

DATE OF ISSUE: July 3, 2007

TO: Potential Providers of Services

RE: Request for Proposals for LINKS to Homeownership Program
Technical Service Provider

I. Services Sought by Authority:

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority ("Authority") is seeking an individual or firm that is authorized to do business in Michigan to prepare presentations and materials and conduct a series of group and individual LINKS to Homeownership Trainings for MSHDA's grantees, customers, and staff. A detailed description of the work is described in the Scope of Work, which is attached as Exhibit A to this Request for Proposals.

II. Required Qualifications:

The Authority has identified the following qualifications that it believes are necessary for the successful performance and completion of the services described in the Scope of Work. The prospective contractor ("Prospective Contractor") must:

- A. Have experience providing the services described in the Scope of Work or similar services.
- B. Have the following certifications:
 - i. Certified Counselor in LINKS to Homeownership Counseling Network
 - ii. Masters Degree in Counselor Education/Counseling Psychology or a related field
 - iii. Experience with Creation of manuals, facilitators guides, and booklets that have been copyrighted and/or published
 - iv. Experience in the design and implementation of state-wide initiatives
 - v. Formal education in adult education techniques
 - vi. Minimum of five (5) years experience educating and training adults.
 - vii. Knowledge in providing Financial Management Education and one-on-one credit repair counseling
 - viii. Experience managing community development initiatives such as Acquisition Development Resale, Lease/Purchase, HOME, and CDBG Programs.

- C.** Have an office in the State of Michigan.
- D.** Have phone, Internet, and e-mail access. Internet and e-mail access must allow the Prospective Contractor to download and upload data and files and receive files and attachments from Authority staff.
- E.** Agree to satisfy the following requirements prior to the execution of the contract with the Authority:
 - 1.** Indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Authority, its Board, officers, employees and agents, from and against all losses, liabilities, penalties, fines, damages and claims (including taxes), and all related costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements and costs of investigation, litigation, settlement, judgments, interest and penalties), arising from or in connection with any of the following:
 - a.** any claim, demand, action, citation or legal proceeding against the Authority, its employees and agents arising out of or resulting from (1) the services provided ("Services") or (2) performance of the Services, the duties, responsibilities, actions or omissions of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors under this Agreement. .
 - b.** any claim, demand, action, citation or legal proceeding against the Authority, its employees and agents arising out of or resulting from a breach by the Contractor of any representation or warranty made by the Contractor in the Agreement;
 - c.** any claim, demand, action, citation or legal proceeding against the Authority, its employees and agents arising out of or related to occurrences that the Contractor is required to insure against as provided for in this Contract;
 - d.** any claim, demand, action, citation or legal proceeding against the Authority, its employees and agents arising out of or resulting from the death or bodily injury of any person, or the damage, loss or destruction of any real or tangible personal property, in connection with the performance of services by the Contractor, by any of its subcontractors, by anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable; provided, however, that this indemnification obligation shall not apply to the extent, if any, that such death, bodily injury or property damage is caused solely by the negligence or reckless or intentional wrongful conduct of the Authority;
 - e.** any claim, demand, action, citation or legal proceeding against the Authority, its employees and agents which results from an act or

omission of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors in its or their capacity as an employer of a person.

- f. any action or proceeding threatened or brought against the Authority to the extent that such action or proceeding is based on a claim that any piece of equipment, software, commodity or service supplied by the Contractor or its subcontractors, or the operation of such equipment, software, commodity or service, or the use or reproduction of any documentation provided with such equipment, software, commodity or service infringes any United States or foreign patent, copyright, trade secret or other proprietary right of any person or entity, which right is enforceable under the laws of the United States.

- F. Agree to execute a contract acceptable to the Director of Legal Affairs. For purposes of illustration only, a form of the contract that has been used to provide similar services is attached.

III. Submitting Proposal:

Firms wishing to submit proposals must submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of a proposal to provide the services described in Exhibit A (Scope of Work). Submitted proposals must respond to and address the questions listed in Exhibit B (Proposal Instructions and Selection Criteria).

The due date for the Authority's receipt of the proposals responding to this Request for Proposal ("RFP") is **August 3rd, 2007 at 4 p.m.**

The Authority shall not be liable for any costs that a firm or individual may incur while preparing a proposal. The Authority shall not be liable for any costs that a firm or individual may incur prior to the complete execution of a contract. If the Authority enters into a contract, the Authority's consideration (payment) shall be limited to the terms of the contract.

IV. Communications with Authority Staff Prior to Selection of Proposal

Any questions, raised by Providers concerning the RFP may be submitted, in writing, via mail, email or fax, using the subject line to the attention of:

Trevor Winterowd
MSHDA
735 East Michigan Ave.
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Email: winterowdt@michigan.gov

Fax: (517) 241-4756

To ensure a fair and impartial process, Authority staff will not address non-written concerning the RFP. Phone calls involving the RFP or related questions will not be accepted. Firms submitting bids shall not contact any Authority staff or Board members except. Firms submitting bids shall not contact any Authority staff or Board members except **Trevor Winterowd. All communications with Trevor Winterowd must be received in writing by July 20th, 2007.**

MSHDA will answer timely received, appropriate questions (e.g., information not covered/answered in the RFP, interpretation issues, etc.) by email to all Providers on or before **July 27th, 2007.** MSHDA will hold no other question sessions or bidders conferences.

If, prior to the proposal deadline, the Authority deems it necessary to provide additional clarifying information, or to revise any part of the RFP, supplements or revisions will be provided to all recipients of the RFP who have indicated they will submit a proposal. Proposals will then be evaluated based on the terms and conditions of the RFP, any supplements or revisions thereof, and the answers to any written questions.

V. Selection of Proposal:

The Authority's Division of Homeownership will select the proposal based on Selection Criteria, which is set forth in Exhibit B (Proposal Instruction and Selection Criteria).

VI. Processing Required Forms & Contract Execution:

The Authority's Board must approve the proposed contract. Thereafter, the Authority will submit required forms for processing to the Departments of Labor & Economic Growth and Civil Service. Upon the completion of processing by the Departments of Labor & Economic Growth and Civil Service, a contract will be forwarded to the firm ("Selected Firm") that submitted the selected proposal with instructions to execute and return three copies. Upon receiving the executed copies, the Division of Homeownership will submit the executed copies to a duly authorized Authority signatory for execution on behalf of the Authority.

VII. Michigan Freedom of Information Act

Documents submitted to the Authority shall be subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"). In the event a request for submitted documents is made to the Authority, the Authority's FOIA Coordinator will redact or withhold information and/or documents that are exempt from disclosure under FOIA. *See MCL 15.243.* Please note that any requests by non-MSHDA personnel to review proposals will be denied until the deadline for submission of the bids has expired. *See MCL 15.243(1)(j).*

