



Ottawa County Department of Job & Family Services
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(Located in the Ottawa County Resource Centre)

Ottawa County Help Me Grow RFP Questions and Answers
 May 6, 2009

The following questions were given to the Ottawa County Department of Job and Family Services at the Bidder Conference on May 6, 2009 or were emailed to Connie Cornett by May 8, 2009. All Question/Answers will be sent to any Bidder who registered to receive a Request for Proposals packet.

Present at the Bidder Conference: Stephanie Kowal (OCDJFS/ FCFC Administrative Agent), Kelly Preston (WSOS-CAC), Emily Fausnaugh (OCDJFS/ FCFC Administrative Agent), Connie Cornett (OCDJFS/ FCFC Administrative Agent)

Question:	What are the most current allocation projections for the Help Me Grow program, and how much of that is stimulus money from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act?
Answer:	A new allocation table was provided (See ATTACHMENT #1) that breaks down projected GRF, Part C and Part C Stimulus funds by county. This includes anticipated enrollment information using the proposed changes to the HMG eligibility criteria. Noted that activities invoiced to the Part C Stimulus funds will likely need to be tracked separately in Early Track, as well as financially, which will likely result in changes to the HMG invoice. More details will be made available as they come from Ohio Department of Health.
Question:	What are the enrollment goals for the Help Me Grow Program?
Answer:	Revised allocation table (ATTACHMENT #1) with projected enrollment was passed out. Continue working with those who have already been found eligible for Help Me Grow services. However, will need to use revised eligibility for At Risk population and enroll new families under that criteria. The numbers in the projections represent our current enrollment level, and what that enrollment would look like had we already been using the proposed changes to the At Risk definitions of eligibility.
Question:	What if we are already serving a family that does not meet the new eligibility standards for At Risk?
Answer:	During the transition period, you can continue to work with those families already enrolled, as long as they were found eligible and enrolled in Early Track prior to the change of the At Risk criteria. If later cuts to the Help Me Grow budget are experienced, re-evaluation will occur.

Fax Numbers: (419) 898-2048, Administration, Children & Adult Services
 (419) 898-2436, Public Assistance, Workforce Development
 (419) 898-0469, Child Support

Question:	What is the mileage rate that should be used in the Help Me Grow budget?
Answer:	At time of the release of the RFP, the mileage rate was identified as the same as the federal IRS rate (currently \$.55/ mile); however, an Executive Order was issued by the Governor's Office that indicates the rate for state funded programs should reduce mileage to 40.5 cents per mile. Which ever is the strictest will be what is followed in the actual contract language.
Question:	What is the time line for when a new provider would be selected?
Answer:	The due date for proposals to be submitted is May 15, 2009. We will know at that time if any proposals were submitted. If so, a decision will be made in the next week. If not, then non-competitive selection of a provider or providers will be initiated. Either way, a decision will be made on HMG service providers by May 22, 2009.
Question:	Is it feasible for a provider to operate a separate Help Me Grow program for the At Risk population?
Answer:	That is for the providers to decide before submitting a proposal. However, there are options: one provider could submit a proposal to operate the program, and sub-contract out to other providers for the portion they are not interested in operating. However, the provider submitting the proposal must follow procurement requirements. If this is a joint proposal, and all parties are identified in the proposal, then procurement is met. If a decision will be made at a later date of who will operate other portions of the program, then cost comparisons for anything under \$25,000 would need to be done prior to award, or if the portion of the program sub-contracted out were to be over \$25,000, then a formal request for proposals would be necessary.
Question:	What are some of the changes to the Help Me Grow home visitation schedule?
Answer:	See ATTACHMENT #2 for most recent changes to the visitation schedule for HMG.
Question:	If Early Head Start is expanded, can we transfer families between the programs? And what does that do to the visitation schedule requirements for the programs?
Answer:	If the expansion happens, then you would refer between the programs as appropriate. Families would have to be agreeable to each programs' visitation schedule requirements for that to be an appropriate action.
Question:	Is eligibility for At Risk services limited to only single parents?
Answer:	No. The proposed eligibility requirements are that the family is earning an income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, and that they have one or more risk factors. Risk factors currently include things like first time parents, teen parents, or a referral from a Public Children Services agency. All things being equal, a referral from a Public Children Services agency would have a higher weight in eligibility determination than other factors. Income eligibility would still be a requirement. At present, all of the revisions to eligibility for At Risk services are still in draft form.
Question:	When is the next scheduled Statewide Help Me Grow Conference Call, and how do we find out what has been discussed to date?
Answer:	The next scheduled call is set for May 15. The typical content of the calls revolve around

proposed changes to Help Me Grow policies and funding changes. All calls are recorded. Following are links to the previously recorded calls:

Here is the link to hear the Help Me Grow Conference Call 3/6/09 from 9:00 -10:30 am. Please copy the link below and paste into a web browser address to listen to the conference call.

