The RFGA suggests a minimum of two, but your organization may determine to address more than two.

Q21. Format for the Organization of the Proposal, Subsection B4 (page 19), it states that "Applicants are to only show expenses directly related" to the project. Please define "directly related." Support staff, for example, will be needed to provide fiscal reports or data maintenance. This section further states that "travel is not to be included." Please clarify this, as the project staff will need to travel to various sites in

the community to meet with participants and partners. This is especially a concern for serving incarcerated fathers who may be imprisoned in counties outside of the children's county of residence. It is noted that Section 5.4 Travel Reimbursement (pg 21) states that "travel by program administrative staff should be folded into the overhead, per diem, the hourly rates, or budget categories and not to be listed separately." If the applicant does not have a federally approved indirect cost rate, may the applicant budget a percentage for administrative costs? Is this where we would include expenses for support staff?

A21. Please see the updated project budget document for further clarification. Support staff would be included in either the administrative cost section or the program cost section depending upon what the staff person is supporting. Regarding travel, those costs should be folded into the overhead, per diem rate, or hourly rates.

Q22. Attachment D (Subgrant Agreement) appears to be a sample contract, as it refers to RFGA R89010743 entitled "Feed Ohio." Is this the agreement that applicants are to sign and submit with the proposal?

A22. The correct grant agreement is now posted on the ODJFS web-site dedicated to this RFGA.

March 26, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Mickey Bright Griffin, D.Min.
Director of Programming
Horizon Communities in Prison
Winter Park, FL 32790-2547

Q23. If the organization: has programs in Ohio, is listed with the Ohio Secretary of State, and is a 501-c-3 corporation, is it eligible to apply, even if the home office is in another state?

A23. Yes. Please refer to section 1.1 within the RFGA under "purpose" and section 2.1 for explanation. Organizations must be able to show they are a non-profit with a 501c3 with a location in Ohio.

March 27, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Steve Sturgil

Q24. The application says that a minimum of 100 fathers must be served in this grant. If we wanted to serve unmarried young men, less than 21 years of age, at risk of becoming premature fathers, could this group be counted towards that 100 or would this group have to be serve in addition to the 100 fathers?

A24. They could be counted toward that 100.

March 28, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Fatherhood Collaborative

Q25. Does "Total Administrative Costs," include salaries?

A25. Administrative salaries but not those costs associate with program staff. Please see the updated Project Budget Form.

Q26. What is the maximum percentage of the total grant budget is Administrative Cost allowed to be?

A26. 15 percent. Please see the updated Project Budget Form.

Q27. "Program Development and Implementation" lists an hourly rate? Is this calculated as a staff position or is this cost related to sections of the project plan?

A27. Please see the updated Project Budget Form.

March 28, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Jacqueline Fox
Chief Executive Officer
Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs

Q28. Must the lead agency have past experience with fatherhood, or could a major partner have that experience?

A28. Whichever group will be the primary programmatic lead must meet the past experience requirements.

Q29. Must the grant include more than one county in a region?

A29. Not necessarily.

Q30. Is it possible to choose specific objectives?

A30. Yes.

March 28, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Kerrie L. Carte
Development Specialist
WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc.
Fremont, OH 43420

Q31. Salaries, supplies, equipment and utilities/maintenance are listed under the category administrative costs within Attachment F - Project Budget Form. Normally, these are part of operating costs and not administrative costs. Do you have another term, such as indirect costs, for costs that should be limited to 15% or are you considering all of those Administrative Costs?

A31. Please see the updated Project Budget Form.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

ISAAC CHAPPELL

Mounting Eagle

Q32. When is the deadline for the fatherhood grant?

A32. The deadline has been extended from April 18th to May 2nd at 3:00PM. All proposals must be delivered to:

**Office of Contracts & Acquisitions
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414**

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Aldonis Grimes

Q33. Can a county government entity that has an established fatherhood initiative in place but is not a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization be a lead agency that applies for this grant ?

A33. No but the county agency would be encouraged to be a part of the collaboration.

Q34. If a county government entity with an established fatherhood initiative in place cannot be a lead agency for this grant, what is the reason for not being included as a potential lead agency?

A34. This grant application is being administered through a public agency and is intended to enlist the support and leadership of nonprofit organizations throughout the state. Additionally, it is part of the GOFBCI to provide support and technical assistance to FBCOs so that they may increase their organizational strengths, capabilities, and experience.

Q35. Can a county government entity that has an established fatherhood initiative in place be a sub-contractor/collaborative partner (who receives funds from the grant) to a non-profit lead agency who submits a grant application ?

A35. Yes, the county agency would be encouraged to be a part of the collaboration.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Steve Killpack

Cleveland, OH 44113

Q36. Is it possible to submit a proposal that provides services in more than one region OR all 12 regions?

A36. If you want to service more than one region, you will need to submit a separate complete proposal for each region.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Kerrie L. Carte
Development Specialist
WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc.
Fremont, OH 43420

Q37. Should Subcontractors be listed separate under the "Other" category or blended into the various "Activity" categories? If the Subcontractors are to be listed under "Other", can we lump the dollar amounts all together?

A37. Proposals must include a letter project partners indicating the agreement between them and stating what the partner would be doing on the project. Please refer to the revise Project Budget Form.

Q38. Do the Subcontractors need to fill out the various Attachments also?

A38. The lead agency alone should fill out the attachments.

Q39. If staff, that are within the program, have had a background check a few years ago, do they need to have another one?

A39. Yes.

Q40. What background checks have to be administered? State, Federal or both?

A40. Federal.

Q41. Do Subcontractor staff need to go through background checks?

A41. Yes.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Sarah Shell
Urban League of Greater Cincinnati

Q42. Will you post the list of attendees at last week's bidders conference?

A42. No. Please contact us if you would like the list: add email.

Q43. Where is the link to the Q&As?

A43. Please refer to the ODJFS site where you saw this RFGA.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Amy Fent
OIC of Clark County

Q44. Are there any fiscal qualifications to denote a "Lead Agency"? (ie, Fiscal experience with A-133 audits)

A44. Lead Agency is the one that will oversee the entire project and submit all paper work required.

Q45. In respect to the budget, how large of budget would the "Lead Agency" need to have experience with operating?

A45. The lead agency will need to show the capacity to handle the amount of the grant requested.

Q46. Would it be possible to receive further explanation on the proposed budget form and format?

A46. Please see the updated Project Budget Form. We have updated it for clarity purposes.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Shelley Maberry
CEO/Lead Evaluator

Q47. Regarding the above referenced RFP - we represent an organization that is a State of Ohio registered nonprofit for more than 2 years. They recently applied for their 501(c)3 - we have the receipt to document. They have not received confirmation from the IRS but should certainly have it in time for grant awards. Can they apply under these circumstances?

