

## **Request for Qualifications**

The Haywood County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council is seeking a qualified individual to serve as Independent Contractor for the purpose of developing, implementing and coordinating a county Youth Gang Assessment Model.

The Haywood County JCPC has received a grant for \$41,500.00 from the Governor's Crime Commission to conduct the assessment. This represents the total amount of the grant, including payment to the contractor, funding for other grant objectives and general expenses. The deadline to submit the project to the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is September 30, 2010.

Development and implementation of the Youth Gang Assessment Model will include the following Scope of Work:

- Work with law enforcement agencies, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Haywood County Schools to review criminal activity data, school violations and other behavioral activity for the last five years for signs of gang affiliation. Continue to track new data as it emerges;
- Develop a survey model to evaluate actual and perceived problems with gang affiliation for use with school students, parents and personnel; neighborhood groups and faith communities; businesses and other community organizations;
- Work with the Department of Social Services, Western Carolina University and the juvenile court system to re-examine an existing body of data (going back 30 years) and evaluate for indicators of juvenile crime and gang affiliation;
- Conduct a series of focus groups throughout the community to present the law enforcement and school system reports on gang affiliation; conduct surveys and receive community feedback, as well as input on other elements of gang affiliation that may be present in our community;
- Conduct public awareness activities and work with local media as necessary to raise awareness of gang activity and keep the public informed in relation to gang assessment activities;
- Pursue affiliation for Haywood County law enforcement with a gang task force formed last year in neighboring counties;
- Develop and implement gang affiliation prevention programming goals that might qualify for GCC grant and/or JCPC funding, based on indicators from the above project objectives; and
- Ensure close coordination of all Gang Assessment activities between the Assessment Steering Committee, the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Haywood County Government and the N.C. Dept. of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by preparing regular reports and attending meetings as necessary.

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The Independent Contractor will serve as Program Coordinator for the assessment. The successful applicant will have experience working with youth, volunteers, data collection, evidence of effective networking and facilitation among diverse groups and agencies. The Coordinator should be comfortable with public speaking and presentations. The Coordinator will be responsible for organizing and leading focus groups, as well as presenting ongoing progress reports to the JCPC and other project partners.

Interested applicants should submit the following:

- A cover letter that addresses the applicants' reasons for applying and past experience relevant to the position;
- A resume; and
- A minimum of three references with contact information

Applications may be submitted electronically or by mail to John Chicoine, Co-Chairman, Gang Assessment Steering Committee; c/o Haywood County Volunteer Center, 2142 Asheville Rd., Waynesville, NC 28786; Phone: 828-456-6456; Email - [jchicoine@mountainprojects.org](mailto:jchicoine@mountainprojects.org)

**The deadline to submit applications is 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 5, 2010.**

### **Background Information on Youth Gang Assessment**

More information on the assessment process is available on the Haywood County government website, [www.haywoodnc.net](http://www.haywoodnc.net), by clicking on the Doing Business With Haywood County section in the Main Menu.

For questions, please contact John Chicoine at 828-456-6456.