Exhibit A

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

Request for Proposals

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government hereby requests proposals for **#14-2026 Community Wellness & Safety – Extended Social Resources (ESR) Grant Program** to be provided in accordance with terms, conditions and specifications established herein.

Sealed proposals will be received through Ion Wave until **2:00 PM**, prevailing local time, on **April 30, 2026.** All forms and information requested in RFP #14-2026 must be included and attached in Response Attachments tab in Ion Wave.

Proposals received after the date and time set for opening proposals will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the Proposer to assure that his/her proposal is submitted in Ion Wave before the date and time set for opening proposals.

Proposals, once submitted, may not be withdrawn for a period of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days.

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, and to waive technicalities and informalities when such waiver is determined by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government to be in its best interest.

Signature of this proposal by the Proposer constitutes acceptance by the Proposer of terms, conditions and requirements set forth herein.

Minor exceptions may not eliminate the proposal. Any exceptions to the specifications established herein shall be listed in detail on a separate sheet and attached hereto. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government shall determine whether any exception is minor.

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government encourages the participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government contracts. This proposal is subject to Affirmative Action requirements attached hereto.

Please do not contact any LFUCG staff member or any other person involved in the selection process other than the designated contact person(s) regarding the project contemplated under this RFP while this RFP is open and a selection has not been finalized. Any attempt to do so may result in disqualification of the firm's submittal for consideration.

Laws and Regulations

All applicable state laws, municipal ordinances and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over the project shall apply to the contract, and shall be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Entity (regardless of whether construction contractor, non-construction contractor or supplier) agrees to provide equal opportunity in employment for all qualified persons, to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation or gender identity), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, political affiliation, or veteran status, and to promote equal employment through a positive, continuing program from itself and each of its sub-contracting agents. This program of equal employment opportunity shall apply to every aspect of its employment policies and practices.

Kentucky Equal Employment Opportunity Act

The Kentucky Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1978 (KRS 45.560-45.640) requires that any "county, city, town, school district, water district, hospital district, or other political subdivision of the state shall include in directly or indirectly publicly funded contracts for supplies, materials, services, or equipment hereinafter entered into the following provisions:

> "During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:
>
> > (1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin;
> >
> > (2) The contractor will state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractors that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin;
> >
> > (3) The contractor will post notices in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, setting forth the provision of the nondiscrimination clauses required by this section; and
> >
> > (4) The contractor will send a notice to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding advising the labor union or workers'

representative of the contractor's commitments under the nondiscrimination clauses."

The Act further provides:

"KRS 45.610. Hiring minorities -- Information required

(1) For the length of the contract, each contractor shall hire minorities from other sources within the drawing area, should the union with which he has collective bargaining agreements be unwilling to supply sufficient minorities to satisfy the agreed upon goals and timetables.

(2) Each contractor shall, for the length of the contract, furnish such information as required by KRS 45.560 to KRS 45.640 and by such rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to all books and records pertaining to his employment practices and work sites by the contracting agency and the department for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with KRS 45.560 to 45.640 and such rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant thereto.

KRS 45.620. Action against contractor -- Hiring of minority contractor or subcontractor

(1) If any contractor is found by the department to have engaged in an unlawful practice under this chapter during the course of performing under a contract or subcontract covered under KRS 45.560 to 45.640, the department shall so certify to the contracting agency and such certification shall be binding upon the contracting agency unless it is reversed in the course of judicial review.

(2) If the contractor is found to have committed an unlawful practice under KRS 45.560 to 45.640, the contracting agency may cancel or terminate the contract, conditioned upon a program for future compliance approved by the contracting agency and the department. The contracting agency may declare such a contractor ineligible to bid on further contracts with that agency until such time as the contractor complies in full with the requirements of KRS 45.560 to 45.640.

(3) The equal employment provisions of KRS 45.560 to 45.640 may be met in part by a contractor by subcontracting to a minority contractor or subcontractor. For the provisions of KRS 45.560 to 45.640, a minority contractor or subcontractor shall mean a business that is owned and controlled by one or more persons disadvantaged by racial or ethnic circumstances.

KRS 45.630 Termination of existing employee not required, when

Any provision of KRS 45.560 to 45.640 notwithstanding, no contractor shall be required to terminate an existing employee upon proof that employee was employed prior to the date of the contract.

KRS 45.640 Minimum skills

Nothing in KRS 45.560 to 45.640 shall require a contractor to hire anyone who fails to demonstrate the minimum skills required to perform a particular job."

It is recommended that all of the provisions above quoted be included as special conditions in each contract. In the case of a contract exceeding $250,000, the contractor is required to furnish evidence that his workforce in Kentucky is representative of the available work-force in the area from which he draws employees, or to supply an Affirmative Action plan which will achieve such representation during the life of the contract.

LFUCG Non-Appropriation Clause

Contractor acknowledges that the LFUCG is a governmental entity, and the contract validity is based upon the availability of public funding under the authority of its statutory mandate.

In the event that public funds are unavailable and not appropriated for the performance of the LFUCG's obligations under this contract, then this contract shall automatically expire without penalty to the LFUCG thirty (30) days after written notice to Contractor of the unavailability and non-appropriation of public funds. It is expressly agreed that the LFUCG shall not activate this non-appropriation provision for its convenience or to circumvent the requirements of this contract, but only as an emergency fiscal measure during a substantial fiscal crisis, which affects generally its governmental operations.

In the event of a change in the LFUCG's statutory authority, mandate and mandated functions, by state and federal legislative or regulatory action, which adversely affects the LFUCG's authority to continue its obligations under this contract, then this contract shall automatically terminate without penalty to the LFUCG upon written notice to Contractor of such limitation or change in the LFUCG's legal authority.

Contention Process

Vendors who respond to this invitation have the right to file a notice of contention associated with the RFP process or to file a notice of appeal of the recommendation made by the Director of Procurement resulting from this invitation.

Notice of contention with the RFP process must be filed within 3 business days of the bid/proposal opening by (1) sending a written notice, including sufficient documentation to support contention, to the Director of the Division of Procurement or (2) submitting a written request for a meeting with the Director of Procurement to explain his/her

contention with the RFP process. After consulting with the Commissioner of Finance the Chief Administrative Officer and reviewing the documentation and/or hearing the vendor, the Director of Procurement shall promptly respond in writing findings as to the compliance with RFP processes. If, based on this review, a RFP process irregularity is deemed to have occurred the Director of Procurement will consult with the Commissioner of Finance, the Chief Administrative Officer and the Department of Law as to the appropriate remedy.

