

**KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**Kenaitze's Yusdich' qich'ul (There is firelight)**  
**Project Evaluator**  
Issued: May 4, 2022

**1. Overview**

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe (Tribe) seeking an independent evaluator to consult and collaborate on the Kenaitze's Yusdich' qich'ul (There is firelight) Project. (KYAA) The third-party evaluation team will have a history of culturally responsive, inclusionary evaluations involving Alaska Native children and families in support of project outcomes. The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to solicit responses from competent and experienced vendors that are capable of providing the services as specified herein in a prompt, cost effective, and efficient manner.

**2. Inquiries**

Questions regarding this RFP must be directed in writing to Tami Murray Procurement Manager, (907) 335-7213 or by email at [tmurray@kenaitze.org](mailto:tmurray@kenaitze.org). All emails must identify the RFP title in the subject line, include the contact information for the person submitting the question, and indicate any relevant RFP section number. **All questions must be submitted using this format and must be received no later than 5:00pm Alaska Daylight Time (AKDT), 5/18/2022.**

The Tribe will review the submitted questions and respond to all inquiries in writing by replying via email to all inquirers and interested vendors at one time. The email will provide every question received and each accompanying response. This will ensure all potential vendors receive the same information.

**3. Background Information**

The Tribe is a federally recognized tribal government, re-organized in 1971 under the statutes of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended for Alaska in 1936. The Tribe serves over 5,000 community members, Alaska Natives, and American Indians in the central and upper Kenai Peninsula. The Tribe's Headquarters is located at 150 N Willow Kenai, Alaska 99611.

**4. Proposal Submission Requirements**

All vendors interested in submitting a proposal in response to this RFP must adhere to the following requirements. Failure to do so may result in the Tribe deeming the proposal to be non-responsive and therefore not eligible for consideration.

#### 4.1 Proposal Submittal Items

Vendors must only submit one proposal, follow the format outlined below, and clearly identify each of the following four criteria within the submittal.

- a) **Cover Letter** – submit a cover letter on company letterhead that is no more than 1 page and includes the following:
  - a. The company’s legal name and contact information
  - b. An overview of the company’s qualifications and experience relevant to the scope of work defined herein
  - c. The identity and qualifications of the person(s) whom will be assigned to the job should the vendor be chosen
    - i. The letter must be signed by an authorized company representative, and include that person’s contact information.
- b) **Scope of Work** – submit a written, detailed description of how each subsection within section 5 Scope of Work will be accomplished. Please refrain from using marketing information in this part of the proposal submittal.
- c) **Deliverables** – if necessary and/or required, submit a schedule of all deliverables and milestones/due dates.
- d) **Price** – submit a written price proposal to provide the service(s) as specified herein, using the format set forth in subsection 7.1 Proposal Price. The proposed price must include all of the vendor’s costs associated with providing the good(s) or service(s) as called for within this RFP and including, but not limited to, wages, administrative overhead, travel, transportation, lodging, and other similar costs unless stated otherwise. No other costs will be considered for payment.

All proposals will become the property of the Tribe and may be returned only at the option of the Tribe. Any information marked as proprietary or confidential will be held in confidence to the greatest extent possible.

#### 4.2 Proposal Submission Deadline

To be considered, a complete proposal package must be received by the Tribe by the deadline via either of the following methods:

- a) Hand delivered or mailed to: Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
Attention: Tami Murray  
Procurement Manager  
150 N. Willow St.  
Kenai, Alaska 99611
- b) Electronically transmitted to: [tmurray@kenaitze.org](mailto:tmurray@kenaitze.org)

**The deadline for submission is 5:00pm Alaska Time, May 20, 2022.** Any proposals received after the deadline may not be accepted. Proposals sent via email should be sent in a single PDF document format, with the RFP title noted in the subject line.

#### **4.3 Proposal Preparation Cost**

The Tribe shall not be responsible for any costs associated with preparing and/or submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, in any manner or for any reason.

#### **4.4 Proposal Validity**

A vendor's price proposal will remain valid for 45 calendar days from the RFP submission deadline or until an award is made to the successful vendor, whichever is sooner. No price proposal will be accepted if marked "price prevailing at time of delivery", "estimated price", or something similar. All price proposals must be in US dollars.

#### **4.5 Sovereign Immunity**

The Tribe is reluctant to sign any contract or agreement that specifically asks or implies a waiver of sovereign immunity. If presented with a contract or agreement that contains or implies a waiver, the Tribe will likely ask that the following be included prior to consideration:

*"SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: Kenaitze is a federally-recognized Indian tribe and, as such, possesses sovereign immunity from suit. By entering into this Agreement, the Tribe does not intend to waive its sovereign immunity and does not do so. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Tribe."*

### **5. Scope of Work**

The Tribe is seeking a vendor to provide independent evaluation of Kenaitze's Yusdich'qich'ul (there is firelight) ARP-AIRE project.

- The focus will be on a qualitative evaluation of youth and family culturally responsive connectedness framework factors, family connectedness and other outcomes prior to, during, and post-program exit and will use current connectedness as a baseline.
- Evaluators will analyze the results of the connectedness survey. Methods of evaluation will be process-based, goal based, and outcome based. Data will be collected weekly, monthly and quarterly as appropriate to the type of data and project activities, and will be verified through quarterly meetings with KYAA project director.
- Evaluator will help develop instruments and protocols for collecting data for the project, including qualitative and quantitative survey tools to provide

both formative and summative information. All data will be collected at baseline (program year one); during (program years two, three, and post-program (year three).

