Giving “Voice” to Victims - The Future of Shelter
Starting and Administering Shelters for Battered Women

WELCOME
Home for Women and Children
“ASDZANI DOO ALCHINI BIGHAN”
INTRODUCTION
Home for Women and Children is in Shiprock, New Mexico, located in the Northwestern corner of New Mexico. We are in the Northern Agency of the Navajo Tribe on the Navajo Nation…The Navajo Nation covers approximately 27,000 square miles of mostly rural land with little development. Some compare the size to the state of West Virginia, but the vast amount of rural land can be dangerous for those seeking safety. We are the only shelter of the size and capacity to help keep victims/survivors and child victim witnesses safe from harm. Rural safety planning is vital as response time is limited from Navajo Nation Police.
Map Showing the Four Corners of the United States and the Navajo Nation located in the center.
• The HFWC has been in operation for 28 years serving the entire Navajo Reservation which covers 27,000 square miles, as well as all of the Four Corners area of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado.
History & Philosophy

- Home for Women and Children (HFWC) was built in 1978. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the HFWC provides:
  - Shelter
  - Safety
  - Crisis intervention
  - Education
  - Transportation
  - Advocacy to women and their children.
2. Demolish the old facility

3. Design & build the new facility
In the Beginning we had...
Once upon a time…
Goodbye old friend, you kept us safe and warm…
The Temporary Shelter
Our “billins…”
Front entrance
Interior of triage center
Interior of shelter area
Our Project...
HFWC has operated in Shiprock since 1978. As time passed, the need for shelter services has increased dramatically.

In early 2003, it became clear that a larger facility would be needed to meet the ever-growing demands for shelter services.

Our old shelter was also old and falling apart.

It became clear that the HFWC needed a plan for a new facility.
Our Plan…In the beginning

• What do we need?
  • How big should the new facility be?
  • How should it be designed to meet the needs of the women & children?
• When do we need it?
  • How long will it take?
• Who will do what?
  • Who will design it?
  • Who will build it?
  • Who will pay for it?
• How do we get started?
What we did

• The HFWC Board & Staff held several meetings to answer the questions we just mentioned. With input from within every department, and from the other areas of the community, HFWC started to get an idea of what was going to be needed.

• We hired RJN Construction Management, Inc.
The Plan Unfolds…

1. Create a temporary facility to continue operations during construction

2. Demolish the old facility

3. Design & build the new facility
RJN Construction Management, Inc.

A privately-owned construction management firm with over 30 years of construction management experience in all pre-engineering and construction functions.

Licensed in the state of New Mexico – GB-98 No. 61346

A Bondable, SBA-certified HubZone & Disabled American Veteran Firm

Advanced experience with capital finance procurement and administration

RJN has generated over $50M in developmental capital in the past 5 years
What is a construction management firm?

• A CM firm represents, and protects the owners’ best interests at all phases by:
  
  • Completing all project Pre-Engineering requirements *
  • Developing all construction documents for owners and representatives
  • Providing on-site management & building inspection to insure building code, project safety, and quality control compliance

• A CM firm provides important data to owners prior to the hiring of architects and engineers.
  
  • Professional, qualified screening of potential architects & engineers
  • Accomplished by developing bidding documents & recommendations to the owners for “qualified” general contractors and sub-contractors based on professional industry experience
SUMMARY OF SERVICES

**PRE-ENGINEERING**
- Identify project structure.
- Develop Project Budget and Progress Schedule
- Develop and administer Project Accounting
- Provide Project Reporting
- Provide all Pre-Engineering functions:
  - Environmental, Archeological
  - Geotechnical, Surveying
  - Architectural, Engineering (soils – structure)
- Develop and submit all documentation to complete Pre-Engineering Phase

**CONSTRUCTION PHASE**
- Develop Procedures, Structure
- Administer Project Accounting
- Provide all Project Reporting
- Provide all engineers & contractors
- Provide daily on-site Project Management
- Provide all Project Close-out Documents
- Develop Warranty Procedures
So much to do...
### PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

