California Bridge Request for Proposals

Analysis of Bridge Clinic Financial Sustainability

The California Bridge Program (CA Bridge) is a program of the Public Health Institute launched in 2018 that aims to achieve 24/7 high-quality care for people with substance use disorder in every California hospital by 2025. Our intermediate goal is that every hospital with an emergency room will offer medication for addiction treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder by 2023. Our model for MAT in acute care settings includes rapid, same-day treatment from emergency and in-patient departments; in-person linkage to on-going care; hospital culture that welcomes people who use drugs; and active community outreach.

CA Bridge activities include:

- Training and technical assistance to a cohort of 52 hospitals funded through the State’s MAT Expansion Project.
- Development of tools and outreach materials for the 268 additional hospitals with emergency departments.
- Evaluation and monitoring to demonstrate results from the California Bridge model.
- Policy development to make the CA Bridge model for MAT sustainable in acute care hospitals.

CA Bridge is seeking a consultant to advance its efforts to improve the sustainability of its model for MAT in acute care settings through changes in practice and policy. The specific focus of this project is on the financial model and sustainability of Bridge Clinics. Bridge Clinics are outpatient treatment services run by the hospital and embedded within the building or nearby facility. They have been established by approximately six to eight hospitals as a way of providing access to outpatient SUD care so that patients who start care in the emergency department can obtain follow up care without interruption. There are clear benefits to this model from a clinical standpoint, but it is not clear whether it is financially viable. We are seeking to determine whether we should be promoting this model to other hospitals. We would like a consultant to address the following questions:

- What were the circumstances or motivations that led to the establishment of the current Bridge Clinics?
- What is the reimbursement and financing model of different Bridge Clinics?
- Do they appear to be financially sustainable independent of time limited grants?
- What factors related to the hospital, patient population, county Medi-Cal or SUD managed care, or community treatment landscape have an impact on the financial viability of the Bridge Clinic model?

The funds available for this project are $50,000. The final deliverable is a report, for internal CA Bridge use only, providing answers to the above questions and recommendations on whether, or under what circumstances, CA Bridge should invest in promoting the Bridge Clinic model throughout the state. We would like this work to be completed by July, 2020.
To respond to this RFP, please provide:

- A description of your/your firm’s qualifications.
- A proposed set of activities that you would lead to answer the questions outlined above.
- One or more written products that reflect analysis of financing or policy options similar to the analysis we are seeking.

Please address questions and proposals to Serena Clayton at serena@bridgetotreatment.org or 510-388-3178 by February 28, 2020.