A47. Please refer to section 1.1 within the RFGA under "purpose" and section 2.1 for explanation. Organizations must be able to show they are a non-profit with a 501c3 based in Ohio.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Debra S. Fisher
Director of Research & Development
Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc.
Sandusky, OH 44870

Q48. May the lead agency submit one proposal for all the regions they cover?

A48. The lead agency should submit separate applications if covering more than one regions.

Q49. May all the project staff including case managers, and other key program staff members who meet the minimum degree and experience qualification also be CONTRACT?

A49. Please refer to section 2.2 with staff/administrative criteria and use as your guide in staffing.

March 31, 2008 (Date of Inquiry)

Sumacoop1

Q50. Is there an percentage of the grant that we are allowed to charge for administrative fees

A50. 15 percent.

PART TWO: Bidders' Conference Transcript And Questions and Answers – FINAL.

Vern Riffe Tower
3rd Floor Theater
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Wednesday, Mary 26, 2008

Gregory Landsman, Angela Woodson and Chris Resch.

P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. LANDSMAN: Good morning. Thank you

all for being patient. We had a bigger turnout

than we thought, which was great. So we outgrew

the room upstairs, and then we got the tornado

drill. So thank you for coming down here and being
with us today.

I'm Greg Landsman, Director of the

Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community

Initiatives. I want to introduce a few people, and

then turn it over to Angela Woodson, so who is the

Director of Outreach for our office, but she has

also helped to manage Fatherhood Initiative.

I want to mention a few things about that before I turn it over to Angela. And the Governor's office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives really serves as a conduit for nonprofits, particularly faith-based and community groups that are interested in partnering with State agencies, and other governmental entities to deliver services and meet needs, and to be able to access the funding and the training and the other opportunities that may be up here in order to really expand the work that they're doing.

So our office serves as that conduit.

But also for the agencies that are looking to partner with nonprofit faith-based and community organizations. So we do a few things. One is we have our competitive grant programs, and this is one of them.

We also serve as a clearing house for funding. We have on our website, please, those who may not be on our newsletter or don't go to our website regularly, please click on funding opportunities where we collect anywhere between a hundred and two hundred different funding opportunities that may be of interest to you, both public and private.

We try to get as many private grant opportunities up there as we can. And starting next month, we'll send out a monthly funding newsletter of all of the various different grants and funding opportunities that may be of interest to you, so make sure you sign up for our newsletter.

We also do work in the area of capacity building, and Ohio Benefit Bank. How many of you are familiar with the Ohio Benefit Bank? Good. Well, please, if you're not already a counselor or not, consider it, and if you're interested in becoming one, talk to any one of us at any point today.

The Fatherhood Initiative was something that had taken place previously to this administration, but had been defunded, not decommissioned. So when the Governor took the reins last year, he decided that he wanted to bring this back and to fund it, and asked our office to help initiate that process.

So we worked to put together the Ohio Fatherhood Commission and this grant program. And Angela Woodson in our office, who I'm about to turn over the microphone to, has done that work to bring

that commission back together, and to initiate this competitive grant program.

So today, we are here to talk about that competitive grant program, and to walk folks through it and to answer questions you may have.

But as you'll hear today, the questions aren't final until we post them online. And that's a very important piece to remember; that even though we want to be able to point to specific parts of the RFGA as we answer your questions, that the official

answers will be posted online. And so will the -- all of the words that were discussed today, so that you can go back. You don't have to take notes

because we are doing that, and we'll have that online for folks. So that everything that was said here today is accessible to anyone throughout the state via the website. That's it.

With that, I want to turn it over to

Angela to get us going. So again, thank you for being here, and I really appreciate all the work that you're doing.

By the way, does everyone have a copy of the RFGA? If you don't and you would like one as we go through, please raise your hand. Okay. And if you need the sign-in sheet or the sign-up sheet, please raise your hand, and I'll come around.

MS. WOODSON: Thank you, Greg.

Good morning, everyone. Thank you for being patient with us, as well as transitioning and participating in our tornado drill. We apologize. We didn't mean to add any confusion or disruption, but sometimes beyond a lot of our control within state government, we have to be flexible and adjust and we do appreciate that of you today.

Just a few housekeeping issues, as Greg touched upon. As he's handing out, especially a form that has name, address with city and a lot of your contact information, that's kind of crucial for us to have.

So once you have filled that out, we don't need it right this moment, but at the end of this meeting, Beverly will raise her hand, and if you could see Beverly and make sure she has that form, because that's our way of mailing out the transcription information from today to you, as well as to be able, if there are any addendums that are thought necessary after this, we'll be able to send that out, as well, for your information.

The purpose of a pre-bid conference, for

those of you that are not familiar with this, and this is kind of unique as we talked about this over the last couple of weeks, because the State usually does this in online process with receiving communications through e-mail questions that they post.

So you have the benefit today of both, both worlds. And so today, it's basically for you. We have hoped to have had a chance to read the requests for grant application. Any questions that you may have, we'll try to answer them to the best of our ability.

As far as forms and requirements, we are not here today to give a lot of exact specific insight, because therefore, that's kind of us writing your proposal for you, and that's kind of not the role of today.

We are just trying to clarify any forms that, signature forms, and any mandatory information that we are going to be looking for within your application once you submit it. And as well as clarify the timeline, deadlines because, of course, if not turned in, and we'll go through that

later on in the presentation, if those documents are filled out incorrectly or missing, that can cause your proposal to not be reviewed. Also can be deemed as non-responsive.

Just to give you a little overview, as Greg went over the Commission, the Commission is by statute. And part of the statute for the Commission is they are to address, as a Fatherhood Commission, areas that they have identified per the statute, which is to build parenting skills for fathers, provide employment related services for low income and non-custodial fathers, prevent premature fatherhood, provide services to fathers who are inmates in or have just been released from imprisonment and state correctional institution, reconnect fathers with their families, increase public awareness, and I wanted to state that because through -- within the request for application, we do mention that information. And we wanted to make sure when putting your grant application together, please refer back to this because we are trying to adhere to the statute as much as possible, so in your creation and

development in identifying areas, this should be used as a guide for you.

Within your request for a grant application, I'm just going to briefly go over the overview of the project, and then turn it over to the Office of Contract and Acquisitions in the Department of the Job and Family Services.

Job and Family Services is our fiscal agent for this office as well as for the Ohio Father Commission, and anything we prepare that is an invitation or request for proposal or request for grant application, they're kind of our overseers.

They will yank our chain if we are inappropriate in misguiding that process, as well as they guide us to make sure we give you the accurate information. Also they work with us with the review process, and kind of, as well as our guide as we go through after the review process, the negotiation until the contract is actually developed and put in place.

So they're going to be right after me to answer any questions, and especially go over the

required forms that their office will need to accompany your grant application.

At 1.5, which is on page 2 of 30, collaborative structure and organizational partnerships, and I'm just going to read the first paragraph. "In support of the Ohio Commission of Fatherhood, the Governor's office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives," which is our abbreviation as listed. I've just read it out for the sake of the Court Reporter, "has developed the Ohio Fatherhood Initiative to optimize child development by maximizing the physical and emotional presence of fathers, and assuring the absent fathers become emotionally and financially supportive parents.