<http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/hmgaudioconf030609cd001.wma>

Here is the link to hear the Help Me Grow Conference Call 3/13/09 from 9:00 -10:00 am. Please copy the link below and paste into a web browser address to listen to the conference call.

<http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/HMGPhoneConf031309.wma>

Here is the link to hear the Help Me Grow Conference Call 4/3/09 from 9:00 -10:00 am. Please copy the link below and paste into a web browser address to listen to the conference call.

<http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/hmgaudio0403091custom001.wma>

Below is the link for the Help Me Grow Update Conference Call 4/10/09 from 9:00 - 10:00 am. Please copy the link below and paste into a web browser address to listen to the conference call.

<http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/HMGAudioConf041009Custom001.wma>

Below is the link for the Help Me Grow Update Conference Call 4/17/09 from 9:00 - 10:00 am. Please copy the link below and paste into a web browser address to listen to the conference call.

<http://powerhost.powerstream.net/008/00153/hmgaudioconf041709.wma>

Question: What is the role of the Service Coordinator for At-Risk populations?

Answer: It appears that the Service Coordinator and the Home Visitor for the At Risk population of the Help Me Grow program will likely be one and the same. Parents as Teachers will be the required curriculum, and training will be provided by the Ohio Department of Health at a later date. There are allowances in the statewide RFP to allow up to 6 months for programs to implement the new requirements.

