

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Issued by: Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter- Hope Academy

Date Issued: 03/10/2025

Proposal Due Date: 04/04/2025

Introduction

Hope School Project is seeking proposals from school districts to partner in neurobiological responsive care of students. This initiative will provide programs collectively aimed to improve student outcomes through behavior support, family engagement, professional growth, and social emotional learning integration. Hope School Project's focus is on building student social-emotional capacity and competence in the areas of self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, social awareness, and responsive decision-making. We will focus our efforts equally on students, school staff, and families to promote a bright future for all involved.

Our team is dedicated to equipping educators, school staff, and families with neurobiologically-responsive practices that foster healing, resilience, and academic success for children. Through coaching, workshops, and community partnerships, we create environments where every child feels safe, supported, and empowered to thrive.

Project Scope

Hope School Project designs and implements individualized **Neurobiologically-Responsive Programs** aimed at supporting individuals affected by adverse experiences of abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction. The program is designed to incorporate evidence-based approaches that empower schools, strengthen families, and heal communities. Key components of the program include:

- **Trauma-Responsive Coaching:** Deliver practical, professional development for staff and stakeholders on neurobiology, trauma responsiveness, while modeling trauma responsive techniques. This includes personalized coaching sessions for teachers to address specific challenges in the classroom.
- **In School Student Support Services:** Acknowledge the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and trauma on learning and behavior by creating safe, predictable, and supportive school environments that reduce stress and promote resilience. Adapting instructional methods to fit diverse cognitive and emotional needs, focusing on restorative practices and moving away from punitive discipline.

- **Family Engagement:** Strengthen family communication and relationships to promote emotional security by providing practical strategies for responding to behaviors with empathy and structure. Increased caregiver confidence to promote cycle-breaking work for the family generationally. To include (but not limited to) bridging the home/school gap, in-home coaching, and assisting in establishing structured family routines.
- **Family Support Services:** Conduct surveys with families to identify challenges within tiered families, connecting them to targeted community resources and existing support services, ultimately providing wrap-around services to both the students and their families that need it the most.
- **Community Engagement:** Developing outreach strategies to ensure accessibility and inclusivity within the community.
- **Program Evaluation:** Implementing methods to assess program effectiveness, including outcome measurements and data collection. This will be done for the district/agency and for families
- **Sustainability Plan:** Propose strategies for long-term program viability and continuous improvement through improved teacher-student relationships, empathetic communication and de-escalation techniques. Positive feedback from families and children.

Expected deliverables include:

- Tiered student behavior support in and out of the classroom to equip students with the tools necessary to thrive in a classroom environment
- A comprehensive neurobiologically-responsive program plan.
- In-home family coaching sessions and materials
- Event calendar to include family nights, workshop presentations, and materials
- Family engagement kits for home use (games, activities, educational tools)
- Coaching materials and workshops for staff geared to reduce burnout and secondary trauma in educators.
- Establish trauma-responsive policies and classroom practices to create a supportive school culture.
- Facilitate group discussions where teachers can share experiences and strategies
- Regular progress reports and impact assessments.
- Monitoring and evaluating teacher progress through pre- and post-coaching assessments
- Collect qualitative feedback from teachers, students, and administrators; adjusting coaching strategies based on results
- Recommendations for policy and procedural adjustments to ensure neurobiological responsiveness
- Programs include: Behavior Intervention, Family Engagement, Professional Development, and Whole School SEL
- Staff to accommodate school's specific needs for whole school success

Hope Academy is not responsible for typical day-to-day duties, not limited to

- Academic staffing
 - Academic oversight
 - Curriculum
 - Administrative Overhead Duties
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Proposal Submission Guidelines

- Proposals must be submitted by April 4, 2025.
- Submissions should include:
 - What timeline are you considering for engaging our services?
 - 2025/2026 (Pilot Program, discounted rate)
 - 2026/2027 (Full Implementation, full rate)
 - What funds are available to your district/agency for program services? _____
 - Number of children in need of Tier 2 support? _____

Tier 2 description: 1-3 incidents of verbal or physical aggression, elopement, moderate work refusal, or social disagreement
 - Number of children in need of Tier 3 support? _____

Tier 3 description: 4+ incidents of verbal or physical aggression, elopement, consistent work refusal, or social disagreement
 - What grade level (s) are you targeting? _____
 - When considering this program, what is your interest area?
 - ALE classroom set up
 - real-time coaching in each Gen Ed classroom
 - Both of the above mentioned options
 - What services are you currently providing that support this? _____
 - Other services you may be interested in _____

- Questions- Questions about the contents of the RFP, programmatic inquiries, or RFP proposal questions must be submitted to jflorer@nwacs.org on or before 5 pm on March 21, 2025.
 - Proposals should be submitted to jflorer@nwacs.org on or before 5 pm on April 4, 2025.
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Timeline

RFP Issued	03/10/2025
Questions Due	03/21/2025
Proposals Due	04/04/2025
Evaluation Period	04/07/-2025 - 05/01/2025
District/Agency Selection Notification	05/02/2025

Contact Information

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Thank you for your interest in working with Hope Academy. We look forward to reviewing your proposal.