Notice of appeal of a RFP recommendation must be filed within 3 business days of the RFP recommendation by (1) sending a written notice, including sufficient documentation to support appeal, to the Director, Division of Procurement or (2) submitting a written request for a meeting with the Director of Procurement to explain his appeal. After reviewing the documentation and/or hearing the vendor and consulting with the Commissioner of Finance and the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of Procurement shall in writing, affirm or withdraw the recommendation.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1.	**Program Proposal & Design**	
1.1	Needs Statement	15
1.2	Service Delivery Model	15
1.3	Client Eligibility & Requirements	5
1.4	Evidence-Based/Best Practice	10
		Subtotal 45
2.	**Program Measures & Evaluation**	
2.1	Service Efficacy & Desired Outcomes	10
2.2	Client Empowerment & Community Impact	10
5.3	Data Assessment & Quality Improvement	10
		Subtotal 30
3.	**Capacity & Sustainability**	
5.3.1	Staff Qualifications & Experience	5
5.3.2	Partnership & Resource Leverage	5
5.3.3	Outreach & Inclusion Strategy	15
		Subtotal 25
	TOTAL	**100**

Proposals shall contain the appropriate information necessary to evaluate based on these criteria. A committee composed of government employees as well as representatives of relevant user groups will evaluate the proposals.

The LFUCG reserves the right to request clarification of any proposal from prospective vendors, or to interview any vendor to further discuss their submitted proposal. The LFUCG further reserves the right to select more than one vendor as a preliminary finalist that will be required to make an oral presentation to the LFUCG. The LFUCG reserves the right to amend its final scoring of the proposals based upon information provided

during such a presentation as long as the proposal does not materially differ from the written proposal submitted by the vendor.

Questions shall be submitted via IonWave at: https://lexingtonky.ionwave.net

Affirmative Action Plan

All vendors must submit as a part of the proposal package the following items to the Urban County Government:

1. Affirmative Action Plan for his/her firm;
2. Current Work Force Analysis Form;

Failure to submit these items as required may result in disqualification of the submitter from award of the contract. All submissions should be directed to:

Director, Division of Procurement
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
200 East Main Street, 3rd Floor
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

All questions regarding this proposal must be directed to the Division of Procurement, (859)-258-3320.

AFFIDAVIT

Comes the Affiant, JEFFREY A WHITE, and after being first duly sworn, states under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. His/her name is JEFFREY A WHITE and he/she is the individual submitting the proposal or is the authorized representative of THE NEST-CENTER FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN + FAMILIES, the entity submitting the proposal (hereinafter referred to as "Proposer").

2. Proposer will pay all taxes and fees, which are owed to the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government at the time the proposal is submitted, prior to award of the contract and will maintain a "current" status in regard to those taxes and fees during the life of the contract.

3. Proposer will obtain a Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government business license, if applicable, prior to award of the contract.

4. Proposer has authorized the Division of Procurement to verify the above-mentioned information with the Division of Revenue and to disclose to the Urban County Council that taxes and/or fees are delinquent or that a business license has not been obtained.

5. Proposer has not knowingly violated any provision of the campaign finance laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky within the past five (5) years and the award of a contract to the Proposer will not violate any provision of the campaign finance laws of the Commonwealth.

6. Proposer has not knowingly violated any provision of Chapter 25 of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Code of Ordinances, known as "Ethics Act."

Continued on next page

7. Proposer acknowledges that "knowingly" for purposes of this Affidavit means, with respect to conduct or to circumstances described by a statute or ordinance defining an offense, that a person is aware or should have been aware that his conduct is of that nature or that the circumstance exists.

Further, Affiant sayeth naught.

_____

STATE OF Kentucky

COUNTY OF Fayette

The foregoing instrument was subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before me

by Jeffrey A. White on this the 27th day

of April, 2026

My Commission expires: May 15th, 2029

Casinger R. Harris
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE AT LARGE

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGREEMENT

Standard Title VI Assurance

The Lexington Fayette-Urban County Government, (hereinafter referred to as the "Recipient") hereby agrees that as a condition to receiving any Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation, it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78Stat.252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d-4 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, (49 CFR, Part 21) Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Program of the Department of Transportation – Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations") and other pertinent directives, no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age (over 40), religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation, including the Federal Highway Administration, and hereby gives assurance that will promptly take any necessary measures to effectuate this agreement. This assurance is required by subsection 21.7(a) (1) of the Regulations.

The Law

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (amended 1972) states that it is unlawful for an employer to discriminate in employment because of race, color, religion, sex, age (40-70 years) or national origin.

- Executive Order No. 11246 on Nondiscrimination under Federal contract prohibits employment discrimination by contractor and sub-contractor doing business with the Federal Government or recipients of Federal funds. This order was later amended by Executive Order No. 11375 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.

- Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states:

  The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental handicap.

- Section 2012 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1973 requires Affirmative Action on behalf of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era by contractors having Federal contracts.

- Section 206(A) of Executive Order 12086, Consolidation of Contract Compliance Functions for Equal Employment Opportunity, states:

  The Secretary of Labor may investigate the employment practices of any Government contractor or sub-contractor to determine whether or not the contractual provisions specified in Section 202 of this order have been violated.

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The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government practices Equal Opportunity in recruiting, hiring and promoting. It is the Government's intent to affirmatively provide employment opportunities for those individuals who have previously not been allowed to enter into the mainstream of society. Because of its importance to the local Government, this policy carries the full endorsement of the Mayor, Commissioners, Directors and all supervisory personnel. In following this commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity and because the Government is the benefactor of the Federal funds, it is both against the Urban County Government policy and illegal for the Government to let contracts to companies which knowingly or unknowingly practice discrimination in their employment practices. Violation of the above mentioned ordinances may cause a contract to be canceled and the contractors may be declared ineligible for future consideration.

Please sign this statement in the appropriate space acknowledging that you have read and understand the provisions contained herein. Return this document as part of your application packet.

Bidders

I/We agree to comply with the Civil Rights Laws listed above that govern employment rights of minorities, women, Vietnam veterans, handicapped and aged persons.

Signature JEFFREY A WHITE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Name of Business THE NEST-CENTER FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN + FAMILIES

The Nest - Center for Women, Children and Families

530 N Limestone St
Lexington, KY 40508

WORKFORCE ANALYSIS FORM

Name of Organization: THE NEST-CENTER FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES

Categories	Total	White (Not Hispanic or Latino)		Hispanic or Latino		Black or African-America n (Not Hispanic or Latino		Native Hawaiia n and Other Pacific Islander (Not Hispanic or Latino		Asian (Not Hispanic or Latino		America n Indian or Alaskan Native (not Hispanic or Latino		Two or more races (Not Hispanic or Latino		Total	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Administrators		1	1													1	1
Professionals		1	10	1	3		4									2	17
Superintendents																	
Supervisors			2				1									2	1
Foremen																	
Technicians																	
Protective Service																	
Para-Professionals																	
Office/Clerical																	
Skilled Craft																	
Service/Maintenance																	
Total:		2	13	1	3		5									5	19

Prepared by: _____ Date: 4/27/26

(Name and Title)

JEFFREY A WHITE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Revised 2015-Dec-15

Firm Submitting Proposal: THE NEST-CENTER FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES

Complete Address: 530 N. LIMESTONE LEXINGTON, KY 40508
Street City Zip

Contact Name: JEFFREY WHITE Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Telephone Number: 859-259-1974 Fax Number: 859-254-9465

Email address: jwhite@thenestlexington.org

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Each Respondent shall comply with all Federal, State & Local regulations concerning this type of service or good.