Help Me Grow Allocation Table

DRAFT
4/14/2009

SFY2010

ATTACHMENT # 1
Ottawa Co. HMG RFP Q & A Document

County (a)	FY 2010 Annual Allocation			Fund Split			Projected Number of Children to be Served 12 Month Average			
	Base on Child Count (b)	Transition Amount (c)	Total Annual FY 2010 Allocation (d)	State GRF Amount 65.96% (e)	Part C Amount 19.37% (f)	Part C Stimulus Amount 14.67% (g)	At-Risk		Part C	
							Revised Eligibility Standard (h)	Current Eligibility Standard (i)	Revised Eligibility Standard (j)	Current Eligibility Standard (k)
Adams	\$134,000	\$2,566	\$136,566	\$90,075	\$26,451	\$20,040	8	25	8	15
Allen	681,107	13,042	694,149	457,841	134,449	101,859	57	145	35	67
Ashland	189,692	3,824	193,516	134,233	39,419	28,884	7	32	17	37
Ashabula	546,428	10,463	556,891	367,309	107,663	81,719	32	121	36	60
Athens	385,861	7,391	393,252	258,444	76,187	57,721	27	83	17	47
Auglaize	232,079	4,444	236,523	156,004	45,812	34,707	8	50	16	36
Belmont	305,739	5,854	311,593	205,518	60,352	45,723	21	53	12	22
Brown	228,486	4,375	232,861	153,588	45,102	34,171	16	26	20	41
Builer	1,636,038	31,327	1,667,365	1,099,746	322,850	244,666	60	140	161	357
Carroll	179,197	3,374	179,571	118,440	34,781	26,350	11	47	10	12
Champaign	172,038	3,294	175,330	115,843	33,858	25,728	11	18	17	31
Clark	850,951	16,294	867,245	572,010	167,975	127,260	61	181	50	91
Clermont	745,486	14,275	759,761	501,117	147,157	111,487	50	122	55	110
Clinton	266,407	5,101	271,508	178,079	52,588	39,841	25	35	20	46
Columbiana	402,350	7,704	410,054	270,460	79,423	60,171	15	94	24	54
Coshocton	260,232	4,983	265,215	174,928	51,369	38,918	13	60	47	57
Crawford	291,012	5,572	296,584	195,618	57,445	43,521	12	69	31	66
Cuyahoga	5,793,021	110,927	5,903,948	3,894,075	1,143,527	866,348	245	1,239	297	768
Darke	239,785	4,581	244,376	161,163	47,333	35,860	8	47	37	47
DeLancey	181,939	3,101	185,040	108,856	31,868	24,216	8	28	20	22
Delaware	503,631	9,644	513,275	338,542	99,415	75,318	8	31	64	157
Erie	387,432	7,419	394,851	260,432	76,479	57,940	31	80	15	47
Fairfield	479,578	9,183	488,761	322,373	94,667	71,721	27	53	38	101
Fayette	197,585	3,783	201,368	132,817	39,002	29,549	14	43	13	19
Franklin	4,565,888	67,814	4,633,702	3,082,706	905,262	685,834	87	677	117	972
Fullon	165,822	3,148	169,368	111,487	36,810	28,255	8	28	12	64
Gallia	174,082	3,333	177,415	117,018	34,303	26,034	9	36	8	10
Geauga	250,508	4,797	255,305	168,392	49,450	37,403	8	25	23	61
Greene	603,581	11,557	615,138	405,714	119,142	90,262	19	55	82	166
Guemsey	362,309	7,321	369,630	256,989	75,467	57,174	15	119	35	54
Hamilton	4,453,047	65,268	4,518,315	2,993,343	879,019	665,953	369	677	211	526
Hancock	206,820	3,960	210,780	139,024	40,826	30,930	8	24	22	42
Hardin	134,000	2,566	136,566	90,075	26,451	20,040	9	28	7	14
Harrison	177,688	3,481	180,979	119,380	35,057	26,560	10	69	10	15
Henry	183,600	3,133	186,733	109,972	32,295	24,466	10	27	24	35
Highland	289,516	5,486	295,002	192,599	56,558	42,649	23	39	28	44
Hocking	143,209	2,742	145,951	96,265	28,269	21,417	8	20	7	19
Holmes	256,140	4,905	261,045	172,178	50,561	38,308	12	62	13	31
Huron	346,928	6,643	353,569	233,204	68,482	51,993	15	105	23	60
Jackson	186,903	3,579	190,482	125,636	38,895	27,951	9	49	9	19
Jefferson	280,240	4,967	285,207	175,068	51,410	38,649	11	35	28	41
Knox	205,828	3,937	209,565	138,223	40,890	30,782	9	27	18	27
Lake	471,378	9,028	480,406	316,859	93,049	70,494	15	35	51	112
Lawrence	445,759	8,638	454,397	289,840	87,992	68,693	10	94	28	76
Licking	461,134	8,630	469,964	309,975	91,025	68,993	32	63	37	76
Logan	292,470	5,600	298,070	196,598	57,733	43,739	25	61	16	42
Lorain	1,531,935	29,334	1,561,269	1,028,768	302,400	229,101	79	246	103	278
Lucas	2,251,729	43,117	2,294,846	1,513,615	444,485	336,746	200	234	156	407
Madison	225,590	4,320	229,910	151,642	44,631	33,737	8	42	23	34
Mahoning	1,109,373	21,243	1,130,616	745,722	218,967	165,907	69	262	35	75
Mardon	401,411	7,666	409,077	269,829	79,237	60,031	28	75	20	56
Medina	405,648	7,197	412,845	272,677	80,073	60,665	7	39	35	55
Meigs	236,762	4,534	241,296	159,165	46,740	35,411	23	62	8	11
Mercer	229,400	4,393	233,793	154,203	45,283	34,307	10	45	19	32
Miami	268,343	5,138	273,481	180,380	52,970	40,131	7	28	12	59
Monroe	134,000	2,566	136,566	90,075	26,451	20,040	9	22	7	8
Montgomery	2,174,780	41,643	2,216,423	1,461,888	428,286	325,238	111	313	122	407
Morgan	134,000	2,566	136,566	90,075	26,451	20,040	9	30	18	15
Morrow	210,200	4,025	214,225	141,297	41,493	31,395	10	36	22	37
Muskingum	489,429	9,899	499,328	318,551	92,864	70,203	19	93	24	53
Noble	134,000	2,566	136,566	90,075	26,451	20,040	9	40	12	25
Ottawa	168,642	3,229	171,871	113,391	33,290	25,220	7	30	28	44
Pataskala	194,888	2,566	197,454	130,075	38,451	28,550	9	27	7	14
Perry	265,933	5,092	271,025	178,760	52,495	39,770	16	48	18	39
Pickaway	157,069	3,024	160,093	106,140	31,169	23,814	7	20	11	26
Polk	217,222	4,159	221,381	146,017	42,879	32,495	9	40	10	34
Portage	375,617	7,166	382,783	252,624	74,186	56,203	12	58	26	72
Preston	134,591	2,577	137,168	90,472	26,569	20,126	11	19	10	20
Pulnam	168,181	3,220	171,401	113,051	33,199	25,151	9	37	12	19
Richland	751,169	14,384	765,553	504,937	148,279	112,337	40	163	35	105
Ross	336,640	6,446	343,086	226,280	66,452	50,344	23	58	21	50
Sandusky	297,418	5,695	303,113	199,925	58,709	44,479	21	32	28	53
Scioto	473,057	9,056	482,113	317,989	93,380	70,746	22	84	39	73
Seneca	331,337	6,345	337,682	222,725	65,406	49,551	10	57	26	62
Shelby	250,787	4,602	255,389	168,579	49,605	37,505	13	55	15	32
Stark	1,484,959	28,434	1,513,393	989,191	293,127	222,075	19	299	77	169
Summit	1,777,099	34,028	1,811,127	1,194,566	350,794	265,765	38	291	149	360
Trumbull	888,473	17,013	905,486	597,233	175,382	132,871	40	183	68	119
Tuscarawas	350,037	6,703	356,740	235,296	69,098	52,348	17	54	10	60
Union	165,490	3,169	168,659	111,243	32,667	24,749	13	39	10	12
Van Wert	149,855	2,869	152,724	100,732	29,581	22,411	14	29	9	61
Vinton	141,441	2,708	144,149	95,077	27,020	21,152	7	38	3	12
Warren	631,849	12,099	643,948	424,730	124,725	94,493	17	65	78	177
Washington	394,008	7,545	401,553	264,853	77,776	58,924	12	69	24	60
Wayne	405,547	7,766	413,313	272,609	80,054	60,650	35	76	22	47
Williams	179,693	3,441	183,134	120,790	35,471	26,873	9	33	13	30
Wood	373,834	7,158	380,992	251,291	73,794	55,907	11	42	32	90
Wyandot	134,000	2,566	136,566	90,075	26,451	20,040	14	13	11	13
Ohio	\$51,016,404	\$976,877	\$51,993,281	\$34,293,279	\$10,070,502	\$7,629,500	2,760	8,865	3,684	8,299

