

RFP-26-018

Addiction Innovation Grant Administered by The County Department of Human Services

A review committee was convened for the purpose of evaluating requests for proposals submitted to the Purchasing Department in response to RFP-26-018 for the Passaic County Department of Human Services. The committee consisted of Vito Andrisani, Robert Nolan, and Chi Shu (Bart) Chou.

The review committee convened on 4/22/2026. Two program clusters were listed in RFP-26-018. Proposals were evaluated utilizing the following criteria:

Management - 30 points, Technical - 50 points, and Cost - 20 points

Below are the vendors that submitted proposals, along with the composite evaluation point total.

Program Cluster #1: Youth Task Force

Proposal submitted by: Ruby's Vision, Inc., 34 Broadway, Paterson, NJ 07505

Committee feedback and analysis:

Ruby's Vision was recognized as a grassroots, community-based organization with a strong lived-experience perspective and meaningful local engagement. The committee appreciated its ability to meet youth where they are and its visible community presence. At the same time, reviewers identified concerns regarding organizational scale, limited credentialed staff, modest outcome measures, and less explicit alignment with evidence-based prevention frameworks and statewide prevention standards. The committee also discussed potential concerns about organizational stability related to reliance on leased space. Overall, the proposal demonstrated strong passion and community connection, but lacked the administrative and programmatic depth of the higher-scoring submissions.

Total Composite Score: 76.00

Proposal submitted by: Partners in Prevention (LMTI), 110B Meadowlands Parkway, Suite 302, Secaucus, NJ 07094

Committee feedback and analysis:

Partners in Prevention submitted one of the strongest proposals reviewed under this cluster. The committee highlighted the organization's long-standing prevention mission, established success with youth leadership programming, and prior implementation experience through the pilot Youth Task Force project. Reviewers emphasized the proposal's strong organizational background, well-developed partnerships with schools, coalitions, and Passaic County stakeholders, and staffing that included relevant graduate-level and prevention credentials. The narrative was viewed as well-written, organized, and closely aligned with the goals of the RFP, including youth leadership development, prevention education, and community-based project implementation. The committee determined that this proposal demonstrated outstanding readiness, strong prevention expertise, and the clearest overall fit for the Youth Task Force award.

Total Composite Score: 93.00

Proposal submitted by: Center for Family Services, 655 Broadway, Paterson, NJ 07514

Committee feedback and analysis:

Center for Family Services presented an exceptionally strong organizational profile with extensive behavioral health infrastructure, deep clinical leadership, and broad experience in youth and family services. Reviewers commended the proposal's high level of professionalism, strong trauma-informed and evidence-based orientation, and highly detailed budget presentation. The committee also noted that the proposal reflected significant administrative strength and service capacity. However, concerns were raised regarding the budget structure, particularly because the initial budget covered only five months and the optional-year projections exceeded the available grant amount. The committee also noted that, although the Center for Family Services demonstrated substantial treatment and behavioral health capabilities, its prevention-specific and Passaic County-specific operational details were somewhat less developed than those of the top-ranked submission. Overall, the proposal was considered highly competitive and one of the strongest reviewed, subject to budget and fit considerations.

Total Composite Score: 90.00

Proposal submitted by: Chosen Generation Community Corp, 147 Montgomery St., Paterson, NJ 07501

Committee feedback and analysis:

Chosen Generation Community Corp was viewed as a grassroots community organization with strong local credibility, particularly in Paterson, and a proposal that reflected meaningful community integration. The committee noted positive impressions regarding the organization's leadership, local presence, and ability to connect with youth and families in the community. At the same time, reviewers identified limitations in administrative detail, supervisory structure, measurable outcome data, and program design specificity compared with larger or more established prevention providers. The committee also discussed the proposal's more limited emphasis on virtual access and its narrower participant scale. Overall, Chosen Generation Community Corp was seen as a promising community-based applicant with clear strengths in local engagement, but with less fully developed infrastructure and program detail than the highest-ranked proposals.

Total Composite Score: 81.00

Proposal submitted by: New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN), 30 Park Rd, Suite 2, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Committee feedback and analysis:

NJPN also submitted a strong Youth Task Force proposal and was viewed by the committee as a capable and reputable statewide provider with the infrastructure to carry out the work successfully. Reviewers noted that the proposal was well written, demonstrated broad prevention

experience, and included a clear training and youth engagement framework. The organization's statewide network, hybrid accessibility model, and established prevention expertise were recognized as important strengths. However, compared with the top-ranked proposal, the committee found that the submission offered somewhat less localized, Passaic County-specific partnership depth and slightly less distinction in its youth leadership model. Overall, NJPN was considered a highly qualified applicant and a strong competitor in this cluster.

Total Composite Score: 91.00

Program Cluster #2: Chemical Dependency Associate Workforce Development Program

Proposal submitted by: New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN), 30 Park Rd, Suite 2, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Committee feedback and analysis:

New Jersey Prevention Network submitted the sole proposal for the Workforce Development program. It was viewed favorably by the committee as a well-established statewide provider with extensive experience in workforce development, training, and credentialing support. Reviewers noted the agency's strong organizational reputation, structured instructional model, and alignment with the Approved Clinical and Preventive Addiction Bodies of New Jersey credentialing framework. Strengths included a hybrid training format, measurable workforce-readiness outcomes, internship and career-planning supports, and leadership staff with significant, relevant credentials. The committee also noted existing collaboration with Passaic County and a clear link between the proposed budget and program activities. While the discussion included a scoring correction during the meeting, the proposal remained the only responsive submission in this cluster and clearly met the award requirements.

Total Composite Score: 93.67

Program Cluster #1 Committee Recommendations:

\$41,179 to be awarded to Partners in Prevention (LMTI) for the Youth Task Force Program.

Program Cluster #2 Committee Recommendations:

\$50,000 to be awarded to New Jersey Prevention Network (NJPN) for the Chemical Dependency Associate Workforce Development Program.