

**City of Racine**  
**Official Notice #6-2025**  
**Request for Proposal (RFP)**  
**Community Violence Prevention Providers**



The undersigned hereby proposes to furnish all labor, tools, equipment and all materials, except as definitely specified to be furnished by others, ready for use, all in accordance with these specifications, all as attached hereto and all of which the undersigned has examined, the following work for the compensation indicated.

Firm: Fight to End Exploitation, In.

Name: Karri Hemmig

Address: PO Box 85687

City, State, Zip: Racine, WI 53408

Phone: 262 909-6612

Email: karri@fighttoendexploitation.org

## 2. General Questions

Have you performed any work for the City of Racine in the past? YES NO

Are you able to perform work for the State of Wisconsin? YES NO

Are you part of any of these program(s)

Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) YES NO

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) YES NO

Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) YES NO

Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) YES NO

### Cooperative Purchasing

Would you be willing to extend the pricing from any contract that may result from this bid to other V.A.L.U.E./WAPP members of local government entities in the Wisconsin area? YES NO

### 3. References

As a part of properly completing the bid, provide the names, addresses, phone numbers and contact persons for a minimum of two companies or municipalities for which the bidder has satisfactorily performed related work within the past five (5) years.

Company Name: Racine Community Foundation

Address: 1135 Warwick Way, Racine, WI 53403

Contact Person: Liz Powell

Phone Number: 262 632-8474

E-mail: [liz.powell@racinecommunityfoundation.org](mailto:liz.powell@racinecommunityfoundation.org)

Company Name: United Way of Racine County

Address: 2000 Domanik Dr., Racine, WI 53404

Contact Person: Jessica Safransky-Schacht

Phone Number: 262 898-2240

E-mail: [jsafransky@unitedwayracine.org](mailto:jsafransky@unitedwayracine.org)

## 4. Proposal

### Compliance to the Scope of Work

#### Criteria

##### **A. Public Health-oriented understanding of community safety.**

Fight to End Exploitation (FEE) proposes a youth-focused human trafficking prevention initiative to create better access to community resources for at-risk youth, their families, caregivers, and the professionals working with them. FEE takes a public health-oriented understanding of at-risk youth who are vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking by recognizing the complex interplay of individual, social, economic, and environmental factors that contribute to their vulnerability. This perspective emphasizes prevention, early intervention, and a multidisciplinary approach to address the root causes and mitigate the risk factors.

- Advocacy serves *those individuals at the highest risk of experiencing community and interpersonal violence.*

Caregivers and at-risk youth will benefit from a strengthened support system provided by advocacy, empowering them to navigate the challenges associated with chronic runaway situations more effectively, resulting in more informed choices and access to the necessary support, and the avoidance of violence.

- Through trained subject matter and lived experience experts, proposed services are *informed by and respond to the impact of trauma on individuals and the broader community in historically underinvested communities.*

Through outreach, advocacy, and training FEE will mitigate and reduce trauma for all community members with a focus on at-risk youth.

- The proposed resources *promote healing and resiliency in residents and neighborhoods impacted by violence.*

Advocates provide early intervention. Identifying and supporting at-risk youth prevents them from becoming victims of sexual exploitation, which is often linked to broader patterns of violence.

Advocates provide support networks for at-risk youth and their families, fostering community and belonging, crucial for mental and emotional resilience.

- Accessible community training ***promotes community ownership of safety outcomes in residents and neighborhoods.***

FEE provides a free tailored curriculum for community members and professionals through subject matter expert-developed modules, as well as critically needed technology such as computers.

- Outreach connects youth to ***safe and healthy activities for youth who may be at risk for criminal or violent behavior.***

To connect at-risk youth to safe and healthy activities, reducing the likelihood of criminal or violent behavior, we plan to:

- Create engaging and informative materials tailored to teens, highlighting the benefits of participating in positive activities.
- Utilize community events such as the Lake FX Games, school district functions, local churches, community center programs, and city-wide events like National Night Out to distribute outreach materials and connect with youth.