"The current funding will be used to support regional partnerships, comprised of one larger nonprofit, with several four to eight other smaller faith-based community organizations working together to implement fatherhood projects to target regions of Ohio. Funding under this program is not available to single organizations which do not propose regional partnerships."

And I really want to emphasize that particular, because, area, really and truly if you can acknowledge this first part of the grant application, you should not have many problems putting your ideal and visions together.

Also when, after Chris and I'm kind of done with my part, when Chris Resch from OCA gets finished, if you have any questions for us, it is important -- we have a microphone and Beverly is going to walk around, if you raise your hand, she will hand you the microphone to ask a question.

In order for us to transcribe this appropriately, we'll need you to state your name and please state your name clearly, and then ask your question. Thank you.

MS. RESCH: Chris Resch

Good morning, everyone. Was that fun this morning with the fire drill and tornado drill? It's the same thing for us. We use the same procedures as Angela said. It was a county wide drill to make sure that we are all pretty safe, and thank you for going along with us.

My name is Chris. I'm with the Office of

Contracts and Acquisitions from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

The Governor's office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives, as Angela said, uses our office, ODJFS, as a whole, to provide various of the general sort of community kinds of administrative services that all human services programs like the Medicaid that our office runs, like CHIP that our office runs, like Child Support Enforcement, all of those functions, those state-wide functions are functions that are operated through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

So we have a lot of infrastructure in place, fiscal services, contracts and acquisitions. So there is a certain economy of scale that each office, each program doesn't have to do all those different things that we all have in common individually.

And so the Office of Contracts and Acquisitions is one of those. We exist to be able to provide all the grant writing, formal procurements, contract writing on behalf of all of

those different programs. So that's our role in this.

We are not program experts in any one particular area, certainly not the Ohio Fatherhood Initiative, but we are participating with GOFBCI in order to do that. One of things my office, in particular, Contracts and Acquisitions, has done is to create this process whereby we are living up to both federal and state standards for how competitive procurements must be done.

That is to say the federal mantra is maximum practical fair and open and competition. And there is certain standards and procedures in place that we have tried and they have been tested down through the years to work. And so that's what we are offering to GOFBCI in this, and all of their other competitive programs.

So the processes are common, but they can be kind of daunting. And we don't mean them to be, but they do exist for a purpose. And so one of the things that Angela wanted us to be able to do for you today is to explain a little bit about some of those things, those attachments, those forms, those

little odd things at the back of the RFP that you have to submit.

Let me say just a couple things about them in general before we get into just a couple of minor specifics. One of them is that they're not intended to be something that is so difficult, so daunting that you just turn them aside and decide this is not worth it.

They're really not that complicated, and frankly, they're basically something that we have put in place for the betterment of all of state government. And some are not even ours specifically. For example, the W-9 form, that's common to all agencies that want to do business with State or County or City or any municipality or any federal government entity.

You have to have your federal tax ID on record. With the W-9 form, you want to make sure that you have signed it, that it's signed by a legal representative for your entity, for your organization, and that you have the correct federal tax ID indicated on that form. We do need to have that.

We do need to have that in case you are awarded a grant. Your grant would be -- actually, I should say, the payment that your organization would be receiving would be tied to the federal tax ID number that you give on that W-9 form. So we have to have that. It serves a purpose.

That purpose is to make sure you get the money you need. So make sure you include that, you've completed it accurately, you've signed it and included that with your proposal.

One of the other ones that's common to State of Ohio government and municipalities would be the declaration of material assistance to terrorist organizations.

I'm not going to claim that one, or to claim having named that one. I didn't. That was something that was put together by the legislature, and I think with, or at the direction of the Department of Public Safety. And that's what it's about, public safety.

We need to make sure that state government entities are not doing business with any organizations or businesses which might have any

kind of linkages to terrorist organizations. It's as simple as that. Please just fill out the form. It's a few questions to answer. Basically, checking off yes or no, sign it and include in the packet.

Another of the forms that I want to mention is the -- it is listed as Attachment A for your -- in the RFGA, Request for Grant Application. Attachment A is provided and it's identified as the required applicant information and certification form.

I will take the credit or the blame for that one. It's just a vehicle whereby we are asking you to summarize some basic pieces of information for us. If you got something wrong on that, believe me, that's not going to slow down anything.

It really won't, but we want you to simply do your best to answer the questions, to provide us the right names and addresses, sign it and send it in. It's a vehicle for us to have some basic pieces of information that we can go to quickly.

Now, I will say, however, including those things in your packet really is quite important. Don't just omit it. If you got something wrong on the form, we can always come back with you and make sure we have the information correct, but don't omit it because that's one of our first ways of checking off to see whether or not your proposal has been put together well enough for us to consider it in the mix.

We are expecting a pretty good turn out of proposals for this one, and we have to have some ways to make sure that we are looking at proposals that are complete. So your inclusion of that information will help us to see that your proposal is one indeed that we need to take a look at and give it good fair consideration. So do make sure you have completed those forms, signed them, and included them with your packet.

Let me point out to you that in the RFGA, in Section 4, we have identified for you there the way in which you are supposed to put your proposal packets together, where you're supposed to include things.

That is intended there for two things.

One, to tell you, it's sort of a checklist even, to tell you these things must be there, and must be in this order, and in this component part of your proposal.

But they're also there for the people at GOFBCI who have to read and review the proposals. If you can imagine the difficult job of culling through a hundred or so proposals, making sure that everything is in every one of them, that everything that is presented in each of those proposals answers our need for information about whether or not you understand the work, and have the capacity to do the work.

That can be very difficult for the readers, and so we put together this Section 4 to both help you, make sure you see where you should be putting things and make sure you're not missing something, but also it's there to help those reviewers so they don't have to go looking high and low among a hundred different things for the same kind of information.

Please put it together in that

organization. It would be very helpful. But you'll also see that in Section 4, we identify the forms that I have just mentioned, the W-9, the required vendor information. All of those are supposed to be in Tab 1, so do please make sure that's where you put them.

I want to bounce off to Section 6 of the RFGA, page 25 of 30. Our Phase I review, what we call the initial qualifying review, after all proposals are in, after the deadline, we don't open any of them before, but after all proposals have been submitted after the deadline, then one of the things we'll start to do would be to go through this checklist. And you'll see that those forms that I mentioned are included here.

If you don't have those forms included, your proposal will be rejected. All right? It is identified there as one of the criteria that we will use to reject proposals. So there is an importance about it.

For example, we want to make sure that your organization is one that we could indeed do business with. We can't do business with an

organization that doesn't give us assurances that you're not doing business with a potentially terrorist organization. That's what the declaration material assistance to terrorist organizations is about. It's to give us assurances.

