

POTPOURRI

Department of Social Services Office of Community Services

Residential Services to Foster Children

The Office of Community Services (OCS) in the Department of Social Services announces that it will continue to maintain the procedure which became effective on May 1, 1995 for accepting proposals from prospective providers of residential services to foster children. The procedure was originally published in a Potpourri announcement in the *Louisiana Register*, Volume 21, Number 3, on March 20, 1995. Individuals and/or agencies that contact the Office of Community Services requesting information on how their current or planned residential program can be funded by OCS, or submitting proposals to provide residential services to foster children, will be placed on a list which will include the name, address and phone number of the inquirer/proposer.

All persons and agencies on the list will be notified at the time that the office seeks to develop a specific residential

program in a specific geographical area. The prospective residential providers will be mailed a full description of the type and scope of program sought and the geographical area to be served along with an invitation to prepare and submit to OCS a proposal for that service. The notification will include a list of other materials such as OCS residential agreements and rate setting procedures that prospective providers may request to be mailed to them or that can be obtained at the OCS state office to assist proposers in preparation of their proposals. The name and phone number of an OCS representative will be given for prospective providers to contact for more information.

A committee of professionals working in the foster care and residential program areas will evaluate the proposals and select the one(s) most fitting the needs of the foster care program. It is expected that this solicitation process will result in an efficient and equitable manner of handling the many and varied requests the office receives from citizens who wish to provide residential services to foster children.

Madlyn B. Bagneris

Secretary

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