#### PROJECT PRE-ENGINEERING PHASE

- **SOILS**
- **UTILITY COMMIT**
- **LEASES**
- **COMMUNITY SURVEYS**

#### SITE DEVELOPMENT PHASE AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE

- **PRELIM SITE REVIEW**
- **LAND WITHDRAW**
- **BOUNDARY SURVEYS**
- **ENVIRO’S**
- **ARCH’S**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PROJECT REPORTING</strong></th>
<th><strong>PROJECT BUDGETS</strong></th>
<th><strong>ICBO &amp; IBC INSPECTOR</strong></th>
<th><strong>FINANCIAL DEV</strong></th>
<th><strong>ECONOMIC DEV</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROJECT PHASING</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROJECT ACCTG</strong></td>
<td><strong>PHASED SCHEDULE</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONTRACTS ADMIN</strong></td>
<td><strong>PROJECT COMPLIANCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRADING &amp; DRAIN PLAN</strong></td>
<td><strong>UTILITY PLAN</strong></td>
<td><strong>INFRA DESIGN</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONST DOCS</strong></td>
<td><strong>FINANCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DESIGN PARAMETERS</strong></td>
<td><strong>DESIGN CRITERIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>MASTER PLAN DESIGN</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONST DOCS</strong></td>
<td><strong>SCHEMATIC DESIGN</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM**
It’s time to build…
Wide view
How we financed it...
HFWC Project Financing

- 2003 – Received $125,000 from HUD NAHASDA program for pre-engineering costs
- 2004 – Received $2.5M from HUD NAHASDA program for construction costs
- 2005 – Received $750,000 from USDA Discretionary spending initiative for supplemental funding due to material cost increases
- 2008 – Received $1,134,500 from New Mexico State Indian Affairs Department
- 2009 – Received $300,000 from Abandoned Mine Lands
Non-profits need...

- Operational Financing
  - Services
  - Payroll
  - Insurance, etc.
  - Facilities Maintenance
  - Professional Services

- Project Financing
  - Pre-engineering Costs
  - Construction Costs
Where does a non-profit go?

**Grants:**
- **Federal Grantors**
  - Tribal Programs – NAHASDA program, BIA Initiatives
  - Non-tribal programs
  - Federal Discretionary-spending Initiatives
- **State-level grantors**
  - Renewable / Operational Financing Programs
- **Private & Public Foundation Grantors**
  - Program-specific needs

**Grant Services:**
- Grant program identification research
- Funds availability research
- Assemble grant pre-applications
- Assemble formal grant applications following initial eligibility determinations
- Monitor and assist with post-award compliance
More Options…

**Loans:**
- Commercial Lenders
- Venture Capital Investment Groups
- CDFI & Integrated Banking Consortiums
- Renewable / Operational Financing Programs

**Loan Guarantees:**
- Reduce interest rates by attaching guarantees to loans
- Section 184 / Title VI for housing

**Services:**
- Identify lenders with adequate lending thresholds
- Identify areas to leverage against other forms of capital
- Obtaining application submittal requirements
- Assist with processing of loan packages
- Coordinating with lenders for post-origination requirements
Where to get started…

• Federal grant application standards
  – DUNS number
    • Central registry for federally-sponsored financing program applications
    • Free to get – 30 days or pay for expedited service
  – Register with www.grants.gov
    • Electronic clearinghouse for federal grant programs
    • Grant application processing is much faster
    • Renewable grants are easier to update
Our responsibility…

• **Put pressure on legislators**
  – More grant applications = more interest for federal, state, and local spending
  – More loan & loan guarantee applications = more interest from the commercial sector
  – More interest = More $$$$$
  – More $$$$$ = More services
  – More services = Better communities
The Unexpected
EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED OTHER UNSEEN ISSUES

