

RFQ Response Form

RFQ for Participation in a University/Government Research Partnership

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: Daniel Shaw, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Psychology, Director of Center for Parents and Children and Pitt Parents and Children Laboratory, Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh

Authorized Representative Name & Title: Same as above: Daniel Shaw

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Website: www.cpc.edu

Partners included in this Application: Staff of the Center for Parents and Children (e.g., Anne Gill, Ph.D., our clinical/prevention arm) and Pitt Parents and Children Laboratory (our research arm).

How did you hear about this RFQ? Received an email about this opportunity

REFERENCES

Provide the name, affiliation and contact information [include email address and telephone number] for three references who are able to address relevant experience with your organization.

Please do not use employees of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services as references.

Julie Fiez, Chair

Department of Psychology

[Redacted contact information for Julie Fiez]

Kathleen Blee, Ph.D.

Dean, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences

University of Pittsburgh

[Redacted contact information for Kathleen Blee]

Deborah Bogen, M.D.

Associate Professor of Pediatrics

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Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh



CERTIFICATION

Please check the following before submitting your Proposal, as applicable:

By submitting this proposal, I certify and represent to the County that all submitted materials are true and accurate, and that I have not offered, conferred or agreed to confer any pecuniary benefit or other thing of value for the receipt of special treatment, advantaged information, recipient's decision, opinion, recommendation, vote or any other exercise of discretion concerning this RFP.

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REQUIREMENTS

Please respond to the following. The maximum score a Proposal can receive is 75 points. Your response to this section should not exceed 10 pages.

Background (30 points)

1. Describe your experience and/or interest in conducting research on topics related to improving local government/social services.

As an applied researcher at the University of Pittsburgh since 1988, I have devoted my professional career initially to uncovering the early childhood precursors of antisocial behavior in low-income children living in Allegheny County and other jurisdictions in the US and abroad, and then developing and applying family-based intervention methods in early childhood with at-risk families to prevent the onset of early-emerging problem behaviors. During this time, I have received more than \$50 million dollars in Federal funding to support this basic and applied research and published approximately 300 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Importantly, nearly all of this research has been conducted with cohorts of low-income children living in Allegheny County, recruiting several of these cohorts through WIC and primary care centers serving low-income families in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area.

My commitment to conducting socially meaningful research has been further buttressed in the past year by having the University of Pittsburgh grant me a center for implementing evidence-based intervention strategies in the Pittsburgh community, working with agencies serving low-income families. During the past year, through DHS and OCDEL, we submitted and received one contract to implement the Family Check-Up at 7 Family Support Centers and recently applied for a similar grant with DHD to use the Family Check-Up and a universal intervention (Video Interaction Project) to serve mothers with newborns recovering from opiate addiction. Unfortunately, this latter application was not funded, but we are hopeful it might find an alternative home this fall through a state-funded program sponsored by OCDEL. In addition, using seed funds from our Center for Parents and Children, we are testing the utility of these interventions with families being served by Head Start (AIU), Early Head Start (Office of Child Development), and opiate-addicted women birthing their children at Magee Women's Hospital. While these are service-based implementations, we remain committed to conducting systematic evaluations of their effectiveness in the future, and other projects DHS might be interested in pursuing.

Infrastructure (45 points)

2. Describe the specific resources (academic/administrative staffing, materials, etc.) that will be dedicated to this project.

As Director of the Center for Parents and Children (clinical arm) and the Pitt Parents and Children's Laboratory (research arm) within the Dept. of Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, my staff includes approximately 32-35 individuals (including 12-13 undergraduates) dedicated to clinical research. These include post-doctoral fellows, 5 doctoral students in clinical and developmental psychology, 3 project coordinators capable of directing research projects,

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and several clinicians skilled in using the Family Check-Up and/or Video Interaction Project. Depending on the scope of the project, several of these skilled researchers would be able to dedicate effort to a study's success.

3. Describe the governance structure within your organization that will support this project, integrating other faculty, students, etc.

Although graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, project coordinators, and research assistants always can express their willingness/interest to work on specific projects in my lab, most studies that I am interested in are met with strong enthusiasm by my staff. Thus, while I "call the shots" as to whether specific staff get involved in a project, the norm is for most staff to be rather enthusiastic about their involvement, particularly those project that have real world meaning.

4. Describe activities, such as internships and fellowships, that will support this project.

Depending on the scope of the project, it's possible that both graduate and undergraduate students might have interest in participating. Undergraduate students get credit for participating in our directed research program, which typically includes data collection at family's homes and/or our lab. Graduate students are supported by Pitt-based or national fellowships, or for working on an NIH-funded grants. As such, the amount of time they could dedicate to a project would depend on their own source of funding and/or funding that could be provided by DHS for the project.