



# FACT

**FAMILIES & COMMUNITY TOGETHER**

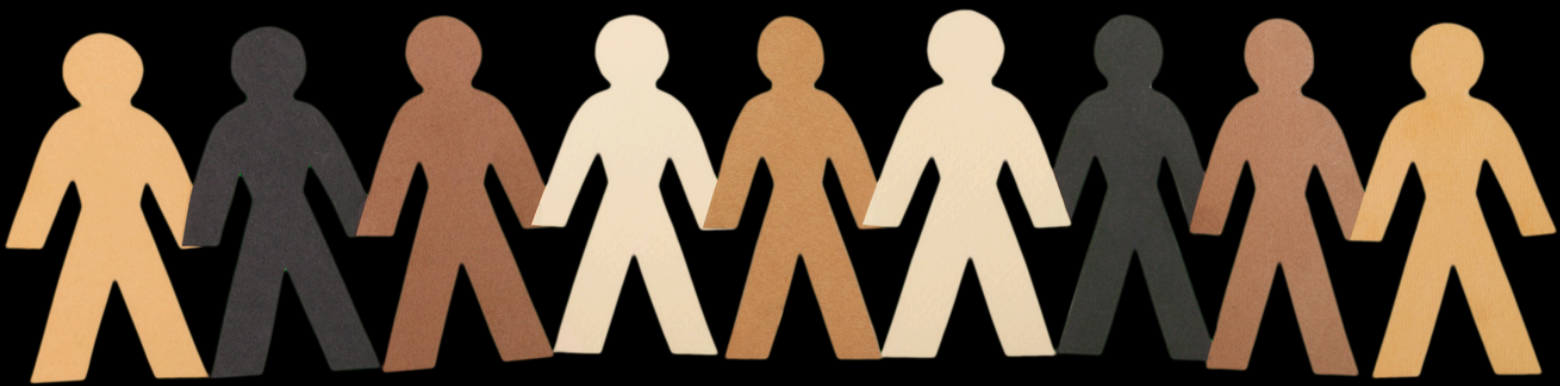
Families & Community Together (FACT) is thrilled to announce the availability of grant funding aimed at developing and expanding community-based resources for youth experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs. A total of \$67,697 is up for grabs to fund impactful projects that meet these needs and promote positive outcomes for our youth.

 **Deadline for proposal submissions: January 9, 2026, by 6:00 PM.**

**Types of projects that are encouraged:**

- Support for individuals with disabilities
- Wellness and physical activities programs
- Day and after-school programming
- Crisis counseling and mental health first aid
- Arts, music, and recreational activities

Collaborative applications are highly encouraged to maximize the impact of these funds. This is a wonderful opportunity to create meaningful change in the community and support our youth in need.





**October 28, 2025**

Dear Community Provider,

***Families & Community Together (FACT)*** provides care management services to children and youth, with the support of their families, experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs, and their families. As part of our contract with the New Jersey Children’s System of Care (CSOC), FACT has access to limited funds designated for one time use by community organizations to promote and develop new, additional, and/or unique resources addressing an unmet or underserved need in Union County.

This letter serves as a “Request for Proposals” (RFP) to develop and/or increase the availability of community-based resources to Union County youth experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs, and their families.

A maximum total of **\$67,697.00** is available to fund one or more projects. Funding is to be used for expansion or creation of resources available to Union County youth experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs, and their families. All types of projects that result in the expansion or creation of community-based resources will be considered with preference given to those programs that address needs related to:

**Mental and Behavioral Health:**

Inclusive, innovative, and supportive behavioral health interventions that can be an alternative and support to traditional mental and behavioral health services.

### **Individuals with Disabilities (Physical, Developmental, and Intellectual):**

- Day and After-school Programming
- Wellness and physical activities
- Available support and respite for consumers and family members
- Crisis counseling and psychological first aid for behavioral health crisis counseling
- Services for Intellectual / Developmentally Disabled youth, especially in languages other than English.