   The Respondent agrees to comply with all statutes, rules, and regulations governing safe and healthful working conditions, including the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970, *29 U.S.C. 650 et. seq.*, as amended, and KRS Chapter 338. The Respondent also agrees to notify the LFUCG in writing immediately upon detection of any unsafe and/or unhealthful working conditions at the job site. The Respondent agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the LFUCG harmless from all penalties, fines or other expenses arising out of the alleged violation of said laws.

2. Failure to submit ALL forms and information required in this RFP may be grounds for disqualification.

3. Addenda: All addenda and IonWave Q&A, if any, shall be considered in making the proposal, and such addenda shall be made a part of this RFP. Before submitting a proposal, it is incumbent upon each proposer to be informed as to whether any addenda have been issued, and the failure to cover in the bid any such addenda may result in disqualification of that proposal.

4. Proposal Reservations: LFUCG reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to award in whole or part, and to waive minor immaterial defects in proposals. LFUCG may consider any alternative proposal that meets its basic needs.

5. Liability: LFUCG is not responsible for any cost incurred by a Respondent in the preparation of proposals.

6. Changes/Alterations: Respondent may change or withdraw a proposal at any time prior to the opening; however, no oral modifications will be allowed. Only letters, or other formal written requests for modifications or corrections of a previously submitted proposal which is addressed in the same manner as the proposal, and received by LFUCG prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals, will be accepted. The proposal, when opened, will then be corrected in accordance with such written request(s), provided that the written request is contained in a sealed envelope which is plainly marked "modifications of proposal".

7. Clarification of Submittal: LFUCG reserves the right to obtain clarification of any point in a bid or to obtain additional information from a Respondent.

8. Bribery Clause: By his/her signature on the bid, Respondent certifies that no employee of his/hers, any affiliate or Subcontractor, has bribed or attempted to bribe an officer or employee of the LFUCG.

9. Additional Information: While not necessary, the Respondent may include any product brochures, software documentation, sample reports, or other documentation that may assist LFUCG in better understanding and evaluating the Respondent's response. Additional documentation shall not serve as a substitute for other documentation which is required by this RFP to be submitted with the proposal,

10. Ambiguity, Conflict or other Errors in RFP: If a Respondent discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission or other error in the RFP, it shall immediately notify LFUCG of such error in writing and request modification or clarification of the document if allowable by the LFUCG.

11. Agreement to Bid Terms: In submitting this proposal, the Respondent agrees that it has carefully examined the specifications and all provisions relating to the work to be done attached hereto and made part of this proposal. By acceptance of a Contract under this RFP, proposer states that it understands the meaning, intent and requirements of the RFP and agrees to the same. The successful Respondent shall warrant that it is familiar with and understands all provisions herein and shall warrant that it can comply with them. No additional compensation to Respondent shall be authorized for services or expenses reasonably covered under these provisions that the proposer omits from its Proposal.

12. Cancellation: If the services to be performed hereunder by the Respondent are not performed in an acceptable manner to the LFUCG, the LFUCG may cancel this contract for cause by providing written notice to the proposer, giving at least thirty (30) days notice of the proposed cancellation and the reasons for same. During that time period, the proposer may seek to bring the performance of services hereunder to a level that is acceptable to the LFUCG, and the LFUCG may rescind the cancellation if such action is in its best interest.

A. Termination for Cause

(1) LFUCG may terminate a contract because of the contractor's failure to perform its contractual duties

(2) If a contractor is determined to be in default, LFUCG shall notify the contractor of the determination in writing, and may include a specified date by which the contractor shall cure the identified deficiencies. LFUCG may proceed with termination if the contractor fails to cure the deficiencies within the specified time.

(3) A default in performance by a contractor for which a contract may be terminated shall include, but shall not necessarily be limited to:
   (a) Failure to perform the contract according to its terms, conditions and specifications;
   (b) Failure to make delivery within the time specified or according

to a delivery schedule fixed by the contract;

(c) Late payment or nonpayment of bills for labor, materials, supplies, or equipment furnished in connection with a contract for construction services as evidenced by mechanics' liens filed pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 376, or letters of indebtedness received from creditors by the purchasing agency;

(d) Failure to diligently advance the work under a contract for construction services;

(e) The filing of a bankruptcy petition by or against the contractor; or

(f) Actions that endanger the health, safely or welfare of the LFUCG or its citizens.

B. At Will Termination

Notwithstanding the above provisions, the LFUCG may terminate this contract at will in accordance with the law upon providing thirty (30) days written notice of that intent, Payment for services or goods received prior to termination shall be made by the LFUCG provided these goods or services were provided in a manner acceptable to the LFUCG. Payment for those goods and services shall not be unreasonably withheld.

13. Assignment of Contract: The contractor shall not assign or subcontract any portion of the Contract without the express written consent of LFUCG. Any purported assignment or subcontract in violation hereof shall be void. It is expressly acknowledged that LFUCG shall never be required or obligated to consent to any request for assignment or subcontract; and further that such refusal to consent can be for any or no reason, fully within the sole discretion of LFUCG.

14. No Waiver: No failure or delay by LFUCG in exercising any right, remedy, power or privilege hereunder, nor any single or partial exercise thereof, nor the exercise of any other right, remedy, power or privilege shall operate as a waiver hereof or thereof. No failure or delay by LFUCG in exercising any right, remedy, power or privilege under or in respect of this Contract shall affect the rights, remedies, powers or privileges of LFUCG hereunder or shall operate as a waiver thereof.

15. Authority to do Business: The Respondent must be a duly organized and authorized to do business under the laws of Kentucky. Respondent must be in good standing and have full legal capacity to provide the services specified under this Contract. The Respondent must have all necessary right and lawful authority to enter into this Contract for the full term hereof and that proper corporate or other action has been duly taken authorizing the Respondent to enter into this Contract. The Respondent will provide LFUCG with a copy of a corporate resolution authorizing this action and a letter from an attorney confirming that the proposer is authorized to do business in the State of Kentucky if requested. All proposals must

be signed by a duly authorized officer, agent or employee of the Respondent.

16. Governing Law: This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In the event of any proceedings regarding this Contract, the Parties agree that the venue shall be the Fayette County Circuit Court or the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Lexington Division. All parties expressly consent to personal jurisdiction and venue in such Court for the limited and sole purpose of proceedings relating to this Contract or any rights or obligations arising thereunder. Service of process may be accomplished by following the procedures prescribed by law.

17. Ability to Meet Obligations: Respondent affirmatively states that there are no actions, suits or proceedings of any kind pending against Respondent or, to the knowledge of the Respondent, threatened against the Respondent before or by any court, governmental body or agency or other tribunal or authority which would, if adversely determined, have a materially adverse effect on the authority or ability of Respondent to perform its obligations under this Contract, or which question the legality, validity or enforceability hereof or thereof.

18. Contractor understands and agrees that its employees, agents, or subcontractors are not employees of LFUCG for any purpose whatsoever. Contractor is an independent contractor at all times during the performance of the services specified.

19. If any term or provision of this Contract shall be found to be illegal or unenforceable, the remainder of the contract shall remain in full force and such term or provision shall be deemed stricken.

