STATE OF INDIANA

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION/INNOVATION 27-89043

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ON BEHALF OF THE
THE INDIANA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SOLICITATION FOR:
LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY INITIATIVE

RESPONSE DUE DATE:
DECEMBER 11, 2026

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION/INNOVATION 27-89043

INTRODUCTION

This is a Request for Information/Innovation (RFI) issued by the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) on behalf of the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (GCPD) regarding the leadership and advocacy initiative: Self-Advocacy, Leadership Development, and Coalition Building.

It is the intent of IDOA to solicit responses to this Request for Information/Innovation in accordance with the specifications contained in this document and associated attachments. Neither this RFI nor any response (proposal) submitted hereto is to be construed as a legal offer.

THE STATE MAY ELECT TO LIMIT PARTICIPATION IN ANY FUTURE COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION TO VENDORS THAT RESPOND TO THIS RFI.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE OF THE RFI

Purpose

The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (GCPD) is seeking information, ideas, and recommendations regarding ways to strengthen self-advocacy, leadership development, and coalition building for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD). This RFI is for information-gathering and planning purposes only and may inform future funding opportunities.

Funding Information

The Council receives federal funding through the Administration for Community Living (ACL) under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

Background

The Council is exploring future investments that support leadership development, self-advocacy, peer-to-peer learning, coalition building, and systems advocacy.

Alignment with the DD Act and State Plan

This effort supports Goal Area 1: Leadership and Advocacy. The DD Act requires State Councils on Developmental Disabilities to support self-advocacy organizations led by people with developmental disabilities, provide opportunities for leadership development by and for people with developmental disabilities, and expand participation in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions. The Council is seeking approaches that advance these requirements while increasing leadership and advocacy among culturally and linguistically diverse people with ID/DD and their families.

Who Should Respond

The Council welcomes responses from self-advocates, self-advocacy organizations, organizations led by people with ID/DD, disability-led organizations, family-led organizations, community organizations, universities, public agencies, tribal governments, coalitions, consultants, and others with relevant experience or ideas.

Project Areas of Interest

The Council seeks information about approaches that support Goal Area 1: Leadership and Advocacy through Objectives 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3.

How the Objectives Work Together

Leadership development, self-advocacy, and coalition building are closely connected. A single organization or partnership may use multiple activities to address all three objectives. The Council is especially interested in approaches that demonstrate how Objectives 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 can work together through one coordinated effort and collectively meet DD Act self-advocacy requirements.

Objective 1.1: Strengthen Self-Advocacy Organizations Led by People with ID/DD

Increase the reach, sustainability, leadership, visibility, and capacity of self-advocacy organizations led by people with ID/DD.

Objective 1.2: Increase Peer-Led Leadership and Advocacy Opportunities

Expand opportunities for people with ID/DD to teach, mentor, lead, and support other people with ID/DD.

Objective 1.3: Increase Participation in Leadership Coalitions and Community Partnerships

Increase meaningful participation of people with ID/DD in cross-disability, culturally diverse, and community leadership efforts.

Information Requested

Organization overview; proposed approach; community needs and opportunities; innovative practices; partnerships and coalitions; accessibility and inclusion; sustainability; and evaluation and success measures.

The goal of this RFI is to gather general functionality and general pricing structures from vendors for the development of a potential Request for Proposal (RFP).

GCPD is requesting information to formalize the scope of work for a potential RFP by allowing the vendor community to apprise the GCPD on information that should be considered as part of the scope of work.

RESPONSE FORMAT AND ATTACHMENTS

Respondents should submit responses to the RFI, utilizing **Attachment A**, describing how they will meet the specific requirements of this RFI and the deliverables included within. All narrative responses must be provided to the State in Microsoft Word format. Respondents must structure their response according to the sections outlined below to facilitate the State's review of the responses. **THE TOTAL RESPONSE SHOULD NOT BE MORE THAN 15-20 PAGES IN LENGTH**.

If you would like to provide a response/feedback to this RFI for a potential RFP for GCPD, you must provide your response to State as shown in the RFI Timeline and Response Submission section below.