### **Health & Wellness:**

- Highlight the importance of health and wellness, and its benefits to mental wellbeing.
- Addresses diet and exercise/fitness
- Yoga and meditation

### **Arts, Music, and Recreation:**

Programs that support youth interests and creativity to support healthy outcomes, and family and community interactions.

- Sports programs
- Music and instrument lessons
- Music production and engineering
- Arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, etc.)

This funding solicitation reflects the current needs of youth served by Union County's Children's System of Care and the NJ Children's System of Care Community Resource Development (CRD) funding guidelines. Collaborative applications that maximize the impact of these limited funds are encouraged as well as projects that include family participation.

***All awards are contingent on the sufficiency and availability of CSOC funding. Final decisions regarding grant awards will be at the discretion of CSOC.***

The overall goal of this RFP is twofold:

- Develop and/or increase the availability of resources to Union County youth and their families.
- Increase positive outcomes for youth experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs.

All proposals with attachments shall include the following information specific to this solicitation and will be evaluated based on the “Rating Scale” (see Appendix II) included with this announcement.

**1. Needs Statement:**

- An explanation of the proposed activity or service needs referencing the needs assessment outcomes and identified areas of need in Union County
- Understanding the needs of Union County youth with emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs, especially regarding Medicaid and Evidence Based Practices (EBPs), promising practices, or best practices, where applicable.
- Understanding referral needs for all NJ Children’s System of Care Partners.
- General and specific knowledge of cultural competencies that are necessary to be successful in Union County.

**2. Description of Agency and History of Service to Youth and Families:**

- Organizational capability to initiate and sustain current and proposed programs, preferably Evidence Based Practices (EBPs), promising practices, or best practices, where applicable.

**\*\* Any agencies funded by DCF, are subject to the Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) background check requirement mandated by N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10f. As of October 1, 2019, the CARI Online Application System is available to DCF affiliated agencies to create an account and submit CARI applications. Please review the following information regarding the Online Application System and submission of your CARI applications for CRD 27 award recommended agencies.**

### **3. Description of Service(s) to be funded:**

- Specific implementation plan, informed by a qualified purveyor of that best practice, promising practice, and EBP particularly around fidelity to the model when applicable.
- Activities and services to be provided during the funding period, and those to commence beyond the funding period.
- Background, qualifications, and justification of organization to provide work as part of this proposal.
- Agreement to serve Medicaid-eligible youth and their families.
- Agreement to serve all eligible NJ Children's System of Care youth (No eject - No reject).
- The effective period or term of the service or activity.

### **4. Anticipated Outcomes**

- Sustainability plan. All projects must demonstrate sustainability after initial funding. Demonstrate that the service is sustainable after the end of the effective term and provide a plan outlining relevant strategies. Please describe how these services will continue, including plans for third party reimbursement and/or client fees.
- Defined anticipated quantifiable deliverables, level of service, and/or outcomes.
- Affirmation of required periodic fiscal and or program reports to demonstrate compliance with the bid requirements

### **5. Evaluation Methods**

- Evaluation of practice or program adherence/fidelity/effectiveness and participation in ongoing outcomes research, if applicable, to the practice or program proposed.
- Documentation of a quality assurance effort and outcomes monitoring plan.

## **6. Budget**

- Exact amount of funds requested and detailed budget for the expenditure of these funds.

### **RFP Timeline:**

***Submission Deadline: 6:00 PM on Friday, January 9, 2026***

***Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered for funding.***

The preferred method for submission for the Request for Proposal is a Word or PDF document save the file with your agency name and attachment via email sent to [feliciaf@factnj.org](mailto:feliciaf@factnj.org) and [anthonyc@factnj.org](mailto:anthonyc@factnj.org). To ensure email delivery, please text/call or leave a phone message at 908-803-6051 that the proposal was sent.

