

## **The Collaborative for Neighborhood Financial Health**

### **Information Session September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

#### **Notes**

***Q. You indicated that there would be two to three events to share learnings, would they all take place in September, or would they have to be planned?***

A. DCA OFE's goal is to have these events by the end of the contract period. We can be flexible about when the events happen depending on the rest of the project schedule.

***Q. Looking at neighborhoods that have collective impact structures in place, can the Collaborative be a group that wants to work with a collective impact group that already has some tools in place?***

A. We encourage proposers to make the case for any neighborhood. See Section 6 of the Solicitation for our criteria for choosing neighborhoods and Section 10 Paragraph B for selection criteria on the Collaborative's capacity to work with the community, which covers community partnerships. Choice Neighborhoods, Promise Zones, and Sustainable Communities are examples of communities already using neighborhood-level metrics.

***Q. What data will be made available by the city? Income Tax Receipts?***

A. We are committed to working with city agency partners to secure data as appropriate for the project. We will work with the Collaborative to determine what data is necessary.

***Q. What kinds of input, in terms of executing the project, can we expect the staff of DCA OFE to work on?***

A. The Senior Program Officer will be the project manager for the initiative. DCA OFE staff will work closely with the Collaborative along the way, relying on the biweekly calls outlined in the Solicitation to stay abreast of important program developments. While this will be a co-creation project, and one of the goals of the project is to build the capacity of DCA OFE, the deliverables outlined in the Solicitation ultimately are the responsibility of the Collaborative.

***Q. Can you elaborate on how you see these indicators used within DCA OFE after the project is completed?***

A. We anticipate that the project will contribute to the future work and direction of DCA OFE.

***Q. It's called "The Collaborative" but will you select one organization, if it applies, or will it have to be several organizations?***

A. The selected "Collaborative" must be able to complete all deliverables outlined in the Solicitation. As such, one organization may apply, or a group may apply.

***Q. My question is about the candidate neighborhoods. What are the metrics used to select those neighborhoods mentioned in the RFP?***

A. is the information included in the solicitation is what we are able to share.

***Q. How does the choice of a The Collaborative's neighborhood play into the choosing of which group to work with as compared to their experience?***

A. The Collaborative should demonstrate relationships to the neighborhood proposed. The neighborhoods we have highlighted in the solicitation are ones with high levels of financial insecurity. A Collaborative may propose to work in a neighborhood of its choosing, so long as it is justified.

***Q. Is this solicitation for one Collaborative to serve one neighborhood? Would it be possible for the group to serve more than one neighborhood?***

A. This solicitation is for one Collaborative to serve one neighborhood. We created this plan as a place-based approach. The Collaborative should define the boundaries of the neighborhood.

***Q. Just as a follow up on the evaluation criteria, are they fully weighted or listed in descending order on the RFP?***

A. See Addendum 1.

***Q. This is a short, 1 year, program. If this is successful, what does year 2 look like?***

A. We are looking at a neighborhood approach to address financial health. We hope this approach, if successful, is scalable in future years.

***Q. Can you give an example of the type of new area for Financial Empowerment that might be examined through this solicitation?***

A. For example, community interviews and research reviews may reveal that over-paying for groceries is one of the factors that leads to a large number of individuals in a community being unable to achieve financial health. The Collaborative might collect this data from Financial Empowerment Centers or through data collected in the community charrettes/activities portion of the project. In pursuing financial health for individuals, community systems such as health, education, housing, etc. are relevant, in addition to financial services systems. These examples are illustrative, and should not necessarily encourage respondents to focus on these particular issues.

***Q. Different organizations have different interests, and different organizations are coming together for this project, how will each be involved?***

A. Any organization or group can apply but what makes this project impactful are those organizations that aim to come together to improve the financial health of the community. Applicants should determine the roles and levels of involvement of the members of the proposed Collaborative.

***Q. Is this a “one-and-done” Collaborative or will there be a possibility for cross-pollination?***

A. For this year, we will just pick one Collaborative to work in one neighborhood.

***Q. How can we form Collaboratives? Can it be on an e-mail list?***

A. We wanted to create this meeting as an opportunity to bring all of you together so that you can get to know each other, and each other's organizations, so that together you can find ways to build partnerships and become a Collaborative.

***Q. Would you be able to re-circulate the list of invites with one or two words next to each name to describe what each organization offers for the project?***

A. We will circulate the list of names that we have with organizational affiliation.

**Additional Questions Submitted As Of 12pm September 11<sup>th</sup>**

***Q. As a registered vendor for NYC DCAS I have experience with the contract process (usually 4-6 weeks minimally). Given your timeline are we expected to start the work while contracts are being crafted?***

A. The expected start date for the project is October 12<sup>th</sup>, as listed in Addendum 1.

***Q. Does a collaboration's ability to implement the initiative within the stated timeline influence selection?***

A. All activities in Section 7 of the RFP must be completed by the project completion date.

***Q. Are there any plans for, future options for the Collaborations that aren't selected?***

A. Not at this time.

***Q. Are there any additional selection criteria than those listed in item 10 of the RFP?***

A. Section 11 of the RFP covers the selection criteria. See also Addendum 1.

***Please Submit All Further Questions to Yvonne Bruzual ([ybruzual@dca.nyc.gov](mailto:ybruzual@dca.nyc.gov)) By Close of Business September 16<sup>th</sup>.***

***Answers will be posted on September 18<sup>th</sup>.***

***No Further Questions Will Be Accepted After September 16<sup>th</sup>.***