20. Contractor [or Vendor or Vendor's Employees] will not appropriate or make use of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) name or any of its trade or service marks or property (including but not limited to any logo or seal), in any promotion, endorsement, advertisement, testimonial or similar use without the prior written consent of the government. If such consent is granted LFUCG reserves the unilateral right, in its sole discretion, to immediately terminate and revoke such use for any reason whatsoever. Contractor agrees that it shall cease and desist from any unauthorized use immediately upon being notified by LFUCG.

Signature JEFFREY A. WHITE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date 4/27/26

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
Request for Proposals

Extended Social Resources (ESR) Grant Program
Priority Area: Community Wellness & Safety

Purpose
Each fiscal year the Mayor and Urban County Council allocate funds for use by selected 501(c)(3) non-profit partner agencies through the Department of Social Services' Extended Social Resource (ESR) Program. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (hereinafter referred to as "LFUCG") has historically partnered with non-profit agencies for the purpose of providing priority social services to supplement and support the work of the Urban County Government. These agencies are diverse in their missions and work plans, and provide services to the most vulnerable populations in our community.

Eligibility

- Eligible Responders shall be a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a physical presence in Lexington-Fayette County
- Responders shall be registered and have a current, complete Gold Seal of Transparency or higher level agency portrait on Candid.org.
- ESR funds cannot be used to teach, advance, advocate or promote any religion
- Be located in and/or serve Fayette County residents with ESR funds in Fayette County
- Applying organization agrees to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws
- Agencies that are primarily affiliated with, or funded through, an educational institution (e.g., a public or private school or the Fayette County Board of Education) are not eligible to receive funds.

Instructions
Please follow the attached instructions and submit all required forms no later than the deadline indicated below:

Proposal Deadline – before 2:00 PM EST April 30th, 2026.
Proposals received after this deadline or incomplete proposals will not be considered.

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION & SCOPE

1.1 Background

Each fiscal year the Mayor and Urban County Council allocate funds for use by selected 501(c)(3) non-profit partner agencies through the Department of Social Services' Extended Social Resource (ESR) Program.

This grant cycle shall cover Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028), and will award grants between the four Funding Priorities, which each have separate required Proposal Submittals and criteria, and awarded on an approximate scale, listed below.

Funding Priority Area: Community Wellness & Safety

Projected funding is approximately $995,700 of total ESR Grant Program Community Based Initiatives Award. This amount is subject to change upon Council ratification of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.

LFUCG seeks to strengthen and enhance Community Wellness and Safety by supporting programs and services addressing community wellness, including ***Substance Use Disorder and Community Violence Intervention.*** LFUCG intends to award grants for priority-rated programs and services based on documentation of marginalized client populations and articulated individual and community outcomes. The program should utilize best practices and evidence-based models when engaging, assessing, intervening, and terminating services with underserved population groups.

2.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 Purpose

The LFUCG is accepting applications from qualified non-governmental, non-profit agencies with current **501(c)3** tax exempt status and with a physical business or program site location in Fayette County (hereinafter, referred to as "Applicant") for ESR funding for FY2027 & 2028 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028). This funding is intended to support agency **programs** which respond to the **funding priorities** established herein. **THIS FUNDING IS NOT INTENDED TO SUPPORT GENERAL AGENCY OPERATIONS, other than overhead required to support the subject program.**

2.2 Funding Period

The funding period is from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028.

2.3 ESR Grant Informational Workshop

The Department of Social Services conducted a meeting on March 25th, 2026 that provided potential proposers with an overview of the proposal and review process, instructions on completing the RFP, and presentation of funding priorities.

2.4 Proposal Submission

All Submissions must be uploaded to the LFUCG procurement website at https://lexingtonky.ionwave.net by **April 30th, 2026 before 2:00 PM EST**. The Submission shall include an enclosed form that shall contain the required documents, and respond to one or more established funding priorities.

Proposal submissions containing significant omissions of required information will be considered non-responsive and removed from the RFP funding process on the application deadline date (April 30th, 2026). Significant missing responses to questions constitute an incomplete application. The final decision regarding application completeness and penalties will be determined by the LFUCG Division of

Procurement in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services. **All proposals must be written in a clear and concise manner, as there will be no follow-up or clarifications to proposer's Proposal Submittal Form once the evaluation process begins.**

Do not include additional documents or attachments with the Proposal Submittal Form, such as brochures or letters of support. These will be discarded.

If your agency is submitting a proposal for the funding of more than one program in a single priority area, please note that they must be included in a single Proposal Submittal completed and submitted for that priority area RFP. Only one Proposal Submittal per agency per priority area will be accepted. Agencies/Organizations may submit only ONE Proposal Submittal per proposed program in all priority areas.

Submitted Proposal shall be comprised of the attached PDF formatted Proposal Submittal form. This form must be submitted in the original PDF form, and NOT be a scanned version of the original form.

2.5 **Acceptance/Rejection of Submissions**

The LFUCG reserves the right to reject any proposals which may be considered irregular, show serious omissions, contain unauthorized alteration of the Proposal Submittal form, or are incomplete.

The LFUCG reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications in whole or in part, with or without cause, to waive technicalities, to implement scoring penalties, or to accept applications or portions thereof which, in the Urban County Government's judgment, best serve the interests of Urban County Government.

In evaluating whether to ultimately award funding to an agency, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government may consider how much funding, if any, an agency has previously received from LFUCG during the same funding cycle, and reserves the right to not fund, or to reduce the amount of funding that an agency might otherwise receive, based upon such an evaluation.

All proposals must be written in a clear and concise manner, as there will be no follow-up or clarifications to proposer's Proposal Submittal Form once the evaluation process begins.

2.6 **Inquiries/Questions**

After thoroughly reading this Request for Proposals, Applicants must direct any questions to:
Todd Slatin, Director
Division of Procurement 200 E. Main Street, Lexington, KY 40507
E-mail: tslatin@lexingtonky.gov Phone: (859) 258-3320
Deadline for questions is April 16th, 2026 at 2:00 PM EST

3.0 FUNDING PROCESS

3.1 Timeline

This Request for Proposals is being released on **March 26th, 2026**, and is made available to the public and all potentially eligible applicants. **An informational and question and answer meeting will be held on Teams on Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 3:00 PM EST**

Click here to Join Technical Q&A Teams Meeting

https://bit.ly/3NIll1D

Meeting ID: 284 982 946 534 95

Passcode: Et6JG6G9

This meeting will be open to the public and any potentially eligible applicants are invited to attend and ask questions or seek clarification regarding the RFP. Attendance is NOT required in order to submit a proposal and will not affect scoring during the evaluation process.

Completed proposals must be submitted **no later than 2 PM on Thursday, April 30th, 2026,** and late or incomplete proposals will not be accepted or evaluated.

The LFUCG intends to conduct proposal evaluation in April and May 2026 immediately following the proposal due date, with the intention to make funding announcements approximately in June, 2026. This timeline is subject to change without notice.

Successful applicants shall be contacted to negotiate a funding agreement with expectations that an award be in place for the funded programs to begin operations by July 1, 2026. No funds may be expended prior to the execution of a funding agreement and grantees will not be reimbursed for pre-award costs.