We as state staffers need to make sure we are working on behalf of the State of Ohio, and that includes the safety of the State of Ohio, and so we have to make sure we are following the regulations that say we are not going to put your tax dollars to any organizations that might be in violation of those statutes, in violations of other statutes. For example, the ones that require that we pay unemployment insurance.

We are not going to be able to do business with organizations who are in violation of those kinds of things. That's what this information is used for. So here in our scoring section, Section 6 of the RFGA, we are trying to explain to you what this is about, and what's going to happen if you don't include those pieces of information that we need.

Angela also wanted me to talk a little bit about the timeline. In the RFGA, we have Section 1.7 of your RFGA, on Page 5 of 30. If you want to follow along. You'll see that we are here March 26, the bidders or applicant's conference.

Our next event in the timeline is Monday, the 31st. That's when we are going to, we hope we are going to be able to get all the questions and answers both from this venue, the bidders' conference and from the online, the internet based Q and A. We should have all of those things, all the answers posted on the internet.

On the internet web page where you found the RFA initially. There will be a link that's not live yet. It won't be live until the documents are actually out there, until we have all of your questions in and we have your answers ready to give.

But at that time, we'll link that document with all the Q and A from the electronic process, and from this meeting today, and we will have those all right there for your review. The answers that we give today, as Greg said, are not

to be considered official.

We need to make sure that we are not saying anything here, we are human, we might think oh yeah, the answer to that is -- and in reality that's an answer that's more pertinent to a different RFGA that we might have going on than to this one.

So we need to be able to go back, go through the documents carefully and give you a truly accurate answer. That's why the answers that we give today are not official. The official answers will be posted on the website. We say estimated date for doing that is Monday the 31st.

Generally speaking, we try to keep within 24 hours of those estimated dates. So if it's really Tuesday, instead of Monday, that's very possible, too. But from that point on, after we have posted the Q and A document, then the next deadline is the submission deadline, when you have to get your proposals in to us. That's 3:00 local time on Friday, April 18. That's 3:00, not 3:05. It's 3:00.

Getting things in on time is another of

those basic requirements. If it's not in on time, it will be disqualified. And then from there, another of our estimated dates is that by May 1, we should be sending out some kind of notification letters to everyone who submits a proposal.

That is to say to every proposal that comes in, that organization will receive a notice that says yay or nay. That's our estimated date.

I will tell you, though, that frankly sometimes when we have more proposals coming in than anticipated, that might slow down the process by a few days. If we are slowed down by more than a day or two or three, we'll try to post an amended timeline on the website. So go back to the website during this or any RFGA.

Let's see, I want to make sure I'm trying to cover all the different possibilities.

The notices will go out in most cases that we would like to be able to send those out electronically, that is to say if your proposal gives us a good e-mail address for somebody who is responsible for submission of the proposal, we can send those out that way, but that's kind of

inconsistent.

That is to say a group of 50, a hundred proposals, we might get 80 percent of them that have an e-mail address that works, or that we can get through our own agency firewall through. Sometimes there are technical problems, and if we can't get to at least most of those organization's notifications to them electronically, it might come to you via mail.

So the notification might go out on May 1, but because we have to mail it, it might not actually reach you until two or three days later. So please don't give us a call. It is in the works.

If there is a slow down, we'll put some notice of that for you on the website. And then from there on, we are hoping that we'll be able to implement the program in June, early June.

Important for you to recognize, this is true for all businesses, all organizations doing business with the State of Ohio. You may not begin work until a purchase order has been fully approved. When will you know that, when your grant

manager from GOFBCI lets you know that. That's a requirement.

You don't want to start work, start doing work and then find that you're not going to be able to get paid for it or get your reimbursement for that work. The reality is it's a tight budget period. It's not planned, but should there have been any budget shortfalls, some emergency, a flood, for example, emergency funds have to be diverted. It has happened in the past. Be safe for your own organization, and not do any work until you do have that formal notification that the purchase order is in place.

Okay. And then project completion goes through June 30 of '09. So you have about a year and a month on this particular project, but please recognize that we also have in there in that last box on the time frame there is a potential for renewal.

That is to say should funds be made available for this same project for the following year, and should the agency decide, GOFBCI, decide that it wants to continue with the program as it is

currently established by this RFGA, and if GOFBCI is satisfied that the work that a grant-funded project has done is indeed worthwhile, and done well and worthwhile continuing, if, if, and if, then you might be eligible for a renewal without going through this RFGA process again. Might.

I just want to put that out there as a big potential. There are lots of ifs, so don't make assumptions. But if the funding is available, we don't want you to have to do this RFGA process again if you don't have to.

If you're doing a good job and the money is available and there is a continued need, then it is a very good possibility that it will be continued, but don't count your chickens until they have hatched. Okay?

I think that's pretty much all I want to say about the forms that you're going to be submitting.

There are other attachments that are listed with the RFGA, like, for example, the -- I should mention one other.

There is a grant model that is posted

with the -- on the website. It is, I have to apologize, not the accurate one. It's not the one we meant to attach. It's a grant model that we posted for a different project. We'll be correcting that. That was a technical error on our part, but the document, itself, the one that is out there right now, has pretty much all the same articles, clauses, requirements in it.

If you want to read it, go right ahead.

We'll be posting the correct version, I believe, when we are posting the Q and A off of this session in the internet Q and A. We want to post that there because we encourage you, in fact, we really want to require you to sign the -- to include a signature page from that model document and send it in with your proposal.

That indicates to us that you're in agreement with everything that we have said; that you would behave in that way that the RFGA grant model indicates would be required of you if you are awarded funding, and send that in with your proposal.

That's only there to speed up the

process. So that after the proposal, after this selection, you wouldn't have to wait then for us to send you the completed grant agreement for you to sign for us to receive, for us to get signed, and then send you a final copy, the bilaterally signed document. So we encourage you to sign it, but make sure you please wait until we get the correct one up. And it will say on the front page "The Ohio Fatherhood Initiative Program." I think the one that's up there says "Summer Food Program." Obviously, we got our grant documents crossed. So please make sure you're signing that, including the signature page and send that back in with your proposal to us. One other form that's mentioned is the score sheet. That is a score sheet that will be used to evaluate your proposals. Take a good look at it. Use it as your own checklist to evaluate your own proposals before you send them in for completeness, for compliance. See how you think you would fare if you were a reader, if you were a reviewer for your own proposal. That's the very document that we'll use. And I think that's pretty much it. So I guess we have a question back here. Angela, do you want start? As Angela said, we need to get microphones out because we are doing a

transcription of the meeting here today. We have to be able to hear the questions all completely and everyone in the far corner wants to hear them anyway.

Q 1. THE ATTENDEE: Good morning. My name is Kerrie Carte, with WSOS Community

Action. I have several questions. In regard to the budget form, it's not live yet. Can you tell us when that will be?

A 1. The budget form was posted Friday March 28, 2008.

Q 2. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. Can that be converted to Word so we can easily fill it in, or will it continue to be a PDF?