## **B. Community Safety Priorities**

- The focuses of this proposal are **Adverse Childhood Experiences and Youth Violence.**

FEE acknowledges that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and youth violence are critical factors contributing to vulnerability to exploitation and human trafficking. By adopting a public health-oriented perspective, we recognize the complex interplay of individual, social, economic, and environmental factors that heighten these risks.

- This proposal also explores the **disproportionate impact of violence on some groups and communities.**

An FBI study found that 57.5% of all juvenile prostitution arrests involve Black children. For teens, particularly those from marginalized groups like children of color and LGBTQ+ youth, access to critical services is even more limited. Intersecting factors such as low socioeconomic status, involvement in child welfare, detachment from education, criminal justice involvement, and histories of physical and sexual abuse disproportionately affect Black women and children.

- The At-Risk Youth Advocacy Initiative will also create **partnerships that improve community safety and wellbeing through preventative strategies.**

The At-Risk Youth Advocacy Initiative aims to create partnerships that enhance community safety and well-being through preventative strategies. FEE follows best practices in prioritizing collaboration to combat human trafficking.

- Through advocacy partnerships, the project aims to **Contribute to a diverse, community of practice that shares tools, training, and technical assistance as well as experience related to the collective impact and sustainability of a statewide approach to improved well-being using a public health approach to violence prevention.**
- Equip organizations with the necessary tools and training to effectively support at-risk youth.
- Through strong partnerships, FEE will educate professionals to enhance service delivery.
- Offering technical assistance to help find effective programs, services, and resources.
- Utilize a public health model for violence prevention, addressing root causes, and promoting early intervention.

## **Qualifications and Experience**

To date, FEE has worked with 550 victims of labor and sex trafficking in southeastern Wisconsin, trained over 25,000 people, and launched awareness campaigns reaching 1.7 million travelers through Wisconsin.

The Fight to End Board of Directors and staff have more than 250 collective years of experience working with this population. Most are local professionals in their areas of expertise: Sexual Assault

Nurse examiners, law enforcement officers, CPS workers, lived experience experts, shelter directors, etc. They are motivated by their lifelong career choices to care for and assist underprivileged individuals and are noted leaders in their professions. FEE relies on volunteer leaders who are passionate about eradicating human trafficking and have dedicated a portion of their lives and careers to understanding the complexities that surround this crime. Without these volunteers, FEE could not exist. This includes staff as well as outside partnerships.

Multidisciplinary partners include:

- Healthcare Providers: Training healthcare providers to recognize signs of trafficking and provide appropriate care and referrals.
- Law Enforcement and Legal Systems: Collaborating with law enforcement to ensure that responses to trafficking are victim-centered and that traffickers are held accountable.
- Social Services: Coordinating with social services to provide comprehensive support, including housing, counseling, and job training.
- Education Systems: Schools play a crucial role in identifying at-risk youth and providing support through counselors and specialized programs.

From partnerships established during the Runaway/Missing Child 2023 Task Force, FEE now collaborates with over 25 agencies, including new alliances with Voices of Black Mothers United, Safe & Sound, Urban-Rural Network, Restoration Ministries, Racine Public Library, LGBT Center of Southeastern Wisconsin, Child's Advocacy Center, and Faith, Hope & Love.

### **Respondent Approach to Providing Services**

FEE has provided direct advocacy support to approximately 50 survivors of sex trafficking per year over the last ten years. Annually, FEE provides indirect assistance to additional victims through consultation with 100 other service providers throughout each year. Two FTE staff members, and three volunteer experts comprise the team. With this funding, FEE will be able to provide additional hours to the part-time staff member when needed and contract out additional advocate support from survivor

leaders and other professionals FEE works with outside the organization.

Advocacy services address the following issues:

**Prevention:** Address the root causes of vulnerability by providing educational programs, support services, and community resources that can prevent ACEs and youth violence before they occur.