### **CRD/RFP Application Timelines:**

- CRD Funds Community Q&A: Thursday, December 4th, 2025
- CRD Funds Community Q&A #2: Thursday, December 18th, 2025
- Proposal Review Panel Meeting: Wednesday, January 14th, 2026
- Proposal Review and scoring: Wednesday, January 28th, 2026
- Proposal Review and scoring final meeting: Wednesday, February 4th, 2026

Selected applicants may be invited to present their proposals. Proposals will be evaluated by a review team consisting of members of the Union County CIACC, FACT management, and Board members. Due to time constraints and the volume of applications, not all proposals may be selected for presentation.

Proposal(s) are anticipated to be recommended to NJ-CSOC by February 13, 2026, based on the approval of the FACT CEO and COO. **RFP timelines are subject to change.** Funds disbursement is anticipated by Fall 2026 by NJ CSOC. The program is expected to run for no longer than twelve (12) months, commencing the actual date of funding.

**Please feel free to contact me at 908-803-6051 if you have any questions.**

**Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.**

**Sincerely,**

**Felicia Frazier**

Director, Community Engagement & Resource Development  
Families & Community Together (FACT)  
feliciaf@factnj.org

cc: Anthony Cameli, Chief Executive Officer, Families & Community Together-FACT

See Attached Appendixes:

Appendix I: Application

Appendix II: Scoring/Rating Information

Appendix III: Data Sources

Appendix IV: CARI Check Rationale and Process with Certification form



**Appendix I:**

**APPLICATION: 2027 Families & Community Together (FACT) Community Resource Development Funds Application**

Legal Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing/Business Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person for this Proposal:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1. Needs Statement:**

- Understanding needs of Union County youth with emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs especially in regard to Evidence Based Practices (EBPs), promising practices, or best practices, where applicable.
- Understanding referral needs for all NJ Children's System of Care Partners.
- General and specific knowledge of cultural competencies that are necessary to be successful in Union County.

\*\* Important - Please cite data sources. Data sources referenced in this RFP and recommended data sources are listed in Appendix 1. Data sources are not limited to those listed in Appendix I.\*\*

**2. Description of Agency and History of Service to Youth and Families:**

- Organizational capability to initiate and sustain current and proposed programs, preferably Evidence Based Practices (EBPs), promising practices, or best practices, where applicable.



### 3. Description of Service(s) to be funded:

- Specific implementation plan, informed by a qualified purveyor of that best practice, promising practice, and EBP particularly around fidelity to the model when applicable.
- Activities and services to be provided during the funding period, and those to commence beyond the funding period.

### 4. Anticipated Outcomes

- Sustainability plan. All projects must demonstrate sustainability after initial funding. Demonstrate that the service is sustainable after the end of the effective term and provide a plan outlining relevant strategies. Please describe how these services will continue, including plans for third party reimbursement and/or client fees.
- Defined anticipated quantifiable deliverables, level of service, and/or outcomes.
- Affirmation of required periodic fiscal and program reports to demonstrate compliance with the bid requirements
- Background, qualifications, and justification of organization to provide work as part of this proposal.
- Agreement to serve Medicaid-eligible youth and their families.
- Agreement to serve all eligible NJ Children's System of Care youth (No eject - No reject).
- The effective period or term of the service or activity.

### 5. Evaluation Methods

- Evaluation of practice or program adherence/fidelity/effectiveness and participation in ongoing outcomes research, if applicable, to the practice or program proposed.
- Documentation of quality assurance effort and outcomes monitoring plan.

### 6. Budget

- Exact amount of funds requested and detailed budget for the expenditure of these funds. **The following must be included with this application:**
- List of Board Members
- Set of recent financial statements (at least six months)

Note: There may be further information required before a cooperative agreement can be carried out.

