Request for Proposals
Consensus Council

Background:

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered in the state of North Dakota, Consensus Council dedicates its resources and efforts to link grassroots citizens, regional organizations, special interest groups, businesses, government agencies, and others to re-envision and enhance community services and to craft foundational agreements that will improve the lives of all people. Our mission is to facilitate conversations and build agreements that empower people, transform communities, and advance the public good.

In Fall 2024, Consensus Council will convene a statewide Restorative Practices Council, which is currently being developed by an Advisory Workgroup comprised of Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC) from across the state. As a facet of this project, Consensus Council is requesting proposals for projects covering the 2024-25 school year to enhance culturally specific and relationship-centered services in schools.

Purpose and Scope:

Consensus Council, in partnership with the Central Regional Education Association (CREA), seeks applicants to increase attendance and student engagement through school-based prevention, Diversity-Equity-Inclusion-Accessibility (DEIA) education, and relationship-centered programs (i.e., restorative practices). According to U.S. Department of Education, family engagement is directly correlated to improving student attendance. Projects submitted should elevate a cultural perspective and/or be specifically designed to engage Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC) students and families.

Award and Evaluation:

Five (5) awards of up to $11,200 will be granted to the top applicants with funding to start October 1, 2024. A final report summarizing project successes, challenges, and outcomes will be due September 30, 2025.

Eligible Applicants:

North Dakota Public Schools
North Dakota Bureau of Indian Education Schools

Any faculty or staff employed by a North Dakota Public or Tribal School with legitimate interest and ability to meet project objectives is encouraged to apply on behalf of their school. An administrator (e.g. Superintendent or Principal) must sign the required Cover Letter as verification and approval of the request

Timeframe:

Request for Proposal Release Date	07/15/2024
Request for Proposal Deadline	08/30/2024, 5 p.m. CT
Award Notification	09/27/2024
Project Implementation	10/01/24-06/30/2025

Requirements:

A. Cover Letter (provided)

Applicant must submit Cover Letter template which includes:

- Project title
- 2-3 sentence summary of project activities
- Amount requested
- Other funding sources (if applicable)
  If the project receives or will receive additional funding, please disclose for context. Other sources of funding are not required.
- Primary contact information
- Financial contact information
- Administrator name and signature

B. Narrative

Applicant must submit project narrative in a Word document, no more than three (3) pages, single spaced. Narratives should include:

- Needs assessment/explanation
- Comprehensive summary of project
- Goals, objectives, and intended outcomes

Examples of Eligible Projects

- Support BIPOC family engagement strategies including but not limited to Wellness activities i.e. physical health and nutrition; Transportation i.e. accessibility; Cultural programming; etc.
- Enhancement of current Restorative Justice initiatives
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility activities i.e. cultural education programs
- Support BIPOC after-school programs i.e. access to arts & culture
- Investment into BIPOC STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) education & engagement initiatives
- Engagement of strategies that incorporate community partnerships with nonprofit and for-profit organizations that empower BIPOC youth

C. Budget Worksheet (provided)

Budget should reflect how award money will be allocated. Please do not include amounts from other funders.

Process & Expectations:

1. Applications will be screened by Consensus Council staff for initial eligibility.
2. The top seven (7) applications will be decided by a subcommittee of the Restorative Practices Council Advisory Workgroup.
3. Final award recipients will be decided by the full Restorative Practices Council Advisory Workgroup. Awards will be announced by Friday, September 27, 2024.

Application Submittal Process
Please email the completed and signed Cover Letter, Narrative, and Budget documents to Natasha Gourd, ngourd@agree.org, no later than 5:00p CST on August 30, 2024. For questions or technical assistance, please reach out in advance of the deadline, and CC staff will be happy to assist.

Technical Grant Assistance & Questions:
Natasha Gourd | Restorative Practices Council Coordinator, Consensus Council
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