3.2 Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated by a neutral panel including LFUCG staff and third-party reviewers who have expertise in the field of human services. The feasibility and need in the community of the programming proposed will be assessed, and financial proposals will also be reviewed at this stage. If a proposal fails to meet the minimum criteria outlined in this RFP, it will be eliminated from further consideration. LFUCG reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The scoring criteria are outlined in Section 5.0 Criteria.

Upon receipt of submittals, an initial review will take place to ensure that all submissions meet the minimum qualifications and requirements. Proposals shall be completed in all respects as required by this RFP. A Proposal may be rejected if it is incomplete, contains any alterations or other irregularities of any kind, and will be rejected if any such defect or irregularity can materially affect the quality of the information. A Proposal which contains false or misleading statements may be rejected. If, in the opinion of LFUCG, such information was intended to mislead LFUCG in its evaluation of the Proposal, and the attribute, condition, or capability is a requirement of this RFP, the Proposal will be rejected. The LFUCG also reserves the right to waive minor technicalities or irregularities in Proposals if such action is in LFUCG's best interest. Statements made by applicants shall also be without ambiguity, and with adequate elaboration, where necessary, for clear understanding.

3.3 Reporting

The funded project will be required to submit regular progress reports demonstrating progress toward outcomes established in the proposal and associated funding agreement. Report formats will be determined by the Department of Social Services, as will due dates and submission process. Failure to submit complete reports on time will delay processing of grant payments and may affect the grantee's competitiveness for any future funding opportunities with LFUCG.

4.0 PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposal Submittal Forms must be uploaded to https://lexingtonky.ionwave.net before the 2:00 PM EST April 30th, 2026 deadline. Late submissions will not be considered for funding.

5.0 SCORING CRITERIA/EVALUATION

Please see attached **Proposal Submittal form** to respond to the following; the **Proposal Submittal form** is the document that shall be completed with your responses and then uploaded as your RFP submittal. **You will need to save the PDF formatted Proposal Submittal form to your hard drive before beginning to enter responses in it to ensure your responses are saved to the form.**

ESR Grant Program RFP Criteria

		Points
5.1	**Program Proposal & Design**	
5.1.1	Needs Statement	15
5.1.2	Service Delivery Model	15
5.1.3	Client Eligibility & Requirements	5
5.1.4	Evidence-Based/Best Practice	10
		Subtotal 45
5.2	**Program Measures & Evaluation**	
5.2.1	Service Efficacy & Desired Outcomes	10
5.2.2	Client Empowerment & Community Impact	10
5.2.3	Data Assessment & Quality Improvement	10
		Subtotal 30
5.3	**Capacity & Sustainability**	
5.3.1	Staff Qualifications & Experience	5
5.3.2	Partnership & Resource Leverage	5
5.3.3	Outreach & Inclusion Strategy	15
		Subtotal 25
	TOTAL	**100**

Funding Priority Area: Community Wellness & Safety

Projected funding is $995,700 of ESR Grant Program – Community Based Initiatives

LFUCG seeks to strengthen and enhance Community Wellness and Safety, by supporting programs and services addressing ***Substance Use Disorder and Community Violence Prevention.*** LFUCG intends to award grants for priority-rated programs and services based on documentation of marginalized client populations and articulated individual and community outcomes. The program should utilize best practices and evidence-based models when engaging, assessing, intervening, and terminating services with underserved population groups.

- **Substance Use Disorder**, which includes prevention of alcohol and drug abuse; prevention and treatment of addictive disorders through programs and services for individuals who suffer from these disorders; and harm reduction.
- **Community Violence Prevention**, which includes **Youth Violence Intervention,** including Gang & Gun Violence, Child Abuse & Neglect Services, Sexual Violence Prevention, Elder Abuse Prevention, Suicide Prevention and Intimate Partner Violence Prevention and Stalking.

The term "client" is used throughout this proposal; however, we understand that within the context of your work "client" may not mean an individual. For some agencies it may be helpful to think of "client" as whole system (such as a school) or as a neighborhood, group, or community.

5.1 Program Proposal & Design

5.1.1 Needs Statement—Purpose of the Program Proposal / Problem Statement 15 Points

Using local data, provide a description of the problem in Fayette County. Identify the specific population your program is targeting (i.e. age, geographical region, economic status, etc.) and explain why. Discuss whether this population is under-served or at-risk. Describe your understanding of the local system of services addressing this problem, obstacles and/or opportunities your clients face, and how your agency fits within this system of services.

5.1.2 Service Delivery Model 15 Points

What steps will you take or what activities will you provide to assist clients in achieving these goals? Describe each "unit of service" you will provide for clients and how often and how long this service will be provided (e.g. a one-time three-hour training; a weekly one-hour support group for 12 weeks; one 30-minute health exam twice a year; 1-3 hour advocacy services as needed; etc.) How will these services address the problem as identified in the Needs Statement above? Be specific.

5.1.3 Client Eligibility and Requirements 5 Points

What eligibility requirements must clients meet to qualify for services? What are the expectations of clients while receiving services? (e.g. client must pay $30 fee for each class; client must remain sober; client is responsible for chores; nothing other than participation in services; etc.)

5.1.4 Evidence-Based/Best Practice 10 Points

Describe the evidence-based or promising practice model on which this service approach is based. Provide particular sources that indicate what you are proposing is best-practice.

5.2 Program Measures & Evaluation

5.2.1 Service Efficacy & Desired Outcomes 10 Points

What do you hope to help your clients achieve? What are some examples of goals you will set with clients? What is your service philosophy in terms of helping your clients achieve these goals? Describe how you define "successful" completion of services. (e.g. service is complete if: client remains for entire three-hour training; client continues services until judge orders otherwise; etc.) What percentage of clients meet that criteria for success?

5.2.2 Client Empowerment & Community Impact 10 Points

Describe what meaningful difference these services make in the lives of people served. What value is added to the community? Provide examples. (e.g. client demonstrates change in attitude; client has behavior change; etc.)

5.2.3 Data Assessment & Quality Improvement 10 Points

While it doesn't have to be complicated, evaluation is more than saying "we provided this many 'units of service.'" How will you know if your services have been effective? How does this relate to the desired outcomes for your clients? How will the information gathered be used to improve your services in the future? Be specific (for example, data collection may be through focus groups, pre-and post-tests, client satisfaction surveys, etc.), and also **be specific regarding sampling size and frequency of evaluation.**

5.3 Capacity & Sustainability

5.3.1 Staff Qualifications & Experience **5 Points**

Provide information on the key/primary individuals that will be involved in the provision of services and demonstrate that they have the capacity to address the stated need. List each position by title and name of employee, if available. Describe the anticipated roles and responsibilities for each person as it relates to this project. Describe the experience, expertise, and capacity of each individual to address the proposed activities.

5.3.2 Partnership & Resource Leverage **5 Points**

How do your programs and services support our community's comprehensive response to the identified priority area of Community Wellness & Safety? Does your organization have any formal agreements or informal working relationship with other local service programs?

