



Your Aging and Disability Resource Network

3776 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43207-4012
www.coaaa.org/ email: coaaa@coaaa.org

(614) 645-7250
1-800-589-7277
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Request For Proposals

Psychometric Evaluation of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Screening

The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced firms or individuals to conduct a comprehensive psychometric evaluation, including testing validity and reliability, for our Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) screening. We believe that a rigorous evaluation is crucial to ensure the effectiveness and accuracy of our screening in identifying social determinants that impact health outcomes for older adults and individuals with disabilities who require assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs). This is the continuation of an ongoing project that has completed the initial development phase.

The scope of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is limited to item refinement and instrument finalization (Content Validity Phase) and confirmation of the psychometric properties of the instrument (Psychometric Analysis Phase), including construct validity, reliability, and sensitivity to change/responsiveness. The purpose of this RFP is to facilitate selection of the most appropriate organization to complete this project.

The information included in the proposal will be evaluated by COAAA's Administrator Katie White and will be considered confidentially.

The proposal submission deadline is close of business on January 26, 2024. Your proposal (electronic document) should be submitted to kwhite@coaaa.org.

Sincerely,

Katie White
COAAA Administrator
kwhite@coaaa.org

Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging • Katie White, Administrator



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Provisions

The proposal is a firm offer that will be considered valid for sixty (60) calendar days from the due date. Please provide the contact information of the person responsible for submitting the proposal. COAAA shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions on the part of the Bidder in preparing this proposal. Bidder shall bear all costs associated with preparing this proposal.

This RFP is being distributed to numerous organizations and is posted on the COAAA website, www.coaaa.org. The project will be awarded based on organizational qualifications and experience, proposal content, schedule, and cost. We will be unable to provide any verbal or written feedback on any individual proposals.

Questions related to the content requirements of the proposal may be submitted in writing to Grant Ames at games@coaaa.org by close of business January 19, 2024. COAAA will respond to relevant questions via email; a conference call may be convened if deemed necessary.

Please prepare your proposed strategy to address the objectives and scope of continuing the development of the COAAA SDOH screening, including: 1) review of the instrument and qualitative research summary report; 2) item refinement, item reduction, and finalization of the instrument (Content Validity Phase); and 3) in-trial documentation of the instrument's psychometric properties including construct validity, reliability, and sensitivity to change (Psychometric Analysis Phase). You must demonstrate a knowledge base consistent with the objectives and requirements of this RFP. All of the required elements (i.e., methods, deliverables, milestones, experience, timelines, and costs) should be clearly explained in your proposal.

Background

The mission of COAAA's Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Program is three-fold: improved health equity (social care model), workforce development, and SDOH intervention innovations. The social care model has created a process for Z Code assignment and tracking through a customized SDOH screening. This will allow the development of a social care billing system and the pilot of innovative interventions to address needs and improve health equity. The SDOH accelerator program is targeted toward the population of Medicare, Medicaid, and Dual-Eligible members in the Central Ohio region who have a diabetes diagnosis.

COAAA began the pilot in the fall of 2022 as a result of growing interest in health equity, SDOH factors on health outcomes and closing the gap between medical and non-medical determinants of health. In addition, COAAA is interested in exploring the use of Z Codes (ICD-10 codes for the reporting of symptoms and factors influencing health status) to expand the availability and utilization of social health interventions.

In February 2023, COAAA launched the Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Program dedicated to creating common language, interventions and policies to meet the future of health equity. This program allows Community Health Workers (CHWs), Licensed Social Workers (LSWs), and Registered Nurses (RNs) to provide comprehensive SDOH screening, assignment of Z Codes, education, referral, in-home visits, A1C testing, and

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innovative interventions. COAAA will contract and partner with providers based on the needs identified by SDOH screenings. In turn, COAAA is developing systems and procedures that will lay the foundation of social care clinicians and innovative interventions to improve health equity, including tele-counseling, creative transportation partnerships, RN visits with in-home A1C testing, diabetic-friendly food boxes, on-demand education programs, etc.

In order to effectively diagnose and treat social determinants, COAAA must be confident in the SDOH screening's ability to identify and assess the impact of social inequities and assign the appropriate Z Codes. As such, a psychometric evaluation of the screening is vital to the success of the SDOH Accelerator.

Project Description

In their submitted proposal, the Bidder shall include a description of their evaluation to include, but not be limited to, the following components:

1. Item refinement and finalization of the instrument

The process for item refinement and instrument finalization is expected to be based on data collected in an observational study. This is the Content Validity Phase and is not expected to include full analyses of the instrument's measurement properties that will be conducted in the Psychometric Analysis Phase. Once the instrument is finalized after this step, it will be assessed for its broader psychometric performance.

Examples of the issues to identify and address:

- Distribution of item responses
- Item redundancy
- Missing data
- Proposed mechanism for identifying Z-Codes operates as intended

The Bidder should propose a study design that will meet the goal of finalizing the instrument in the most cost-efficient manner.

2. Methods – Psychometric Analysis Phase

Data analyses will be conducted to assess the psychometric performance of the SDOH screening in the targeted context of use. The instrument, in its final format, will be included in trial(s) conducted by COAAA.

At a minimum, the following information should be documented:

- Construct validity
- Test-retest reliability
- Sensitivity to change/responsiveness



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Report and Recommendations (deliverables)

1. Provide a detailed report summarizing the findings of the Content Validity Phase Analysis, including recommendations to finalize the instrument to enhance validity and reliability.
2. Results from Psychometric Analyses, including detailed summaries of the instrument evaluation process and findings specifically related to the validity, reliability, and sensitivity to change/responsiveness of the instrument

Proposal Submission Requirements

Interested parties are invited to submit a detailed proposal addressing the following:

- Company/Organization overview
- Relevant experience in psychometric evaluation
- Proposed methodology and approach
- Timeline for completion
- Cost estimate, including a breakdown of expenses
- Samples of previous psychometric evaluation reports, if available
- Note: The selected Bidder will be required to register as a vendor with the City of Columbus (<https://columbusvendorservices.powerappsportals.com/>)

Proposal Submission Deadline: Friday, January 26, 2024, close of business

Preferred Submission by Email: kwhite@coaaa.org

Submission Mailing Address:

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