A 2. No, but it could be printed off the form and written in or typed in the information if you would like to.

Q 3. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. Can you tell me what the administrative cap is? I did not see that within the RFP. Is it 10 percent or 15 percent?

A 3. In general, the TANF requires that it be capped at 15.

Q 4. THE ATTENDEE: Thank you. My next question is: Can an entity that is a lead entity submit in more than one region? If our organization would like to be a lead entity in a couple regions, is that acceptable?

A 4. Yes, but each separate region requires a separate complete proposal.

Q 5. THE ATTENDEE: Will the questions and answers just be posted on the ODJFS website or will it be on both? Should we just go to ODJFS and not have to worry about going to both?

A 5. The official website for this and all procurements is the ODJFS website, <http://jfs.ohio.gov> . The one that has a long list of different RFPs, RLBs, other opportunities, that's always the official one.

Q 6. THE ATTENDEE: In regard to Attachment A, Question 11, work location declaration, it basically states identifying the location city, state, county, where all work for the proposed project will be performed.

Do we have to list every county in the region, or can we just put Region 2, 3, 4?

A 6. Identify the region and specific county(ies) where the project will operate.

Q 7. THE ATTENDEE: And then also within the RFPs, sorry, it speaks to the subcontractors and you're not allowed to put, because of procurement, any dollar amounts for those other entities. So the same goes for Attachment A, or in regard to when you have to list your subcontractors, we don't

list any dollar amount there? Right, and within it in the proposal, itself, the request, itself, it speaks to letters, but no dollar amounts because of procurement. Okay. Since we haven't seen that budget form, does it list -- do we list each subcontractor separately with their amount there, because I haven't seen the form?

A 7. Applicants' attachment A should list all partners, but it is critical that in the proposal applicants include letters of support/participation from all partners. Whether or nor any dollar amounts are included in either Attachment A or in the partnership letters is irrelevant. GOFBCI will only consider budget information given on Attachment F, the budget form.

Q 8. THE ATTENDEE: It's on the last page where you have to identify all state contracts. Is that -- It says since the last fiscal year. We really don't have to go all the way back to 2004, do we?

A 8. Well, the last fiscal year is 2007. We are currently in state fiscal year 2008.

THE ATTENDEE: It goes July 1, '07 through, or would be July 1 of '06 through – July 1, '06 through June 30, '07 is state fiscal year '07.

Q 9. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. I'm not sure I understand the educational institutions. If we are a subcontractor with them, we don't have to list them, do we?

THE ATTENDEE: Okay, but any state contracts we have had for fiscal year '07 including Ohio EPA, any state agency, we have to list every single one?

A 9. Yes, also see answer number 7 above.

Q 10. THE ATTENDEE: My name is Chris Nelms from Cincinnati's Children's Hospital Prevention Research Unit. My question is under the Fatherhood Initiative, will the funding allow for a creative approach that might be slightly outside the funding focus areas? Hypothetically, maybe targeting populations such as veteran fathers or middle school fathers or student athletes that happen to be fathers, and they have to strictly follow under the guidelines of your faith-based requirements?

A 10. Because this is TANF funding, we strongly suggest that you try your best to stay within the objective areas, the overview areas that I went over. Again, because we -- because of the TANF guidelines, we do have to abide by those TANF funding in the way that it is stated. So that's why we have made the target areas in the areas because that is covered under

TANF.

I just, because there may be questions similar to that one, if everyone goes to Section 1.6 in the objectives of the project, it lists out here, as you can see, I'm not going to reread it. I just think that as you're thinking about that question and trying to answer it for yourself, that points A and B are probably the most helpful of thinking through the defined project objectives, as you can see them here.

And just note, the underlined sentence some possible examples, some possible examples. And B, the project target populations, and the final paragraph prior to 1.7 starts "While these populations are the focus of the program, please note that individuals cannot be excluded from participation", so on.

I think those two sections really help guide you as you're making that judgment.

Q 11. THE ATTENDEE: Is there a preferred format, in other words, margins, type size, front and back, one sided, anything like that?

A.11. The preferred format is fairly standardized business

communication conventions is what we would hope to see. We encourage you to use something a little more than paper clips to bind them together.

Margin size is not really that much of a concern. We did not put page limits on this. Be kind to the readers. A little bit of white space, a little margin space helps them to feel more comfortable when they're looking at reading a hundred different documents. But we are not particularly fussy about that. We just ask you to employ basic business communication conventions.

Q 12. THE ATTENDEE: My other question is:

When you are planning out your program, can it be in just one large metropolitan area, or should you make an effort to get partners who are in smaller areas in the other counties in your region?

A 12. See answer to number 4 above.

Q 13. THE ATTENDEE: My name is Rocky Alt, and

I work with Team Focus, and we are a nonprofit organization for fatherless young men. We mentor those young men. I have a question. It says "projected target population". The target population for the OFI program will include

married, unmarried, non-custodial young men at risk of becoming premature fathers.

We feel we fit that bill, but I just want to know, do we fall in this category for this grant? We mentor fatherless young men. We don't take on the fathers. We replace or stand in the gap of the fathers. One more thing. Our ages are from 10 to 18. The young men we serve are from 10 to 18 years of age.

A 13. Again, I'd have to go back, as I recommend you do, just looking at those parameters (RFGA Section 1.6, B). Those are the parameters that would be applicable.

Q 14. THE ATTENDEE: Hi, my name is Al Grimes. I'm the coordinator of the Cuyahoga County Fatherhood Initiative. Looking at the collaborative structures and organization of partnerships that are outlined, we currently have that in place in Cuyahoga County where we are the larger entity, and we are working with eight other different organizations serving fathers in different capacities.

But according to the guidelines of the

mandatory qualifications, this is only for 501(c)(3), nonprofit organizations. Does that exclude -- I mean, I read it, but I want to verify that that excludes my organization from being a lead agency, and if that's the case, can we be a collaborative partner with the agencies that may become the lead agencies as a subcontractor or something of that nature?

A 14. Yes, you can identify another lead agency that is a 501(c)(3) to be a part of the collaborative. So therefore, if your county agency wants to identify a lead 501(c)(3) and collaborate to submit for this is fine.

Q 15. THE ATTENDEE: Eugene Norris, the Director of the Summit County Fatherhood Initiative. Question in regard to the administrative structure.

One thing they noted, because we actually, we are like AI, we have ours in place already, and a lot of those positions are already filled, but their one requirement they asked for was for the coordinator to have an Associate's

degree.

Now, if we have someone in place that's already a coordinator of the program, with us realizing that this is actually 12 months, I guess what I'm asking is how would it be viewed if we are saying we have this person in place with credentials, but they don't have an Associate's in terms of having them fill that spot?

A 15. Applicants must follow instructions given in RFGA Section 2.2, but in addition to filling specified project roles with persons meeting credential minimums, proposals may offer additional staff persons.