What role does your governing board members, volunteers, and / or donors play in facilitating viable service delivery and program administration? Does your program have any major civic benefactors or corporate sponsors? Describe other secured funding sources and committed operational resources your organization has allocated for the proposed program.

5.3.3 Outreach & Inclusion Strategy **15 Points**

Demonstrate how the program will ensure services are available and accessible by all potential participants, and specifically to persons with limited English proficiency (including a language access plan); persons with physical or other disabilities; and persons impacted by poverty and economic distress.

Has your organization enacted any policies (or does your organization employ any standard operating procedures) to ensure that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of program services on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or other protected status? How does your proposal support or enhance the objective of equal opportunity in the provision of program services?

6.0 Program Budget Summary Form

Proposal Submittal shall be considered incomplete and shall be rejected without completed Budget Summary Form. *(which will be the total amount of FY27 ESR grant request)*

Budget Form will be for Fiscal Year 2027 ESR Request only. Funds awarded for Fiscal Year 2028 shall be the same amount as awarded for Fiscal Year 2027, and contingent on Council approval of the Fiscal Year 2028 budget.

Exhibit B

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL FORM

Agency Information

Agency Name: The Nest - Center for Women, Children, and Families

Mailing Address: 530 North Limestone

Street Address: Lexington, Ky 40508

Phone: (859) 259 - 1974

Is your Agency registered with the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization? ☑ Yes ☐ No

*Note: Agencies **must** be registered with the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization to be eligible for ESR Program funding.*

Does your agency have a Gold Seal of Transparency or higher profile on Candid.org? ☑ Yes ☐ No

*Note: Agencies **must** have a Gold Seal of Transparency or higher profile with Candid.org to be eligible for ESR funding.*

Website Address: www.thenestlexington.org

Agency Representative *(typically the Executive Director - Name, Title, Phone, Email)*:

Jeffrey White, Executive Director, 859-259-1974 ext 223, jwhite@thenestlexington.org

Person Completing Application *(Name, Title, Phone, Email):*

Claire FitzSimmonds, Director - Parenting & Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Programs, 502-783-6994, cfitz@thenestlexington.org

Program Information

Name of program for which funds are being requested: **The Nest Healing the Home**

Total Funding Amount Requested: $ **235,000**

RFP #14-2026 PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL FORM

- **Save this PDF formatted Proposal Submittal Form to your hard drive before beginning to enter responses in it to ensure your responses are saved to the form.**
- **LIMIT RESPONSES IN TEXT BOXES TO 250 WORDS**
- **REMINDER: All proposals must be written in a clear and concise manner, as there will be no follow-up or clarifications to proposer's submittal form once the evaluation process begins.**

5.1 Program Proposal & Design

5.1.1 Needs Statement—Purpose of the Program Proposal / Problem Statement **15 Points**

Using local data, provide a description of the problem in Fayette County. Identify the specific population your program is targeting (i.e. age, geographical region, economic status, etc.) and explain why. Discuss whether this population is under-served or at-risk. Describe your understanding of the local system of services addressing this problem, obstacles and/or opportunities your clients face, and how your agency fits within this system of services.

Kentucky rates fifth in the nation for child abuse and neglect. In Fayette County, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and child abuse often coincide. In 2024, more than 17,000 Protective Orders were filed, and more than 14,000 reports of suspected child abuse involved IPV. Support immediately following a traumatic event directly impacts how well people recover. When people do not receive timely trauma-informed care, they are more likely to experience depression, anxiety, reduced school performance, social isolation, and suicidal and/or homicidal behavior. Through no-cost, accessible, wraparound services, The Nest seeks to stabilize families and reduce risk for future harm.

The Nest serves an at-risk population that is racially-diverse, young, mostly single, and impoverished. Our Adverse Childhood Experiences survey shows that 50% of clients have a score of four or higher. This is associated with increased risk for physical and mental health conditions as well as social and behavioral problems.

The local systems of service include Department of Community Based Services, schools, healthcare, and the court system. Incorporating effective community collaboration, The Nest takes a holistic approach to services, focused on reducing Adverse Childhood Experiences and increasing protective factors. We connect families with additional resources whenever possible. Some clients lack transportation or Internet access, so we offer virtual and in-person services and assistance with bus passes and ride shares. The Nest's Healing the Home program offers no-cost advocacy, counseling, education, and legal services to parents and IPV survivors with the goal of keeping children and adults safe from violence.

5.1.2 Service Delivery Model **15 Points**

What steps will you take or what activities will you provide to assist clients in achieving these goals? Describe each "unit of service" you will provide for clients and how often and how long this service will be provided (e.g. a one-time three-hour training; a weekly one-hour support group for 12 weeks; one 30-minute health exam twice a year; 1-3 hour advocacy services as needed; etc.) How will these services address the problem as identified in the Needs Statement above? Be specific.

The Nest's mission is to prevent abuse and neglect of children and adults at no-cost. Services to the community include:

1) Parenting and IPV Intakes: Individuals fill out forms online. A trained social worker reviews and recommends services, making outside referrals based on assessment (1 hour each).

2) Educational groups conducted on Zoom:
a. 6 ongoing parenting education groups, including two in Spanish (1.5 hours each class for 12 weeks, using the Nurturing Parenting curriculum).
b. 3 ongoing groups for IPV survivors, including one in Spanish (1 hour per week for 12 weeks).

3) Individual parenting education and mentorship: Weekly sessions focused on specific skill-building and practical application (1 hour per week for 3-6 weeks)

4) Individual counseling: Weekly individual sessions for IPV survivors, offered in person or on Zoom at client's discretion (1 hour per week for 12-15 weeks).

5) IPV Legal Services: IPV legal advocates attend the Fayette County Domestic Violence Docket Monday-Thursday and provide in person legal advocacy for petitioners. Our attorneys represent Fayette County survivors in their protective order, divorce, and custody cases.

These services provide community protective factors, including resource-provision, safe connection, and psychoeducation. In class, group, and individual work, parents and survivors build skills and support to increase safety for themselves and their children while processing trauma in community. Individual parenting education and mentorship proactively identifies

5.1.3 Client Eligibility and Requirements **5 Points**

What eligibility requirements must clients meet to qualify for services? What are the expectations of clients while receiving services? (e.g. client must pay $30 fee for each class; client must remain sober; client is responsible for chores; nothing other than participation in services; etc.)

IPV survivors and/or parents seeking to enhance their skills are eligible for services. Educational and clinical clients are often referred by CPS. Others are self-referred. To start services, clients complete intake forms, including a consent for treatment, release of information, and psychosocial history. The Programs Administrator reviews responses and recommends services. If the client has perpetrated child sexual abuse or IPV, they are referred to partners whose services better fit their needs. Our recommendations consist of a minimum of 12 individual or group sessions for IPV and parenting services.

Clients sign an agreement at the beginning of services regarding confidentiality, attendance, and conduct. Clients must attend consistently, be active participants, and be supportive of fellow group members. If their participation during the assessment or ongoing services violates the agreement, they may be asked to restart services or given referrals to other services better suited to their needs. Clients must attend 12 classes to successfully complete. With a new Parenting Educator & Mentor role, we hope to offer individual solution-focused coaching for specific skill-building. Goals would be established at outset with services considered complete when these goals are met.

Petitioners at the Domestic Violence docket receive information about the legal process and available resources. Survivors are eligible for attorney services if they are filing for a protective order or seeking a divorce/custody agreement from an abusive partner. Survivors sign a retainer agreeing to be truthful about their case, remain in contact with their attorney, and consult with them before settling/dismissing case.

5.1.4 Evidence-Based/Best Practice **10 Points**

Describe the evidence-based or promising practice model on which this service approach is based. Provide particular sources that indicate what you are doing is best-practice.

We utilize the Nurturing Parenting curriculum which is recognized by the Mental Health Services Administration and The California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare as proven programs for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Each session is administered under the framework of these child-rearing constructs: Appropriate Expectations of Children, Developing Empathy, Family Roles, and Power & Independence Within Family Structures.

We utilize a trauma-informed approach with survivors. Trauma informed care focuses on understanding a person in the context of their environment and experiences while prioritizing client safety and self-determination. We utilize the Safe & Together Model to make child-centered decisions. We focus on the perpetrator's pattern of coercive control, actions taken by the perpetrator to harm their children, and actions taken by the survivor to protect their children.

We utilize nationally recognized evidence-based assessment tools for IPV risk, including the Campbell Danger and Bragg Assessment. Our clinicians utilize several validated assessments, including the Clinical Outcomes in Routine Evaluation-10, the National Stressful Events Survey, and the Beck Depression Inventory. They utilize evidence-based therapeutic modalities, including Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART), Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT), and Motivational Interviewing (MI). ART is recognized by the Society of Clinical Psychology for its effectiveness in reducing PTSD symptoms. SFBT and MI are evidence-based, widely recognized interventions for increasing change motivation in mandated clients. Our Parenting Educator and Coach would utilize SFBT and MI to identify strengths and growth areas, collaboratively goal-set with client, and effect behavioral change.

5.2 Program Measures & Evaluation

5.2.1 Service Efficacy & Desired Outcomes **10 Points**

What do you hope to help your clients achieve? What are some examples of goals you will set with clients? What is your service philosophy in terms of helping your clients achieve these goals? Describe how you define "successful" completion of services. (e.g. service is complete if: client remains for entire three-hour training; client continues services until judge orders otherwise; etc.) What percentage of clients meet that criteria for success?

We aim to reduce child abuse and neglect, improve family functioning, and increase survivor safety and autonomy. Goals for the clients include increasing nurturing parenting skills, increasing stability and resources, and decreasing violence in the home. We address the needs of families experiencing economic, racial, and cultural oppressions by focusing on behaviors instead of stereotypes based on race, religion, class, or ethnicity.

Our philosophy is to collaborate and connect with survivors based on their goals. Our services are client-led. We employ a solution-focused approach that highlights survivor strength and what is going well for our clients, rather than focusing on deficits. We work toward a plan that respects the family's socio-economic and cultural situation while keeping the children safe. Our holistic approach addresses safety, healing, and stability.

We are successful when a family completes our parenting or IPV course, develops a safety plan, receives a protective order, receives a fair, safe divorce and/or custody agreement, reunites with their child and shows improved understanding of child development, develops an understanding of healthy relationship dynamics, is connected with resources, and is no longer experiencing violence, abuse, and neglect in their homes and community. Approximately 80 percent of our clients meet the criteria for success. When a client is discharged from clinical or educational services, we encourage them to restart services with no waiting period. If a survivor is denied their protective order, we safety plan and connect them with resources.

5.2.2 Client Empowerment & Community Impact **10 Points**

Describe what meaningful difference these services make in the lives of people served. What value is added to the community? Provide examples. (e.g. client demonstrates change in attitude; client has behavior change; etc.)

Nest services are holistic as we walk with families through the hardest times in their lives. For example, a husband assaults his wife in front of their children. The survivor files a protective order on behalf of herself and her children. She appears in court and her husband has a lawyer, but she cannot afford one. Child Protective Services investigates the incident to ensure the children's safety.

No-cost Nest services help stabilize the family. The Nest attorney represents the survivor to help them get a protective order. A Nest advocate attends court to support the survivor. A Nest counselor assesses the survivor, and they develop a safety plan. The survivor utilizes our childcare and family assistance services to mitigate financial burdens.

Upon return to court, her lawyer and advocate are by her side. When she wants to process trauma, a counselor is by her side. When she wants to share and build community, she attends group sessions. Our Parenting Educator and Mentor provides education and coaching on age-appropriate conversations with her children about abuse they witnessed, which reduces the likelihood that they will experience or perpetrate abuse in adulthood.

Adverse Childhood Experiences increase the chance a person will experience additional trauma in adulthood. High ACE scores also increase community costs related to substance use and mental and physical health. The Nest's services are critical community protective factors that improve safety and daily functioning for survivors and families while reducing future healthcare costs.

5.2.3 Data Assessment & Quality Improvement **10 Points**

While it doesn't have to be complicated, evaluation is more than saying "we provided this many 'units of service.'" How will you know if your services have been effective? How does this relate to the desired outcomes for your clients? How will the information gathered be used to improve your services in the future? Be specific (for example, data collection may be through focus groups, pre-and post-tests, client satisfaction surveys, etc.), and also **be specific regarding sampling size and frequency of evaluation.**

The Nest administers an evidence-based, peer-reviewed pre and post service survey for parents. This tool measures family functioning, emotional support, concrete supports, nurturing/attachment, and client-practitioner relationship. The desired outcome is for families to have improved protective factors and nurturing parenting skills at post-test. Our sample size is approximately 200 parents a year.

The Nest administers risk and trauma assessments for IPV survivors. This gives staff an understanding of how trauma is currently impacting their lives. The assessments tell us the level of risk for fatality, including whether they have been strangled by the perpetrator and if the perpetrator owns a firearm. The scores inform safety planning and referrals and guide conversations with survivors about their unique risks. Our sample size is more than 200.

Individual counseling clients complete a symptom evaluation at the beginning and end of services to measure improvement. All clients complete a client satisfaction survey at service end. The survey assesses safety, empowerment, social connectedness, and stability of the family unit. Results are reviewed by the Program Director and facilitators, and client feedback is included in discussion of changes to programming and training.

5.3 Capacity & Sustainability

5.3.1 Staff Qualifications & Experience **5 Points**

Provide information on the key/primary individuals that will be involved in the provision of services and demonstrate that they have the capacity to address the stated need. List each position by title and name of employee, if available. Describe the anticipated roles and responsibilities for each person as it relates to this project. Describe the experience, expertise, and capacity of each individual to address the proposed activities.

Program Director (Claire FitzSimmonds) received a Master of Social Work in 2022. She is a Certified Social Worker. Prior to The Nest, she was a Staff Advocate for Bluegrass Sexual Violence Resource Center. She joined The Nest in 2019 and served as Intake Coordinator, Counselor, and Clinical Program Manager before transitioning to the Director position. The Director oversees personnel, grant reporting, and evaluation of programs.