	FY2009	FY2010	Difference	% Change
Total State GRF	10,293,263	\$34,293,283	\$24,000,000	233.16%
Total Part C Funds	10,500,000	10,970,500	-\$429,500	-4.09%
Total Part C Stimulus	N/A	7,629,500	N/A	N/A
TANF	54,350,549	0	-\$54,350,549	-100.00%
Total	\$75,143,812	\$51,993,283	-\$23,150,529	-30.81%

ATTACHMENT #2

Ottawa Co. HMIG RFP Q+A Document

Help Me Grow Proposed Home Visitation Schedule

1. The proposed minimum home visitation schedule for At-Risk children and their families is based on their circumstances at time of referral:
 - a. If the family is prenatal (visits can start as early as 5.5 months to 6 months of pregnancy):
 - i. Visits are weekly (defined as every 7 calendar days) for the first six weeks after enrollment in the program, then twice a month (defined as twice in 30 calendar days) until the baby is born;
 - b. If the child is between birth and four weeks old:
 - i. Visits are weekly (defined as every 7 calendar days) for the first month;
 - ii. The county may offer one of the visits during this time period by a Registered Nurse if the parent agrees.
 - c. If the child is between four weeks and 36 months old:
 - i. Visits are weekly (defined as every 7 calendar days) for the first month; then visits are once a month (defined as once in 30 calendar days) until the child reaches 36 months of age.
 - d. If a child is referred after birth: (6 mos)
 - i. Visits are weekly (defined as every 7 calendar days) for the first month; then visits are once a month (defined as once in 30 calendar days) until the child reaches 36 months of age.