Q 16. THE ATTENDEE: Hi, I'm Charlene Allen, I am from the ACOP Center in Warren, and I have a couple questions. On page 8, you make reference to the public records request. Can you tell me what the process is in securing those records?

THE ATTENDEE: On Page 8 at the top where you make reference to the public records request, can you tell me what the process is in securing those records?

A 16. The public records request is standard for ODJFS, and I think it's fairly standard for all state agencies. Basically, anything that we are doing is a public process, a

public record; everything, with certain minor limitations.

But the records, if you would like to see any records, the address for the Office of Legal Services is provided in a later section of the RFGA, the protest section, which is Section 7.1 is Protest, page 28.

And it says there on page 29, actually, the protest must be filed at the following location, chief legal counsel, and that address. That is the address to which you would direct any request for public records as well.

And I'm not certain if you could make a phone call. I think, just for clarity purposes, if you would send a written request identifying exactly what the documents are that you would like to see, but it goes to the Office of Legal Services.

Q 17. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. And also on Page 8, and this may be a technical question, but all of those sites under the applicant's library, I could not access any of those yesterday. Do you know if you're having technical problems with those?

A 17. From within the RFP,

they're not live links. You can't be in the RFP document on the webpage and click on it. That won't work.

You would need to copy it from that RFGA. Then go up to your browser and paste it in and go from there. Is that what you tried and still didn't work?

Q 18. THE ATTENDEE: Right. Then I noticed that you have the telephone number to call if you have difficulty with those sites.

A 18. **Websites listed in the Applicants Library are offered for applicants reference purposes. Those websites are not operated by OCA or GOFBCI and therefore we cannot offer assistance.**

Q 19. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. Also on page 11 where you mention about the mandatory background checks, is that a cost that we can roll into the budget?

A 19. **Per Section 2.1, D, the applicant is responsible for those costs.**

Q 20. THE ATTENDEE: Okay. I have one last question. On page 21, you make reference to MPCCT program. Can you tell me what that is?

A 20. **That's a typographical error. It should be the Ohio Fatherhood Initiative, OFI.**

Q 21. THE ATTENDEE: Did I understand -- Yvonne

Kagle. Did I understand that the funding is on a reimbursement basis, and if so, what's the timeline for turn around for reimbursement.

MR. LANDSMAN: Can you repeat your name?

THE ATTENDEE: Yvonne Kagle. I'm sorry.

A 21. The question was about reimbursement. It is a reimbursement system, and it will vary from month to month. But at the end of each month, individuals will submit their invoices.

Q 22. THE ATTENDEE: I'm Dexter Wise, Pastor of Faith Ministries Church here in Columbus, Ohio. My question is: How much faith can we involve in these faith-based proposals? That is to say you ask -- you talk about best practices, and one of the best practices happen to be enhancing people's faith as they develop themselves. Would we be penalized if we involved the development of persons' spirituality in their fatherhood?

A 22. Please refer to the Charitable Choice legislation which can be found at any of the following sites:

<http://digital.library.unt.edu/govdocs/crs/permalink/meta-crs-5457:1>

<http://www.hhs.gov/fbc/final.html>

<http://www.hhs.gov/fbc/choice.html>

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/>

Among the several specific objectives of the rule are the following:

(2) Inherently religious activities. The rule describes the requirements that are applicable to all recipient organizations regarding the use of Department grant funds for inherently religious activities. Specifically, a participating organization may not use direct financial assistance from the Department, including Department funds administered by State and local governments or intermediate organizations under Department programs, to support inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization. If the organization engages in such activities, it must offer them separately, in time or location, from the programs or services funded with direct Department assistance, and participation must be voluntary for the beneficiaries of the Department-funded programs or services. This requirement ensures that direct financial assistance from the Department to participating organizations is not used to support inherently religious activities. Such assistance may not be used, for example, to conduct worship services, prayer meetings, or any other activity that is inherently religious. The rule clarifies that this restriction does not mean that an organization that receives Department grant funds may not engage in inherently religious activities, but only that such an organization may not fund these activities with direct financial assistance from the Department.

(3) Independence of faith-based organizations. The rule makes clear that a religious organization that participates in Department programs retains its independence and may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, provided that it does not use direct financial assistance from the Department to support any inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization. Among other things, a faith-based organization may use space in its facilities to provide Department-funded services without removing religious art, icons, scriptures, or other religious symbols. In addition, a religious organization that receives financial assistance from the Department retains its authority over its internal governance and it may retain religious terms in its organization's name, select its board members on a religious basis, and include religious references in its organization's mission statements and other governing documents in accordance with all program requirements, statutes, and other applicable requirements governing the conduct of Department-funded activities.

(4) Employment practices. The rule makes clear the Department's view that religious organizations do not forfeit their exemption from the Federal prohibition on employment discrimination on the basis of religion set forth in § 702(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Some Department programs, however, have independent statutory nondiscrimination requirements related to religious discrimination. Therefore, organizations should consult with the appropriate grant program office.?

(5) Nondiscrimination in providing assistance. The rule provides that an organization that receives direct financial assistance from the Department, including Department funds administered by State and local governments or intermediate organizations under Department programs, may not, in providing program assistance supported by such funding, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion or religious belief.

Q 23. THE ATTENDEE: When you say "after" the session, what do you mean about that?

A 23. Please see the answer to question 22 above.

Q 24. THE ATTENDEE: My name is David Justice from the Northcoast Fatherhood Collaborative in Northwest Ohio. My question is: In the proposal it says four to eight organizations. We actually

have about 40 that are part of our collaborative that provide services to fathers that could contribute in some capacity.

We have a legal organization, but how would we, do you want us to include those who we could possibly be referring fathers to services for? Do you want us -- are we limited to just eight?

A 24. There is really -- you can add as many partners as you would like within the realms of how you identify your funding. Again, this is for the lead to identify capacity, not just with partnerships and staffing, but also to keep in

mind your budgetary needs. So that would be a determination between the lead and its partners involved with how many, if you want to go beyond the eight number.

Q 25. THE ATTENDEE: My name is Jim Vickers.

How do we get a listing of all the attendees and organizations that are currently here, and secondly, can you kind of informally set up some kind of scenario today where we can maximize this time and meet some of the people or organizations that we might be interested in collaborating with?

A 25. For administrative reasons (and others including sign-in sheet legibility and incomplete information), ODJFS will not be able to post the list of attendees. However, if organizations might be interested in possible collaborative efforts, they should contact GOFBCI and attempts will be made to share that information with other such organizations in their regions.

Q 26. THE ATTENDEE: Cathy Corcella,

I have several questions. Is the budget required to be submitted in a sealed format?

A 26. No.

Q 27. Will there be an opportunity to ask questions on the budget forms since it's not available yet for us to ask questions today?

A 27. We are hoping that we'll have it posted Friday March 28, 2008. And I

believe we said that the Q and A -- online Q and A opportunity runs through just today. If we are not able to get the budget form posted until, say, tomorrow, we'll keep the Q and A open for 24 hours past that point.

