**Preamble**

The Bronzeville Expanded Mental Health Services Program (BREMHSP) invites proposals from qualified and visionary providers or mental health professionals to serve as a contracted Community-Based Mental Health Care Provider or Community-Based Mental Health Care Director. This critical, yet innovative, initiative seeks to implement a community-rooted, culturally responsive model of comprehensive mental health care that addresses not only clinical needs, but also the social, emotional, and structural determinants that shape mental health outcomes.

In response to longstanding disparities in access and quality of care, this Request for Proposal (RFP) represents an opportunity to lead and manage a dynamic, community-driven mental health project that centers the lived experiences and holistic well-being of Bronzeville residents. The selected entity will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and programming, ensuring services are grounded in evidence-based clinical practice, while also embracing holistic, trauma-informed, and socially conscious approaches.

Our mission is to transform the local mental health landscape through a strategic and integrated model—one that reduces disparities, fosters resilience, and improves the emotional, social, and functional outcomes for individuals and families. The successful candidate or organization will possess the vision, agility, and collaborative capabilities to work alongside the Commission and key stakeholders to reimagine service delivery and redefine what it means to provide care.

This proposal seeks partners who embody our commitment to:

* **Cultural relevance and community-centered engagement**
* **Holistic models of wellness, healing and care**
* **Cross-sector collaboration to address psycho-social needs**
* **Early intervention, education, and prevention strategies**
* **Reducing stigma and advancing mental health equity**
* **Integrating clinical and structural approaches to care**
* **Establishing a robust framework to adequately measure performance, accountability, and community impact**

Through this RFP, the BREMHSP aims to secure leadership that will not only deliver high-quality mental health services, but also advance a powerful vision of wellness, justice, and dignity for those residing in the Bronzeville service area.

Direct Program Treatment mental health services will be offered by the Bronzeville EMHS Program Center in accordance with the Community Expanded Mental Health Services Act (405 ILCS 22/1-50) in space leased and currently being developed for clinical use by the Bronzeville EMHS Program Governing Commission.

 The Governing Commission is seeking qualified candidates to provide planning, development and administration services for Program Center operations and clinical services in accordance with Program Guidelines, including all Medicaid claims processing, recruitment, hiring, payroll and benefits administration, systems and supplies management, and facility management.

The successful Respondent will earn an administrative services fee approved by the Governing Commission and will not receive or share in Medicaid or other Program Center revenues. All Program Funding will be invested and reinvested into direct treatment services for Eligible Persons in the Program Service Area.

The successful Respondent will prepare an Annual Report for the Bronzeville EMHS Program, will update the Program Needs Assessment, and recommend for Governing Commission approval new and expanded services and programs to address Community mental health needs identified by the Needs Assessment.  The successful Respondent will prepare an annual Program Center Operating Budget for Governing Commission approval.

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s)**

1. **How will the Administrative Services Fee be Calculated?**

The Governing Commission will determine the amount of the Administrative Services Fee based on a minimum guaranteed Administrative Services Fee amount plus increases as determined appropriate by the Governing Commission in connection with the scope and quality of Contracted Services provided by the Program Center Administrator. In no event will the Program Center Administrator be eligible to receive Program Center revenue or any portion thereof. All Program Funding, including Program Center revenue, will be 100% invested and reinvested to provide Governing Commission - approved direct treatment services for Eligible Persons in the Program Service Area.

1. **What Planning and Development will the Program Center Administrator Provide?**

The Program Center Administrator will continually design and recommend to the Governing Commission and the Governing Commission will approve in its sole discretion new and expanded programs and services to address opportunities identified in the Program Needs Assessment.

1. **Who is eligible to apply for this RFP?**

Qualified community-based mental health organizations, licensed clinicians, or individuals with demonstrated leadership experience in mental health service delivery and community engagement are eligible to apply. These entities must have experience working with diverse, underserved populations and a track record of implementing culturally competent, holistic care models.

1. **What is the primary goal of this initiative?**

The goal is to oversee and manage all aspects of the Bronzeville Expanded Mental Health Services Program community-based mental health program that integrates clinical, social, emotional, and structural approaches to care. The program seeks to reduce disparities, increase access to high-quality care, and improve overall well-being among Bronzeville residents. Additionally, the Program Center Administrator will develop, plan and implement Governing Commission-approved new and expanded programs and services to Eligible Persons in the Program Service Area.

1. **What are the key responsibilities of the selected Program Center Administrator?**

The selected entity will:

* Manage day-to-day operations (including staff) and programming
* Delivery of integrated clinical and holistic services (e.g., therapy, case management, medication management)
* Engage the community in value-added and culturally relevant ways
* Effective collaboration with the Commission and stakeholders
* Establish and evaluate a performance framework for ongoing accountability and impact

1. **What does “holistic” care mean in this context?**

Holistic care refers to an approach that addresses not only clinical mental health needs (e.g., diagnosis, treatment), but also considers the social, emotional, economic, and environmental factors influencing mental health—such as housing, education, community safety, and social support networks.

1. **What kinds of services are expected to be provided under this model?**

Expected services include but are not limited to:

* Clinical services: individual, family, and group therapies
* Holistic wellness and prevention
* Case management
* Medication management
* Community outreach and psychoeducation
* Navigation support for social services

1. **What values should guide the delivery of services?**

Services must reflect:

* Cultural competence and relevance
* Community-driven engagement
* Cross-sector collaboration
* A trauma-informed and healing-centered lens
* A commitment to equity, prevention, and resilience

1. **How will performance be evaluated?**

Applicants must develop or adopt a value-based appraisal framework that measures:

* Cultural competence
* Clinical outcomes and client satisfaction
* Community engagement
* Equity in access and service delivery
* Broader outcomes such as reduced hospitalizations, improved social functioning, and enhanced emotional well-being

1. **Is this a clinical-only role, or does it include administrative responsibilities?**

This is a hybrid role. While clinical experience is highly valued, the provider or director will also be responsible for administrative oversight, program development, coordination/collaboration with the Commission, compliance monitoring, and community engagement.

1. **Will there be opportunities for collaboration with other organizations or agencies?**

Yes. The initiative encourages cross-sector partnerships to address the psychosocial needs of the community. Applicants should demonstrate the capacity to build and maintain collaborative relationships across public health, housing, education, employment, and other relevant sectors.

1. **What is the duration of the contract and expected timeline for implementation?**

Contract terms and timelines are outlined in the full RFP document. However, applicants should be prepared for multi-year engagement, subject to performance and funding availability.