Navajo Tribal Council Chambers
Where Legislative Sessions are Held.
Window Rock, Arizona
1,001 Things To Think Of
Department of Housing and Urban Development

24 CFR Parts 950, 953, 955, 1000, 1003, and 1005

Implementation of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996; Final Rule
Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996
Method of Procurement

(e) Competition. (1) All procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of Sec. 85.36. Some of the situations considered to be restrictive of competition include but are not limited to:

(i) Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business,

(ii) Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding,

(iii) Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies,

(iv) Noncompetitive awards to consultants that are on retained contracts,

(v) Organizational conflicts of interest,

(vi) Specifying only a brand name product instead of allowing an equal product to be offered and describing the performance of other relevant requirements of the procurement, and

(vii) Any arbitrary action in the procurement process.

(2) Grantees and subgrantees will conduct procurements in a manner that prohibits the use of statutorily or administratively imposed for State or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals, except in those cases where applicable federal statutes expressly mandate or encourage geographic preference. Nothing in this section preempts State licensing laws. When contracting for architectural and engineering (A/E) services, geographic location may be a selection criteria provided its application leaves an appropriate number of qualified firms, given the nature and size of the project, to compete for the contract.

(3) Grantees will have written selection procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures will ensure that all solicitations:

(i) Incorporates a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description shall not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured, and when necessary, shall set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible. When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a brand name or equal description may be used as a means to define the performance or other relevant requirements of a procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by the offerors shall be clearly stated; and

(ii) Identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

(4) Grantees and subgrantees will ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open and free competition. Also, grantees and subgrantees will not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.

(5) Methods of procurement to be followed. (1) Procurement by small purchase procedures. Small purchase procedures are those relatively simple and

([Page 504])

informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, or other property that do not cost more than the simplified acquisition threshold fixed at 41 U.S.C. 403(11) (currently set at $10,000). If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations shall be obtained

http://frwebgate1.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISdocID=22256330543+1=0+... 10/21/2002
TO ENSURE PROPOSAL COMPLETENESS, PREPARE RFP PACKET USING THE FOLLOWING FORMAT:

1. Letter of Interest – Cover Page
2. Table of Contents
3. Executive Summary: brief summary of program (Limit One Page)
4. Completed Grant Application (Not to Exceed Fifteen Pages; Font Size 12)
6. IHP Required Certifications. Signed.
7. Proof of Insurance (includes insurance on housing)
8. Budget Forms:
   a. TDHE 2000-01
   b. TDHE 2000-02 (HUD 53045-A)
   c. TDHE 2000-03 (HUD-52566)
   d. TDHE 2000-04 (HUD-52573)
10. Audit – Latest Report
11. Appendix – Supporting Documents

Note: All Proposals Found to Be Incomplete and Not Complying with the Outline Above, Will Be Eliminated From Further Review and the Applicant Will Be Notified of Elimination. Please Follow Instructions. Answer All Sections As Requested. No Appeals Will Be Considered.

PREPARED BY: ____________________________________________

Submitting Applicant: _______________________________________

Date Submitted: ____________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________
TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................... 1

I. General Provision
   1. Purpose of the Guidelines ............................................................................... 2
   2. Purpose of the Grant Application Process ....................................................... 2
   3. Budget Methodology ..................................................................................... 2-5

II. References
    1. Definitions ...................................................................................................... 5-6

III. Budget Instructions
    1. Budget Submission Requirements .................................................................. 6-7

IV. Budget Procedures
    1. Budgeting Procedures .................................................................................. 7-9

V. Appendices
   A. IHBG Budget Forms ..................................................................................... 10-13
      Form 1 – Summary of Funding Sources
      Form 2 – Summary of Program Budget
      Form 3 – Schedule of Technical and Non-technical Positions and Salaries
      Form 4 – Schedule of Administration Expense Other Than Salaries
   C. Narrative of Accounts ................................................................................... 14-23
Internal Programs
“Remember you and I are different, but we are of one spirit. As different as we are, you and I are of equal worth. As such, there must be stability between the two of us. As different as we are, there can be no harmony in the universe if there is no harmony between us. If there is to be harmony between us, what I say must matter to you as well as what you say must matter to me. My needs are as important as yours. My desires count as much as yours do. My faithfulness to you is measured by your loyalty to me. How I treat you is a reflection of how you treat me. What I give you should be equal to what you give me; nothing more, nothing less.”
Navajo Society is matriarchal. In the past, safeguards were provided for women by weaving a safety net of nuclear and extended family around them, affording them high honor and respect.