Q 28. THE ATTENDEE: As part of a larger program, can we enroll fathers into existing services that are not exclusive to this program? For example, if we have a father in our program with a substance abuse problem, can we enroll him in an existing program where he's not -- that's not exclusive to this fatherhood initiative?

A 28. As the lead organization, clearly state how that role or other agency and intervention works within our program. We don't want you to not provide any other outside services to a father that once you recruited and identify and assess the needs.

Q 29. THE ATTENDEE: Thank you. In regard to the poverty, will that be 200 percent poverty for TANF funds?

A 29. Yes.

Q 30. THE ATTENDEE: And also in regard to the budget, was the Governor's executive order on food,

can we include catered food as a line item in the budget or no?

A 30. No, catered food would not be permissible.

THE ATTENDEE: Thank you.

Q 31. THE ATTENDEE: Becky Glasure, Harcatus Tri-County Head Start. One of my partners is on the Commission, and I know that they can't apply for the grant, but can I -- can they work with us through ours?

A 31. Ethically, they should recuse themselves from participating with this because they are a member of the Commission, or if they wish to resign their post from the Commission to participate, that's the choice -- up to them.

THE ATTENDEE: Thank you.

Q 32. THE ATTENDEE: James McDonald, Zanesville. This grant is for one year, and we are thinking in terms of our programming five years in phasing in. How should that be addressed?

A 32. All budgets within the State of Ohio are tied to the two-year state budgeting cycle. If you have the opportunity to sustain your program through other

means, wonderful, but you cannot bank on this grant award being renewable for that length of time. See RFGA Section 1.11

Q 33. THE ATTENDEE: Arlyne Habeeb,
With Community Action Council,
Portage County. On the timeline, June 30, '09, the
project ends, and then there is like a gap of
almost a year for possible renewal. Should that be
2010, or should that be 2009, July 1?

A 33. **There is an error in the RFGA timetable -
it should state that the possible renewal period would begin 7/01/09, and end
6/30/10.**

Q 34. THE ATTENDEE: Glen Harris, Columbus
Urban League.
The question I have is in regard to the
TANF eligibility. 100 percent of the
participants have to meet TANF eligibility, or is
there a small percentage that cannot meet TANF
eligibility? The second part of that, in our
community, we have a large amount of undocumented
persons. How would we address that?

A 34. **You would have to be able to prove their TANF eligibility, or demonstrate that the project would be for achieving TANF Purpose 1, 3, or 4. (TANF Purposes are: 1.) – Assisting needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes; 2.) – reducing the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage; 3.) – preventing out-of-**

wedlock pregnancies; and 4.) – encouraging the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.)

Q 35. THE ATTENDEE: The second question, in regards the participants, is there any restrictions toward stipends toward participants?

A 35. Stipends are NOT permitted but projects CAN do incentive programs. For example, you can provide an incentive for doing a certain behavior or accomplishing a certain thing (*i.e.* attending ten meetings) – but it must be documented and the determined incentive cannot be provided to the individual until after the task has been accomplished. There must be a clearly stated expectation and then only when the expectation has been meet can the award be offered.

Q 36. THE ATTENDEE: Sonia Troche, Adelante in Toledo. I just wanted to go back to the question the gentleman asked about the undocumented. If the father is undocumented individual, but has children who are U.S. citizens, many times they qualify for other types of services. Would that then qualify the individual if they have a child that is a U.S. citizen?

A 36. TANF funds can only be provided to US citizens or qualified aliens (those here legally with an INS number). If the service is provided to the child (who happens to be a citizen) then the service would be permissible. If the service is provided to an undocumented person, then services would not be permissible.

Q 37. THE ATTENDEE: Yes. Then also in regard to his question regarding the stipends, I know that we have had some TANF dollars in the past for some other programs such as domestic violence

prevention. And we have not been able to provide stipends to the individuals based on the non-allowable costs from TANF.

Do you know if, in fact, we have to go by those guidelines for this grant?

THE ATTENDEE: I was just saying that we have other TANF dollars, Title 20, and some of the non-allowable costs are stipends to the participants, so I'm just wondering if those are also considered non-allowable costs for this grant because it's considered TANF dollars?

A 37. See the answer to Q. #35 above.

Q 38. THE ATTENDEE: Luanne Valentine, Community Action, Scioto County. To piggyback on their questions a little bit, are any medical expenses allowed to be paid for under these grants, such as drug tests for potential employment, those types of things?

A 38. Medical related expenses cannot be covered using TANF funds.

THE ATTENDEE: Okay.

The participants -- TANF

is something that can't be used for medical related

expenses. But we'll address that in the Q and A in the budget, and those would be the final answers or the accurate answers on the subject.

Q 39. THE ATTENDEE: Al Grimes, again. What is the total pool of money that's going to be used in this, number one, and number two, I thought I read something where you were attempting to get dollars to each of the regions, and in some cases, if within a particular region a couple of the RFGAs scored higher, that one of those may be excluded if by a lower score in another region in an attempt to get money in each of the regions? Did I interpret that correctly?

I guess the second thing is when we are looking at the state as a whole, are we taking into consideration the population of the regions, because we have four or five counties within our region, but the population of the region and the need for the money may be several fold. The number of individuals in the other region. First question is, I guess, the maximum is we had -- there is \$4 million in the budget for Fatherhood programs. And so that's the money that we are going to extend

in terms of the percentage of those dollars.

A 39. With the \$4 million item that's placed in the budget, that's also to help reactivate the Ohio Fatherhood Commission. Budgetary dollars went to the administrative costs for that. So we are working off of the balance of what's left over for the operation of the Commission.

Q 40. THE ATTENDEE: Bill Messerly. I'm with an integrity-based education program to prevent premature fatherhood. One question I have, just to clarify, the regions, if we are a lead organization in, let's say, the Central Ohio region, and affiliated with other organizations smaller than us outside our region, is that allowed? And is that preferred, or are you looking for the small groups within our region?

A 40. We are looking for organizations to operate programs within a specific region. That said, you may service more than one region but must submit a separate complete proposal for any additional region you wish to service. If one or more organizations happen to be located outside your region but will help you service the region in which you are applying to work, that would be permissible.

Q 41. THE ATTENDEE: Peggy Seboldt, Catholic social Services, Dayton, Ohio. Quick question. In the past, when some of these proposals were

structured, they talked about faith-based organization, they were speaking of very small organizations with smaller budgets, as potentially kind of working with a number of organizations in our community, ours would be the larger faith-based organization, and would that disqualify us from being or taking on the role of the lead agency?

Potentially, we are looking at my agency, which is Catholic Social Services, being the lead agency.

A 41. That's fine because it's a 501(c)(3). See Section 1.5, A.

Q 42. THE ATTENDEE: I just want to follow up on a question that was raised about the amount of moneys. You pointed us to 1.4, which set a range between is 150 and 450 thousand. That's per project, not the total amount that you're funding?

A 42. Correct, per Section 1.11.

Q 43. THE ATTENDEE: Maggie Barlow with Spirit of Peace in Dayton. Can the paid employee requirement be satisfied with contracted staff? Can the project staff be contract employees as opposed to people who are

hired by the agency?

A 43. Answer: All project staff qualifications as stated in Section 2.1, it's page 10, page 11, must be met. However, it is up to the applicant organization to decide whether to fill those project positions with qualified staff already employed by the applicant, or to hire qualified persons specifically for this project, or to subcontract with qualified individuals.

THE ATTENDEE: Thanks.

Q 44. THE ATTENDEE: Glen Harris, Columbus

Urban League. I have a question with regard to Section 111 where it talks about time frames and funding source. It mentions having two separate budgets. One for the month of June itself, and one for the remainder of the fiscal year; is that correct? Do we have the flexibility to begin July 1 or we have to begin June first and submit two separate budgets?

A 44. If these projects could have begun in June, 2008 as originally planned in the RFGA, then yes, the State would have needed a budget for that one month, because June of '08 is the final month in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2008, and we must always have separate budgets for each SFY. But as this bidders' conference and the posting of this final Q & A document is delayed, the proposal due date must also be extended to May 2, 2008 (3:00 p.m., local time see Answer to Q # 49, below). Because it is not possible to expect the grant awards and purchase orders to be completed in early June, the State now directs you to plan your projects and budgets to begin in July, 2008 (i.e., for SFY 2009, July of 2008 through June 30, 2009).

Q 45. THE ATTENDEE: I'm James McDonald, and

asking if a grant writer in the middle of this process has a question who needs some technical assistance, what is the protocol for that?

A 45. Unfortunately, the question and answer opportunity in this bidders' conference is the only opportunity for any clarification, and so that will end today for this one, or as we said earlier, if we are posting, the budget document will extend the Q and A opportunity for one working day beyond that point.

Q 46. THE ATTENDEE: Eugene Norris, Summit County Fatherhood Initiative. I just want to make sure I'm clear on the one question that was asked in regard to the director. If I'm understanding correctly, could that person be a contracted individual? And I think you said yes. I think it's saying actually they can be an employee. I want to make sure I'm understanding that, on page 11. I'm sorry, so you're saying they can be a contracted person?

A 46. Correct, see answer 43 above.

Q 47. THE ATTENDEE: I have to apologize for asking, and I'm not sure if you can answer, because this is the first event that I have been to like this, can you give me the reason why you have a tiered structure to the grant process, having the

one parent organization and then the sub-organizations?

A 47. This office's mission statement is to make sure we are inclusive as possible recognizing capacity for our smaller faith and community organizations.

Q 48. THE ATTENDEE: Eli Williams, Urban Light Ministries, Springfield, Ohio, Region 4. This question was asked and answered, and I'm asking for clarification, just to be sure. And it was whether or not the expense of background checks can be included in the budget, reimbursement?

A 48. See RFGS Section 2.1, D, and answer to questions 19 above.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS SUBMITTED DURING BIDDERS CONFERENCE:

Q 49. Cathy Coroella: Since budget documents were unavailable at the issuance of the RFGA, will GOFBCI/ODJFS extend the due date for project proposals?

A 49. Answer: Due to the delays in posting the Final Q&A Document, the State hereby amends the RFGA Anticipated Procurement Timetable, from Section 1.7 of the RFGA as follows:

1.7 Anticipated Procurement Timetable

ORIGINAL DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY	AMENDED DATE
March 18, 2008	ODJFS Releases RFGA to Potential Applicants on ODJFS Web Site; Q&A Period Opens - RFGA becomes active - Applicants may submit inquiries for RFGA clarification	No Change

March 26, 2008	Applicant Q&A Period Closes, 10:00 a.m. (for inquiries for RFGA Clarification) - No further inquiries for RFGA clarification will be accepted	Monday March 31, 2008
March 26, 2008	BIDDERS'\APPLICANTS' CONFERENCE Wednesday, March 26, 2008 10:00 a.m. to noon Room 1952, 19th Floor, Riffe Building 77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215	No Change
March 31, 2008	ODJFS provides Final Applicant Question & Answer Document (estimated)	April 9, 2008
Friday, April 18, 2008	Deadline for Applicants to Submit Proposals to ODJFS (3:00 p.m.) - This is the proposal opening date, beginning the GOFBCI/ODJFS process of proposal review	Friday, May 2, 2008
May 1, 2008	ODJFS Issues Grant Award Notification Letters (<i>estimated</i>) - Applicants that submitted proposals in response to this RFGA will be sent letters stating whether their proposal was accepted for award of the grant	May 18, 2008
June 2, 2008	Implementation* (<i>estimated</i> –following notification of all contractual and funding approvals) - ODJFS grants are not valid and effective until the state Office of Budget and Management approves the purchase order.	JULY 1, 2008
June 30, 2009	Project Completion under original Grant Period- All work must be completed and approved by GOFBCI Manager	No Change

<p>July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012</p>	<p><u>Potential Grant renewal period:</u> In the event further funding for the Ohio Fatherhood Initiative Program becomes available for the period of SFY 2010 to SFY 2011 – part or all – the State may at its sole discretion, opt to renew funding to some grantees selected through this RFGA. ONLY THOSE GRANTEEES WHICH DEMONSTRATE SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMMATIC SUCCESS AND FULL ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR ANY POSSIBLE RENEWAL. Any such renewals will be contingent upon available funding, all necessary contractual and funding approvals, and the satisfactory performance of the grantee. Any possible renewal period is at the sole discretion of the State. Selected grantees must not assume any grant awards will be automatically renewed!</p>	<p>July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011</p>
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ODJFS reserves the right to revise this schedule in the best interest of the State of Ohio and/or to comply with the State of Ohio procurement procedures and regulations and after providing reasonable notice.

* According to requirements of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 126.07, ODJFS contractual agreements are not valid and enforceable until the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) certifies the availability of appropriate funding, as indicated by the approval of the Purchase Order (P.O.). The selected applicants may neither perform work nor submit an invoice for payment for work performed for this project for any time period prior to the P.O. approval date. The GOFBCI Grant Manager will notify the selected applicants when the requirements of ORC Section 126.07 have been met.

Q 50. Paul (Rocky) Alt: Even though we work in Ohio, we are a national organization with our offices in Mobile, Alabama. We are a 501 (3) C non-profit in the state of Alabama. Does this effect our chances of being considered for this grant?

A 50. Answer: Please refer to section 1.1 within the RFGA under “purpose” and section 2.1 for explanation. Organizations must be able to show they are a non-profit with a 501c3 and have a location in Ohio.

THIS CONCLUDES THE ODJFS FINAL ON-LINE QUESTION & ANSWER DOCUMENT AND BIDDERS’ CONFERENCE TRANSCRIPT & Q&A DOCUMENT FOR ODJFS RFP#: R-89-01-0878