- Results collected through the independent evaluation will be used to monitor program progress towards objectives, and discussed with KYAA staff.
- Evaluator will work with KYAA staff to discuss outcomes and continuous project improvement.
- Evaluator will work closely with KYAA staff in the development of the culturally responsive “resource guide” that will become a living reference document that will support Kenaitze and KPBSD practices beyond the performance period.
- Evaluator will support KYAA staff in the program final reporting.

## **6. General Requirements**

### **6.1 Term of Service**

The agreement resulting from this RFP shall be effective from the date of execution of the agreement through the completion of services. In no event shall services under the agreement extend beyond 12/31/2024. In the event the work is not completed within this timeframe, the Tribe, in its sole opinion, may determine the vendor to be in breach of the terms of the agreement.

### **6.2 RFP Modification**

The Tribe reserves the right to:

- a) Modify or otherwise alter any or all of the requirements herein. In the event of a modification, vendors will be given an equal opportunity to modify their proposals as identified in writing by the Tribe.
- b) Reject any proposal not adhering to the requirements set forth within this RFP, either in whole or in part.
- c) Reject any or all proposals received.
- d) Terminate this RFP at any time, without reason.

### **6.3 Order of Precedence in the Event of a Conflict**

If an agreement is awarded, all terms and conditions herein shall be incorporated into the award along with the vendor’s proposal. Any change to the agreement

must be through a written amendment agreed upon by both Parties. In the event of a conflict between the RFP and the vendor's proposal, the more stringent language shall apply.

#### **6.4 Subcontracting**

The vendor must disclose to the Tribe the use and identity of all subcontractors it uses in carrying out the requirements herein. The Tribe reserves the right to approve all subcontractors if it so chooses. The vendor is solely responsible for the satisfactory performance of and compensation to any and all subcontractors.

#### **6.5 Insurance**

The vendor shall have, maintain, and provide proof of Commercial General Liability Insurance and Workman's Compensation Insurance, in addition to any applicable insurance required by the State of Alaska or the vendor's primary state of location. The vendor must provide the Tribe with proof of the insurance required herein. The vendor shall be financially responsible for all deductibles, costs, and self-insured retention's and/or self-insurance required herein.

The Tribe is a sovereign nation, and as such the vendor waives all rights against the Tribe and its officers, employees, and agents for recovery of damages to the extent these damages are covered by the required policies.

#### **6.6 Indemnification**

Except in the case of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the Tribe, the vendor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Tribe, and the Tribe's officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all liability, claims, damages, losses, expenses, actions, attorney fees and costs and lawsuits whatsoever (including without limitation all claims involving damage to real or personal property, civil rights claims, or claims of infringement of a patent, copyright, trade secret or trademark) caused by or arising out of the performance, acts, or omissions under this RFP by the vendor or any of its officers, agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors or arising from or related to a failure to comply with the requirements herein, and/or applicable state or federal statute, law, regulation, or rule.

Nothing in this RFP is a waiver of sovereign immunity.

### **7. Price and Payment**

#### **7.1 Proposal Price**

The vendor must submit a written price proposal to provide the good(s) or service(s) as specified herein. The proposed price must include all of the vendor's costs associated with providing the good(s) or service(s) as called for within this RFP and including, but not limited to, wages, administrative overhead, travel, transportation, lodging, and other similar costs unless stated otherwise. No other costs will be considered for payment.

## **7.2 Payment**

The vendor shall be paid for actual work completed in accordance with the requirements herein and the accepted price proposal. The total amount to be paid to the vendor shall not exceed the vendor's quoted amount, unless otherwise specifically agreed to in advance with supporting justification and in writing by both parties.

Payment to the vendor is contingent on the vendor delivering a bill or invoice to the Tribe on a monthly basis. The Tribe retains the right to require additional documentation to support the submitted invoice. The Tribe will provide payment to the vendor within 30 calendar days of acceptance of the invoice.

The vendor shall provide the following information with each monthly invoice:

- Identification of billing period;
- A statement describing the actual work completed with sufficient detail to reconcile the charges against the work performed and/or work product received by the Tribe;
- Total amount of hours multiplied by the rate billed for the billing period;
- Total cost billed for the billing period;
- Date invoice was submitted;
- Entity name and contact information; and
- Name of authorized person originating or submitting the billing for the entity.

## **8. Evaluation and Selection**

Proposals will be evaluated by staff based upon the responsiveness to the submission requirements described in Section 4, and/or the following point system, and/or any other manner deemed appropriate by the Tribe to determine the proposal most advantageous to the Tribe.

### **Point System:**

#### ***Capability and Experience (20 points)***

Provide a summary of the proposed project team, identifying the primary point of contact for the Tribe throughout the project and relevant experiences for the identified individual. List all subcontractors that will play a key role in the project and describe their relevant experiences.

#### ***Work Plan (20 points)***

Provide a detailed work plan that outlines the timeline for all phases of the project, including, but not limited to, the starting date and other milestones/deadlines for each phase.

#### ***Proposal and Professionalism (10 points)***

Provide a comprehensive and professional proposal with all key elements as stated herein.

***Value Proposal (50 points)***

The Tribe will award these points based on the vendor's quoted price.

***AN/AI Member (5 points) or Tribe Member (10 points) Preference***

Provide proof of AN/AI membership or Tribal membership for the vendor's owner to receive preference. In order to be considered for preference, proof of membership and at least 51% ownership must be submitted with the proposal.

The Tribe reserves the right to waive informalities and minor inaccuracies and reject any and/or all proposals which it deems to be not in the best interests of the Tribe and to proceed with the next proposer or to utilize an entirely different process at any time during the process.

The End