

Behavioral Health Navigation Services Community and Market Research RFP Response to Questions

- **What is the budget range for this project or can you provide a NTE (not to exceed) amount?**

Mental Health America (MHA) of Greater Houston's total Year 1 budget for planning and implementation of Behavioral Health Navigation Services is \$1.6 million. We encourage vendors to submit the full costs to implement a strong Community and Market Research plan.

- **Does MHA of Greater Houston have a separate budget for compensating community members for their involvement in research activities or will this need to be factored into our budget?**

There is no separate budget to compensate community member; please factor this into the overall plan budget.

- **What internal team members will we be working in collaboration with?**

The President/CEO and Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer will be the primary internal team members the contractor will collaborate with. A Program Director will be onboarded later in the process.

- **Will there be a working group for this project and, if so, what would the team structure look like? (Who would we report to and who else would be involved in the project in terms of guidance, approvals and determining success metrics? Are there any external stakeholders involved in the project?)**

The President/CEO and Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer will comprise the working group and provide guidance and approvals to the contractor. An external workgroup will be set up to work through specific project processes but will likely not interact with the contractor.

- **Is there any recent existing research you have conducted that we should be aware of that might be a useful jumping off point for our work? Did you conduct any research as a part of developing the four-tiered strategy?**

The current plan for the tiers came from a variety of sources: informal conversations with community behavioral health providers and stakeholders; existing health care community needs assessments; and data pulled from MHA of Greater Houston's behavioral health screenings. The behavioral health screening data overview for 2023 is attached.

- **Can you share more about the Advisory Board's current status—will it be entirely new or will you be refreshing a group that already exists?**

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) will be entirely new. While MHA of Greater Houston works with several community stakeholders, we are excited to connect with additional people who have a passion for behavioral health and empowering the community. We envision a CAB that reflects the rich diversity of the greater Houston community, with particular emphasis upon those with lived experience of mental health and/or substance use challenges (including caregivers). Current engagement and/or familiarity with the organization is not a requirement.

- **Do you have any particular requirements in terms of meeting frequency (as in, an existing meeting we might plug into regularly) or would that be determined once a partner is selected?**

Vendors are welcome to include recommendations regarding meeting frequency in submitted proposals. Ultimately it will be determined once a contractor is selected.

- **Do you have any other events or milestones we should consider when developing our timeline or any expectations about the timing/final deadline of the project considering your planned fall rollout of the Tiered system?**

In keeping with a late Fall rollout of the program, we expect to work on the technology piece concurrently with Community and Market Research to ensure a strong portal and backend is developed by early Fall.

- **Does MHA of Greater Houston currently have any relationships with or lists of community members that we can use as a part of the outreach effort?**

MHA of Greater Houston has relationships with dozens of community members; however, our hope is that the contractor will also be able to engage with a number of individuals who may not currently have familiarity with the organization.

- **How much time can MHA of Greater Houston commit to co-designing with us?**

MHA of Greater Houston will commit the necessary time to co-design the project with the contractor.