

**Request for Qualifications
Expanded Learning Opportunities**

ATTACHMENT 1: COVER SHEET

Applicant Information:

Applicant name: Community for Youth

Applicant address: 999 3rd Ave, Suite 1570, Seattle, WA 98104

If applicable, Web address: www.communityforyouth.org

Contact Information:

Contact person: Peter Retztagg

Title: Executive Director

Mailing address: 999 3rd Ave, Suite 1570, Seattle, WA 98104

Day/Work phone: 206-325-8480

Email address: peter@communityforyouth.org

Signature: 

Date: October 12, 2012

Describe your legal status and, if applicable, state of incorporation (for example, Washington State non-profit corporation, Washington State partnership, sole proprietorship):

501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization

Application Components and Checklist (submit in this order)

- Cover Sheet**
- Key People**
- Previous Experience Improving Student Outcomes**
- Tracking to Success**
 - **Attachment 2: Data Sample(s):** *If separate from the RFQ document, please use this naming convention:*
[Applicant Name]_ELO_DataSample
- Women and Minority Inclusion; Non-discrimination**

Community for Youth

Request for Qualifications: Expanded Learning Opportunities

Key People

The Executive Director of Community for Youth (CfY), Peter Retztagg, will lead this project. Mr. Retztagg was brought on as CfY's Executive Director in 2011, bringing with him more than seven years of experience in the youth development field. Upon completion of Mr. Retztagg's first year with CfY, all enrolled 9th graders had been promoted to the 10th grade, and 97% of the program's seniors graduated from high school on time. Additionally, Mr. Retztagg's extensive background in fundraising provided an opportunity for Community for Youth to raise the funds necessary to double the number of students served by the organization for the 2012-2013 school year.

The key staff members who will be assisting Peter Retztagg in this project include the Program Administrator, Christina Padilla, and the Workshop Leader, Miik Wells. Ms. Padilla works with teachers and counselors from CfY's partner schools to ensure that up-to-date student data is available for mentors and all Community for Youth staff. Mr. Wells has ten years of experience leading workshops for Seattle's at-risk youth, and will be joining CfY's staff for the 2012-2013 school year. Finally, the Community for Youth program is supported by its team of volunteer mentors who provide students with the social and emotional support needed to be successful and to plan their post-high school lives.

Community for Youth also actively partners with staff from the three Seattle Public Schools served by the program. These staff members assist CfY with the new student identification process, as well as with providing grades, attendance, and state testing records to CfY's staff for data tracking. These key staff members are:

Dan Jurdy – School Counselor, Rainier Beach

Dalisha Phillips – School Success Coordinator, Rainier Beach

Xaila Lewis – School Success Coordinator, Rainier Beach

Kalayaan Domingo - Community Schools Site Director, Cleveland

Sara Maupin - Mental Health Counselor, Cleveland

Kory Kumasaka – Counselor, Chief Sealth

Krista Rillo – College Bound Scholarships Counselor, Seattle Public Schools

Previous Experience Improving Student Outcomes

Community for Youth partners with Seattle Public High Schools to identify those students who can best benefit from the program. Teachers, counselors, and principals refer students who are at-risk of dropping out of school or are not reaching their full potential, at which point students and their families decide whether or not they believe the student would benefit from enrolling in CfY. Community for Youth defines at-risk as any student who is in danger of not completing high school based on any number of criteria working against them, including lack of family involvement in academics, poor grades, low school attendance, and poverty. The percentage of students participating in Community for Youth who qualified for free or reduced lunch (88%) is almost three times the average rate for Seattle Schools. Drop out rates increase within the populations served by CfY, especially for African Americans (who comprised 55% of CfY's 40 students in 2011-2012), Pacific Islanders (27%), and Hispanics (13%).

In a school district where the average graduation rate is 73% percent, the need for the unique program offered by Community for Youth is greater than ever. Today's teachers find it difficult to give each struggling student the one-on-one attention and encouragement that they need to improve their grades and stay motivated. One role of a CfY mentor is to give their mentee the academic support that students lack in overcrowded, underperforming schools. Community for Youth has found that the combination of homework help, use of a like-skills curriculum, commitment of time and dedication, and believing in the potential of an individual is a proven formula to inspire struggling students. Community for Youth's community supported one-to-one mentoring program provides an opportunity for struggling students to get back on track academically, as well as to build new relationships and to have an active role in his or her community. Community for Youth aspires for every student/mentor pair to form a powerful bond, one which will continue to have a positive impact on the lives of both parties long after the student has graduated. Students in Community for Youth consistently show improvement in their grades and state-administered test scores after just one year of being enrolled in the program.