RFI TIMELINE

The following timeline is only an illustration of this RFI process. The dates associated with each step are not to be considered binding.

Anticipated RFI Dates:

Activity	Date
Issuance of RFI	November 10, 2026
Deadline to Submit Written Questions (3:00PM Eastern Time)	November 24, 2026

Response to Written Questions/RFI Amendments	December 3, 2026
Due Date for Submissions	December 11, 2026

QUESTION / INQUIRY PROCESS

All questions/inquiries in regards to RFI 27-89043 must be submitted in writing via email using **Attachment B**, Questions and Answers Template, by the deadline of **November 23, 2026, by 3:00PM ET** to HHScategory@idoa.IN.gov. The email subject line should contain the following phrase:

"REQUEST FOR INFORMATION/INNOVATION 27-89043, QUESTION AND INQUIRIES."

Following the question/inquiry due date, IDOA will compile a list of the questions/inquiries submitted by all Respondents. The responses will be posted to the IDOA website as soon as possible. Only answers posted on the IDOA website will be considered official and valid by the State. No Respondent shall rely upon, take any action, or make any decision based upon any verbal communication with any State employee.

Please note that Christina Garcia is the State's single point of contact for this RFI. **Inquiries are not to be directed to any other staff member of the GCPD.** Such action may disqualify respondent from further consideration in this RFI and any subsequent RFP process.

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFI, or if additional information is necessary for a clearer interpretation of provisions of this RFI prior to the due date for submissions, an addendum will be posted on the IDOA website.

CLARIFICATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

The State reserves the right to request clarifications on information submitted to the State. The State also reserves the right to conduct discussions, either oral or written, with the Respondents. These discussions could include requests for additional information, requests for cost information or technical requirements response attachment revision, etc. Additionally, in conducting discussions, the State may use information derived from the responses submitted by competing Respondents only if the identity of the Respondent providing the information is not disclosed to others. The State will provide equivalent information to all Respondents which have been chosen for discussions.

The Procurement Division will schedule all discussions. Any information gathered through oral discussions must be confirmed in writing.

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is important to note that all information submitted in Respondent's proposals to this RFI will be kept confidential and will not be made available to the public unless this RFI does not result in the release of a solicitation at a later date. If a solicitation results from this RFI, then the information contained in the proposal submissions for this RFI must be made available to the public once the resulting solicitation has been awarded and the protest period has ended.

Respondents are advised that materials contained in proposals are subject to the Access to Public Records Act (APRA), IC 5-14-3 et seq., and, after award, the entire solicitation file may be viewed and copied by any member of the public, including news agencies and competitors.

Please note citing "Confidential" on an entire section is not sufficient. The Public Access Counselor (PAC) provides guidance on APRA. Respondents are encouraged to read guidance from the PAC on this topic as this is the guidance IDOA follows:

- 18-INF-06; Redaction of Public Procurement Documents Informal Inquiry

Respondents claiming a statutory exception to the APRA must indicate so on a separate attachment labeled "**Confidential Documentation Listing**". That document should include the following information:

- List all documents where claiming a statutory exemption to the APRA;
- Specify which statutory exception of APRA that applies for each document;
- Provide a description explaining the manner in which the statutory exception to the APRA applies for each document.

When claiming confidential information, respondents should submit two versions of their response:

1) A confidential version (for the State's review and evaluation)
    a. Confidential Information must be clearly marked in a separate folder.
2) A redacted version (for public records requests)

If the Respondent does not identify the statutory exception, the Procurement Division will not consider the submission confidential. The State also reserves the right to seek the opinion of the PAC for guidance if the State has doubts the cited exception is applicable.

Prices are **NOT** confidential information.

RESPONSE SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Firms interested in providing information to IDOA should submit responses via email to HHScategory@idoa.IN.gov. All responses must be received no later than **December 11, 2026, by 3:00PM ET.** The subject line of the email submission must clearly state the following:

"RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION/INNOVATION 27-89043"

Any information received after the due date and time may not be considered.

No more than one proposal per Respondent may be submitted.

Templates outlined in this document should be returned in their native file format.

The State accepts no obligations for costs incurred by Respondents in anticipation of being awarded a contract.