**Early Intervention:** A multi-disciplinary team identifies at-risk youth early allowing for targeted support and mitigating the impact of ACEs and reducing the likelihood of youth violence and subsequent

exploitation. **Multidisciplinary Approach:** Collaborate with healthcare providers, social services, law enforcement, and educational institutions to create a comprehensive support network for at-risk youth.

**Resource Accessibility:** Improve access to create a safety net for at-risk youth and their families by ensuring both digital and physical resources are available to everyone with an additional focus on

ensuring equitable access to marginalized community members. **Community Engagement:** Work closely with community members, leaders, and organizations to foster a supportive environment that

promotes the well-being and safety of all youth. FEE will continue to create new partnerships and maintain those already established.

### **Respondent Description of How Funds Will Be Budgeted For Use**

Fight to End Exploitation respectfully requests grant funds in the amount of \$45,200 to support our youth advocacy and chronic runaway program. \$24,000 of these funds will support a portion of the Program Director's salary to provide direct services to youth and coordinate the program. \$7,200 will cover hourly wages for the Project manager who will provide technical support and promote the program and develop materials. We are requesting \$5,000 in funds to cover technology needs. \$3,000 of the requested funds will be used for training materials and supplies. FEE will offer training to law enforcement, schools, and other organizations involved with chronic runaways and trafficked youth. The remaining \$6,000 will be used for outreach supplies and for printing resource materials.

### **Budget Proposal – Separate Document**



## **Prior Experience and Familiarity of Required Services**

Since its inception 10 years ago, Fight to End Exploitation has received foundation and grant assistance to fulfill our mission. Formerly known as Racine Coalition Against Human Trafficking, RCAHT became a 501(c)(3) in 2015 and grew with the support of an initial \$25,000 operations support grant from Racine Community Foundation. Since then, FEE has provided services under the Racine Dominican Mission Fund, United Way of Racine County, Racine Community Foundation, and local corporate funders and met all deadlines and requirements.

If this proposal is awarded funding, FEE acknowledges its duties and commitments. FEE will execute and administer the programming, submit monthly progress and financial reports, and adhere to all WCSF requirements. Funding will allow FEE to continue to develop and provide focus assistance to teens in Racine County who need additional support.

## **Knowledge of the City of Racine**

FEE works with all local shelters and partners closely with **SAFE Haven of Racine, Bethany Apartments, Women's Resource Center, and HALO**. FEE has trained in most of the **Racine Unified School District's** middle and high schools and collaborated on many programs. Our advocacy teams include an LGBTQ advocate through the **LGBT Center of Southeastern Wisconsin**, as well as one from the **Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility**.

FEE works closely with SANE nurses from Ascension Hospitals of Wisconsin, experts at the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, BeLEAF Survivors/Sexual Assault Services, and Children's Advocacy Center in Racine County.

# BIDDER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that all statements herein are made in behalf of:

Fight to End Exploitation, Inc.

Name of Corporation, Partnership or Person submitting bid

a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of: Wisconsin

a partnership consisting of: \_\_\_\_\_

an individual trading as: \_\_\_\_\_

of the City of Racine State of Wisconsin

that I have examined and carefully prepared this proposal from the  
plans and specifications and have checked the same in detail before

submitting this proposal; that I have full authority to make such statements

and submit this proposal in its (their) behalf, and that said statements are true and correct

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

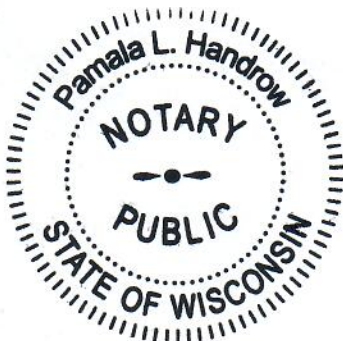
Sworn and subscribed to before me

this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

Pamala L Handrow

(Notary or other officer authorized to administer oaths)

SEAL:



My commission expires

permanently