Last year, CfY tracked student grades on a weekly basis and found that:

- * 68% of CfY students improved their GPA during the 2011-2012 school year.
- * Over the 2011-2012 school year, 70% of CfY students improved their math grade from the previous year.
- * During the 2011-2012 school year, 82% of CfY students enrolled in a Language Arts class improved their grade from the previous year.

At the end of the 2011-2012 school year, 97% of the program's enrolled Seniors graduated from high school, and all of those students earned the necessary Language Arts and Mathematics credits as mandated by Washington State's College Academic Distribution Requirements for entry into college.

Tracking to Success

Community for Youth uses several different programs and techniques to measure the success of the program, one of which is tracking students' grades, attendance, and developmental and behavioral challenges throughout the year. CfY collects pre and post data on students' emotional and social development at the beginning and end of the year. Once the data is collected, it is sent to the University of Washington, where the data is assessed and analyzed by a statistician using the Search Institute's Forty Developmental Assets for Adolescents. Last year's analysis of this data shows consistent statistical increase by students in self-empowerment, having positive values and commitment to learning.

Community for Youth's Program Administrator distributes student grades, attendance records, and assignment scores to program mentors on a weekly basis. The Program Administrator has access to this information via The Source, as well as ECHO at Cleveland High School. Mentors use this data to design homework plans specific to their mentee and the mentee's academic needs. The social and emotional data that is collected from CfY's students is used to modify the program's workshops as needed.

CfY tracks its program delivery progress through its involvement in the Raikes Foundation's Youth Program Quality Initiative (YPQI), where the focus is on developing

the skills necessary to internally assess the program quality and determine how best to improve the program delivery of the organization. Community for Youth workshop topics are in part determined based on the data processed by the YPQI. CfY also collects feedback forms from students and mentors after every workshop, allowing the participants to modify the workshop format and focus areas.

Non-discrimination

If Community for Youth is selected by the school district it will need to increase staff in the Program Department. Accordingly, CfY will follow anti-bias hiring practices that are grounded in its commitment to social justice and the health of the community as a whole. Community for Youth is committed to posting job opportunities in community and neighborhood newspapers as well as on websites and community blogs that represent diverse communities.

Community for Youth Attachment 2: Data Sample

9th Graders Promoted to 10th Grade On-Time

School	Ethnicity	Gender	Promoted On-Time
Cleveland High School	Asian	M	Yes
Cleveland High School	African American/ Native American	F	Yes
Rainier Beach High School	Pacific Islander	F	Yes
Rainier Beach High School	African American	M	Yes
Chief Sealth Intl High School	African American	F	Yes

Community for Youth Attachment 2: Data Sample

Client Demographic Data

Nbr in Household	Children under 18	Single parent	Income	Homeless	Nbr Homeless	Age	Gender
# including client	# living at clients' home	1=Female 2=Male 9=Unk	1=A (Very Low) 2=B(Low) 3=C(Moderate) 4=D(Above Mod.) 9=Unknown	1=Yes 0=No 9=Unk	1=Yes 0=No	Age in years	1=Female 2=Male 3=Trans 4=Other 9=Unk
5		1	2	0		17	1
5		0	2	0		17	2
3		1	2	0		17	1
4		1	4	0		16	1
4		2	2	0		16	2
4		0	2	0		17	2
3	2	1	2	0		17	1
4	2	1	2	0		16	2
3	1	1	2	0		16	2
5		1	2	0		16	1
4		0	2	0		17	1
3		2	4	0		16	1
7		0	1	0		17	1
2	1	1	1	1	1	16	1
9		1	2	0		17	1
2	1	1	2	0		17	1
5		1	1	1	1	18	2
5		0	4	0		15	1
10		0	2	0		17	1
4		0	2	0		17	2
7		0	2	0		17	2
5		0	2	0		17	2
		0		0		18	2
5		0	2	0		16	1
4	2	1	2	0		17	2
		0		0		17	1
8		0	2	0		16	2
5		0	2	0		17	2

Community for Youth Attachment 2: Data Sample

# in household	Children under 18	Single Parent	Income	Homeless		Age	Gender
5		0	2	0		19	2
5		0	2	0		16	2
6		0	2	0		16	2
5		0	2	0		16	2
8	5	9	2	0		19	2
5	1	9	2	0		17	2
6	3	9	2	0		19	2
12	6	9	1	0		15	2
4	3	1	2	0		16	2
3	2	1	2	0		17	2
2	1	1	2	0		17	2
4	2	0	2	0		18	2
5	3	0	2	0		18	2
1		0	1	0		18	2
4	2	0	2	0		17	2
4	2	0	2	0		16	2
6	2	0	2	0		16	2
12	4	0	1	0		17	2
5	3	0	2	0		14	1
6	4	0	1	0		16	1
2		9	1	0		18	1
11	7	0	1	0		17	1
7	5	0	2	0		17	1
3	1	0	2	0		18	1