

GRANT COUNTY

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Commissioner, District 5

RFP EVALUATION REPORT

Date: July 23, 2021
To: Board of County Commissioners
From:  Randy J. Hernandez, Chief Procurement Officer
Re: RFP 21-05, Child Care Facility Operations

Solicitation Summary

The County requested competitive sealed qualifications-based proposals for the selection of a qualified organization, firm and/or individual for operations of the Grant County Child Care Facility, located at 2609 Camino Del Bosque, Silver City, NM 88061. The County requested that Offerors have proven experience in providing comprehensive childcare and familiarity with Federal and State regulations including, but not limited to, the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department. This solicitation was conducted in accordance with New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, Chapter 13, Article 1, and the County's Purchasing Policy.

Evaluation Summary

One (1) proposal was received and was thoroughly evaluated and reviewed based on set criteria outlined in the solicitation documents; however, there were no points assigned as there were no additional proposals to compare to. The evaluation criteria included the Offeror's Capacity and Capability, Past Record of Performance, Planning and Implementation, and Business/Financial Plan.

Offeror: El Grito, Inc.

The Evaluation Committee convened on June 10, 2021, reviewed the proposal and determined that the Offeror demonstrated their capacity and capability. However, the Evaluation Committee identified proposed cost-sharing responsibilities between the County and the Offeror. In the face of the proposed County-absorbed cost items, the Evaluation Committee requested an in-person presentation from the Offeror for a more detailed explanation on the proposal; the presentation was conducted on July 20, 2021. The cost-sharing components are as follows, for one (1) year:

Child Health & Development Services Personnel	
Teachers	\$201,600.00
Floater Teacher Assistants	\$20,160.00
Family & Community Partnership Personnel	
Executive Director	\$7,000.00
Site Director	\$42,000.00
Education	\$5,000.00
Fiscal Personnel	\$5,000.00
Other	
Utilities/Telephone	\$20,400.00
Substitute	\$14,000.00
Total Proposed Cost-Sharing	\$322,160.00
County Proposed Cost (50%)	\$161,080.00

Office Of The Grant County Commissioners

1400 Highway 180 East, Silver City, NM 88061-7837 • P. O. Box 898, Silver City, NM 88062-0898
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Recommendation

In accordance with NMSA 1978 13-1-117.1 and the County Purchasing Policy, an award shall be made to the responsible Offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the solicitation documents. Additionally, if fewer than three proposals are received, the Evaluation Committee may recommend an award to the Governing Body or direct that the RFP be re-issued.

It is the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee, the Interim County Manger and myself, that this RFP be ***Contingently Awarded*** to the sole Offeror. The contingent items are as follows:

- **Commission authorization of American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds for funding the proposed cost-sharing items, totaling \$161,080.00.**

The ARP Act Funds allotted to the County will allow us to provide funding to help the child care provider meet immediate financial needs and preventing some programs from closing their doors for good and allowing other to re-open and expand. The ARP Act Funds allow the distribution of funds as quickly as possible to address the immediate crisis for child care providers and protect the existing child care market. This funding has the potential to extend significant and immediate financial relief to child care providers, including child care centers.

Both the County and the Offeror have identified thirty-two (32) children that will be displaced with the business closure from the outgoing provider.

- **Lease approval from the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Board of Finance.**

In accordance with 1.5.23.10 NMAC, Board approval is required whenever a public body wishes to lease properties they own if (1) the term of the lease is more than five (5) years, OR (2) the consideration over the lease term is more than twenty-five (\$25,000.00).

I will be available to answer any questions or concerns regarding this solicitation and the recommendation.

Thank you.

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

HOWIE MORALES
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



NEW MEXICO

Early Childhood
Education & Care Department

ELIZABETH GROGINSKY
CABINET SECRETARY

JOVANNA ARCHULETA
ASSISTANT SECRETARY for Native American
Early Childhood Education and Care

DR. JENNIFER DURAN-SALLEE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

July 23, 2021

Grant County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 898
Silver City, NM 88062-0898

Re: El Grito Early Learning Center

Dear Members of the Grant County Board Commissioners,

I write this letter in support of El Grito Early Learning Center's request to assume the management of a Grant County-owned building in order to provide much needed early childhood education and care services to the children and families of Grant County. As the Director of Early Care, Education and Nutrition at the newly created Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD), I commend the Grant County Commission for issuing a request for proposals and seeking innovative ways to support families as well as employers in Grant County.

ECECD's mission is to optimize the health, development, education, and well-being of babies, toddlers, and preschoolers through a family-driven, equitable, community-based system of high-quality prenatal and early childhood programs and services. Specifically, in Grant County and around New Mexico, ECECD seeks to:

1. Provide care, education and interventions which support the health, development and education of families and young children.
2. Ensure safe, healthy, educational environments which support appropriate, healthy, and nurturing experiences that prepare children for success in school and beyond.
3. Allow parents to work and/or pursue an education.
4. Employ and support the development of a strong early childhood workforce.

Unfortunately, there are significant child care gaps in New Mexico. 60% of New Mexico children have all available parents or guardians in the workforce. Currently, there is only enough licensed child care for 86% of children under six, and there are only enough licensed child care slots for just over 50% of infants and toddlers with all available parents in the labor force.

Founded in Silver City in 1965, El Grito has a long history of providing quality care to children that aligns with ECECD's mission. El Grito is a non-profit organization providing Head Start, Early Head Start home-based programs, and New Mexico Early Pre-K programs that are sponsored and supported by ECECD. ECECD stands in strong support of El Grito's response to the Grant County request for proposal. Expanding access to high quality child will greatly benefit the children and families of Grant County while also helping the economic recovery in Grant County.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Groginsky, Cabinet Secretary