***All awards are contingent on the sufficiency and availability of state funding.***

**Completed proposals are due by: 6:00pm Friday, January 9th, 2026**

**Submit proposals via email to: Felicia Frazier at [feliciaf@factnj.org](mailto:feliciaf@factnj.org)**

***\*\*Proposals sent after Friday, January 9, 2026 at 6pm, and incomplete submissions will not be considered for funding. \*\****



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## **Appendix II: Scoring/Rating Scale**

### **Need Statement - 20 points**

- ✓ Are the needs of the community that this proposal aims to address well-articulated and based on reliable sources of information and data?
- ✓ Do the needs cited in the proposal coincide with the criteria for usage of funds targeted at agencies serving youth and families experiencing serious emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs?
- ✓ Does the need address development of new services where service expansion is necessary because services cannot be secured through an existing agency; or is service availability nonexistent?
- ✓ Do the needs cited in the proposal coincide with service need priorities identified by local planning bodies?
- ✓ Understanding referral needs for all NJ Children's System of Care Partners?
- ✓ General and specific knowledge of cultural competencies necessary to be successful in Union County.

### **Description of Agency and History of Service to Youth and Families - 15 points**

- ✓ Is the agency well equipped and experienced providing services to youth and families who are experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, intellectual, and substance use needs?
- ✓ Is the agency duly prepared to operate the service or program element for which funding is applied?

### **Description of Service(s) or Program Element to be Funded - 20 points**

- ✓ Is the description of the service(s) or program element well-articulated, reasonably attainable and based on best practice models?
- ✓ Is the service(s) described relevant to the statement of need?
- ✓ Is there a clear plan on how to implement and start/expand the program?
- ✓ Is there a description of the organization's background, qualifications, and justification to provide work as part of this proposal.
- ✓ Include an agreement to serve Medicaid-eligible youth and their families; all eligible NJ Children's System of Care youth (No eject - No reject)?
- ✓ Include effective period or term of the service or activity?

### **Anticipated Outcomes - 15 points**

- ✓ Are the anticipated outcomes quantifiable deliverables, level of service, and/or outcomes realistic, measurable, observable, and verifiable?
- ✓ Are the outcomes relevant to the needs that the program aims to address and the services to be provided?
- ✓ Does the project demonstrate sustainability after initial funding?



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**Evaluation Methods - 10 points**

- ✓ Does the proposal describe how services will be evaluated, including how case activity will be monitored, and accountability will be assured?
- ✓ Is there an adequate description of administration and programmatic and fiscal oversight of the program or service?
- ✓ Does the proposal acknowledge the obligation to provide reports of activity to Families and Community Together (FACT)?
- ✓ Evaluation of practice or program adherence/fidelity/effectiveness and participation in ongoing outcomes research, if applicable, to the practice or program proposed.
- ✓ Documentation of quality assurance effort and outcomes monitoring plan
- ✓ Affirmation of required periodic fiscal and program reports to demonstrate compliance with the bid requirements

**Budget - 20 points**

- ✓ Is a complete and clear budget included?
- ✓ Is the budget reasonable based on established rates for services and the amount of funds available?
- ✓ Does the budget account for all staff, supplies, and services included in the description of service(s) or program element to be funded (either through fund request or match by other funding source)?
- ✓ Is other funding sources cited viable to be applied as a match to community resource development funds?
- ✓ Is the service for which funding is requested clearly a new service/program element or expansion of services/programs not otherwise funded by another source?



### **Appendix III: Data Sources**

1. Union County DHS Needs Assessment 2020 - [Union County Needs Assessment Report 2020.pdf \(nj.gov\)](#)
2. Union County Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment - [Comprehensive-Community-NeedsAssessment-for-Union-County-New-Jersey.pdf \(ucnj.org\)](#)
3. North Jersey Health Collaborative - [Union\\_County\\_CHNA\\_FINAL.pdf \(njhealthmatters.org\)](#)
4. Union County Overdose Fatality - [NJ Cares Data by County - New Jersey Office of Attorney General \(njoag.gov\)](#)
5. Union County Point-In-Time Report - [Union PIT Report 2023 \(monarchhousing.org\)](#)
6. 2019-2020 HSAC/DCF Needs Assessment- [HSAC-Synthesis-Overview-PPT.pdf](#)

Other potential data sources not referenced above:

- CIACC Dashboards: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/childdata/interagency/index.html>
- DCF Commissioner's Dashboard: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/childdata/continuous/index.html>
- DCP&P Dashboard: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/childdata/protection/index.html>
- DCF Rutgers Data Hub and Portal: <https://njchilddata.rutgers.edu/>
- NJ DOH COVID Data Dashboard: New Jersey COVID-19 Data Dashboard (nj.gov)
- Kids Count: New Jersey Kids Count 2020 | Advocates for Children of New Jersey (acnj.org)



## **APPENDIX IV: CARI Check Instructions and Certification Form**

### **Rationale and Process for CARI checks**

Any agencies funded by DCF, are subject to the Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) background check requirement mandated by N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10f. As of October 1, 2019, the CARI Online Application System is available to DCF affiliated agencies to create an account and submit CARI applications. Please review the following information regarding the Online Application System and submission of your CARI applications for CRD 27 award recommended agencies. Some agencies may have an existing structure that already requires they submit CARI checks as part of their current operations or based on a separate law that preceded N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10f. If that is the case, they do NOT need to submit additional CARI applications under this law. Please ask them to provide the CARI certification form within this document that states all staff who will work in direct contact with youth under 18 years of age have passed the CARI requirements.

### **Steps to register for CARI checks:**

When CMO identifies an agency as the potential CRD awardee they will direct the awardee to follow the process as listed below.

1. The applicant will register as a business with the State of NJ and receive an Employee Identification number (75.00 fee) and a tax ID number. The step-by-step process is provided at <https://business.nj.gov/> where you can both register your business to receive your EIN and receive a tax ID number.
2. Once these numbers have been assigned, please visit <https://www.njstart.gov/bso/> to create a record and acquire a vendor identification number. (150.00 fee)
3. The final step will be to follow the instructions and register with the CARI unit and submit for CARI checks (see below).
4. CARI will notify the agency if their staff are clear or if they need to be terminated. CARI will require a signed verification that the unapproved staff are no longer with the organization.
5. Once the agency has completed this process, they will submit the CARI Certification form to the CMO, as it will need to be included in the submission of the Proposal and recommendation to CSOC. \*\*(Certification form is included at the end of this guidance)
6. Fees associated with the registration process for CARI may be included in the agency's budget proposal.



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**Accessing the CARI System:**

To access the CARI Online Application System, each agency will need to set up a facility account by visiting

<https://www.njportal.com/dcf/cari>

Agencies will identify an administrator to create and maintain the facility account, and who will be responsible for submitting and receiving CARI applications and results. The above-mentioned website will prompt the identified administrator to “Create a New CARI Account” and will provide tutorials for setting up the facility account. When creating an account, select “Department of Children and Families – Community Partners” from the drop-down selection of Program/Application Types. To set up a CARI account, the agency administrator will then need to provide their agency’s Vendor Identification Number, which is the letter “V” followed by 8 digits.

Next, the administrator will be prompted to create a My New Jersey account username. This will be the username and password used by the account administrator to log in to the Online Application System moving forward.

The Online Application System will allow the account administrator to invite agency staff to complete an online CARI form and to check the status of submitted applications. Employees will be able to complete the electronic CARI application through an emailed link, or on-site at the agency. The employee can complete the application using a personal computer or smart phone; however, the email invitation link will expire after two weeks. All completed CARI checks are returned through the Online Application System, and the results will be emailed directly to the facility account administrator.

**CRD CARI CHECKS ATTESTATION FORM**

By my signature below, I attest I am authorized to sign this document on behalf of my organization. I agree that as of this date below my organization has met all the requirements of the CARI check process. Should my agency acquire any additional staff during this CRD award period, that staff will be required to submit CARI checks and be approved by the CARI unit.

If any staff within this organization are found to be ineligible for employment under this grant by the CARI Unit, they will not be allowed to work within the programming funded by the CMO CRD grant.

Signature:

Date:

Printed Name:

Organization name:

CMO Name: