



January 18, 2022

Request for Proposal

Four Bands Community Fund, Inc. is requesting proposals for the role of Regional Competitiveness Officer from consulting firms that possess the ability to perform successfully under the conditions outlined in “Services to be performed” below. We invite your firm to submit a proposal for the fulfillment of this role to assist Four Bands in the preparation of their application for phase 2 of the EDA Build Back Better grant. Please submit your proposal to us by Tuesday, January 25th, 2022 for consideration. A description of our organizations, the services needed, and other pertinent information follows:

Background of the Organization

Since its establishment in 2000, Four Bands Community Fund has been working to improve the economic landscape and the quality of life for residents on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation and, more recently, throughout the state of South Dakota. Self-sufficiency, wise resource management, and a spirit of entrepreneurship have always been traditional Lakota values. Four Bands offers a range of products and services to help Native American people and communities grow these values and adapt them to today’s modern economy. Our programs and services are designed to empower our community members to achieve prosperity, whether it is through developing a new business or increasing personal financial skills.

As a nonprofit organization and certified Native community development financial institution (CDFI), Four Bands continuously strives to achieve our mission of creating economic opportunity by helping people build strong and sustainable small businesses and increase their financial capability. Our hope is that by investing in our people and serving as an access point to financial resources we will break the cycle of poverty.

For more information on the Build Back Better Regional Challenge and Four Bands’ proposal: <https://eda.gov/news/press-releases/2021/12/13/build-back-better-regional-challenge-finalists.htm>

Services to be performed

Your proposal is expected to cover the following services:

- The Consultant shall provide central coordination for new and existing resources on behalf of regional competitiveness
- The Consultant shall convene leaders
- The Consultant shall convene public, private, academic, and civic leaders around bottom-up competitiveness
- The Consultant shall establish a coordinated line of communication between regional growth clusters

412 S Main Street, Box 932, Eagle Butte, SD 57625

p: 605-964-3687 f: 605-964-3689 www.fourbands.org

Four Bands Community Fund is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



- The Consultant shall ensure TA awards are absorbed effectively within communities

Timeframe

The Organization is anticipating the following timeframe for the services to be provided: 2 years

Proposal Content

In order to simplify the evaluation process and obtain maximum comparability, The Organization requires that all responses to the RFP address the following information below:

1. Detail your firm's experience in program design and implementation.
2. Discuss your firm's independence with respect to Four Bands Community Fund.
3. Identify the partners, managers, and in-charge staff who will be assigned to our job if you are successful in your bid. Provide their bios specifying relevant experience to the type of services requested.
4. Please provide a firm estimate of fees for the services to be provided.
5. Include a list of relevant not for profit clients that your firm has served within the past three years and please provide the names and telephone numbers of any references whom we may contact.

Evaluation of Proposals

The Organization must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources. As Four Bands prioritizes relationship centered strategies, successful candidates will have established relationships in our region, with Native CDFIs in the Coalition, and with strategic partners who will be a part of our regional initiative.

Key Contacts

Following are key contacts for information you may seek in preparing your proposal:

Lakota Vogel, Executive Director, 605-964-3687, lakota@fourbands.org

Please submit your proposal by 5:00 PM (MT) January 25th, 2022 to lakota@fourbands.org. We also appreciate a response if you decline to submit a proposal.

Respectfully,

Lakota Vogel
Executive Director

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