Counselors and Facilitators
Faith Campbell, Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Faith Calhoun-Louden, Certified Social Worker
Sheri Estill, Bachelor's in Business Administration
Ashley Horton, Certified Social Worker
Sadie Mathew, Licensed Professional Counselor Associate
Rayne Parker, Master of Science in Social Work
Carlos Pena, Certified School Administrator

This staff conducts intakes and provides individual and group counseling with IPV survivors and parents. Each has unique training to serve specialized populations. One is bilingual and conducts classes and counseling sessions in Spanish. All are certified in the Nurturing Parenting curriculum.

Court Advocates:
Delia Virto, Bachelor in Spanish & Family Studies
Emma Duprue, Bachelor of Science: Forensic Psychology

5.3.2 Partnership & Resource Leverage **5 Points**

How do your programs and services support our community's comprehensive response to the identified priority area of Community Wellness & Safety? Does your organization have any formal agreements or informal working relationship with other local service programs?

What role does your governing board members, volunteers, and / or donors play in facilitating viable service delivery and program administration? Does your program have any major civic benefactors or corporate sponsors? Describe other secured funding sources and committed operational resources your organization has allocated for the proposed program.

The services we offer to our community are unique, critical, and highly utilized. Our staff is trained to provide trauma informed care to IPV survivors and parents in Fayette County. In working with families in high-risk situations, practitioners need to assess the risks which may keep them in their circumstances: financial constraints, housing, stability of children's schooling, and the ability to meet basic needs. We partner with other organizations that offer shelter, hospitalization, substance use treatment, housing resources, job opportunities, and immediate financial assistance. These partners include the Department of Community Based services, Bluegrass Sexual Violence Resource Center, Kentucky Career Center, Fayette County Public Schools, Fayette County Prosecutor's Office, New Vista, Crossroads Counseling, Voices of Hope, Salvation Army, Greenhouse17, Jubilee Jobs, Lexington Rescue mission, Fayette County Sheriff Department, Athena Women's Health, Key Assets, and LFUCG's Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition. Collaboration with these partners happens on a daily basis.

Each board member plays an active role in advising and providing support for our programming. Our board includes therapists, attorneys, marketing professionals, CPAs, financial strategy experts, and more. Our volunteers help us to keep administrative costs low, and donors provide tangible resources for our families.

5.3.3 Outreach & Inclusion Strategy **15 Points**

Demonstrate how the program will ensure services are available and accessible by all potential participants, and specifically to persons with limited English proficiency (including a language access plan); persons with physical or other disabilities; and persons impacted by poverty and economic distress.

Has your organization enacted any policies (or does your organization employ any standard operating procedures) to ensure that no person is excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of program services on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or other protected status? How does your proposal support or enhance the objective of equal opportunity in the provision of program services?

The Nest is centrally located in downtown Lexington in the 40508 zip code, where many are impac

Our organization approaches all clients from a trauma-informed, person-in-environment lens. Opp

The Nest has created and disseminated a robust Language Access Plan, which requires every persc

6.0 Program Budget Summary Form Instructions

Proposal Submittal shall be considered incomplete and shall be rejected without completed Budget Summary Form. *(Including total amount of ESR grant request for the first year of the cycle, Fiscal Year 2027.)*

For organizations requesting funding for more than one program in this RFP, combine into a single Program Budget narrative for the proposal.

Please note that the Program Budget will be part of the grantee agreement with LFUCG and regular tracking and expenditure reporting will be required.

To ensure readability and uniformity, please use the Program Budget form included. Provide brief line-item detail as specified in each section below and verify all calculations.

This section provides a summary of the total proposed Program Budget for FY 2027. It requests the allocation of all projected funding amounts (City and non-City sources) for anticipated FY 2027 program expenditures. The allocation for FY 2028 shall be the same as FY 2027.

Total Program Budget

Column A should reflect projected expenditures for the entire program (not just the proposed LFUCG ESR grant funding request portion). When the chart is completed this column should equal ESR Grant Funding Request plus other/non-ESR program funding. (A=B+C)

ESR Grant Funding Request

Column B is the grant amount being requested from this RFP to support this program's services to eligible Fayette County Participants.

Non-LFUCG Program Funding

Column C is the non-LFUCG ESR funding that is allocated to the Total Program Budget (A-B = C).

This form is for the budget for the PROGRAM applying for ESR funds, not the total agency budget.

For each category identify the amount requested and the amount to be leveraged through other programs or organizations (if applicable).

Staff Salaries – Identify the number of Full-time position salaries allocated to the program, and part-time positions allocated to the program, and the amounts of each allocated to Columns A, B, & C.

Consultant Services – In the "List Details" box, **briefly** describe any expenses associated with providing expanded supportive services or other services for which the organization intends to contract with another entity. Any of these expenses to be provided by the proposing organization should be included in other line items.

Space/Facilities – In the "List Details" box, **briefly** list the basis of the allocation of rental costs, utilities, janitorial costs, and any other facility costs for the Program. Identify any office or program space in an LFUCG owned building, and any other costs (rent, monthly utilities, etc.) reimbursed to LFUCG.

Scholarships/Stipends – In the "List Details" box, **briefly** list the type of scholarships or stipends, and include the number of people or organizations to receive funds.

Operating Expenses – In the "List Details" box, **briefly** list the costs associated with expenses, supplies, utilities, and any other expense associated directly with the operation of the project.

Other – In the "List Details" box, **briefly** list any other costs for the Program not covered above.

PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget for Year One (FY2027) of Cycle; Budget for Year Two (FY2028) to be the same

Agency Name **The Nest - Center for Women, Children, and Families**

Program Name **The Nest Healing The Home**

FY2027 (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027) Total Program Budget

Only fill columns B &C; they will automatically sum in Column A

	# of Employees:	Column A Total Program Budget [= B+C]	Column B ESR Grant Funding Request	Column C Non-ESR Program Funding [A-B]
1. Staff Salaries for Program				
Full-Time (FTE)	9	516,411	206524	309887
Part-Time	2	32001	13476	18525
Total Salaries		548410	220000	328,412
3. Consultant Services		$ 0	0	0
list details	N/A			
4. Space/Facilities		$ 28,733	0	28,733
list details	Occupancy: Gas, Electric, Water, Telephone, Internet: $25,288.00. Office Equipment $3,445.00. Rent: $0			
5. Operating Expenses		$ 43,750	15,000.00	28,750.00
list details	Program Supplies: $6,250. Insurance, Professional Fees, License & Permits: $25,000. Training and Development $12,500			
6. Scholarships / Stipends		$ 0	0	0
list details - numbers & amounts	N/A			
7. Other		$ 166,051	0	166,051
list details	Fringe benefits and Payroll Taxes: $166,051			
8. TOTAL FY27 PROGRAM BUDGET		$ 786,946	235,000	551,946

Cost per Program Participant: $605.00

Brief detail on Cost per Participant:

Total budget divided by number of Fayette County participants, 1300

I understand that this document in its entirety is incorporated into my grant Agreement with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

Authorized Representative *(typed name)*: Jeffrey A White

Title: Executive Director **Date**: 4/29/26