According to the teachings of our grandparents, we are Children of the Holy People. Our prayers, stories, and songs reflect teachings of a pattern of life with guidance for proper conduct in Bi K’eh Hozhoon, the Beauty way/harmony, balance, order, and peace.
One of these Holy People is Changing Woman. She taught the rules of conduct with our relatives and all of creation. Everything has a life force and deserves respect. Males and females are of equal value together.

A woman represents: beauty way, love, life, home, security, peace, and strength. A woman is responsible for the preservation of our culture, strengthening our cultural beliefs that the family is the foundation of our society.
Our Navajo prayers and songs stress this equality and compliment of life. The process of the wedding ceremony teaches the importance of the coming generations.

One should value life, respect others, and be a responsible, positive, productive individual. This is *Hozhoogo lina’*. 


A shelter can be a barometer of consciousness of a community’s attitude towards domestic violence and sexual assault.
A Shelter Is More Than Just a Building

- Path to knowledge, healing, understanding, and strength.
- Framework to provide safety for victims and healing processes for families from domestic violence and sexual assault.
Shelter Meeting Needs of Victims/Survivors and Child Victim Witnesses

• Our temporary shelter currently houses a total of eight victims and 25 children. The New Shelter can house 14 victims and 84 children. We have a gated and secured area. Our mission is to help domestic violence and sexual assault victims/survivors and child victim witnesses to have a safe and secure place to stay.

Child Victim Witnesses learning to plant and grow gardens with staff.

Staff handing out back packs at the Back To School Cookout.

All safety precautions taken with fire safety training for staff and residents.

Birthdays, First Laugh Parties, and Baby Showers are celebrated in an effort to show victims/survivors and child victim witnesses a happier part of everyday life and how to take time and celebrate those wonderful occasions making happy memories with their children.
A Shelter’s Presence Creates a Vessel to Express “Voice”

- A shelter can be a living womb that provides foundation and structure in learning to respect who you are, heal and honor your past, and step into goodness for the future.
- This vessel provides healing for victims, their families and the community as a whole.

Butcher Held at the Shelter with Navajo Teachings

Hike to Gobernador Knob, the Original Homeland of the First Navajo Led By Navajo Leader with Geological, Spiritual, and Navajo Creation Story Emphasis
The strength of the Navajo philosophy of learning is the philosophy of a harmonious life and the holistic view of a life that strives for beauty, peace, joy, and harmony in daily living. Our new shelter is designed with these principles in mind.
Last Minute Thoughts
Keep the Program First

• Issues:
  – Be Flexible
  – Be Helpful & Involved
  – Keep the Faith, Keep Prayers Going
  – Be Disciplined
  – Do Not Listen to Gossip
  – Do Not Let People Sway You
  – Listen to Your Inner Voice
  – Consult with People (Elders) and Those with Expertise
  – Don’t Underestimate the Motives of Others
  – Keep It Simple

Navajo Nation Council Legislative Session – Shiprock Council Delegate GloJean Todacheene – currently a Board Advisor to our Program.

Fry Bread Fundraiser 2010
“Nobody Promises You a Rose Garden”

- Must be willing to start from scratch.
- Must have creative thinking, possibilities for survival of program can pop out of no where.
- Must be willing to do without, maybe.
- Must be willing to go the extra mile in the beginning, even donated out of my own salary to make ends meet.
- Must be gregarious, stay open to all possibilities and keep an open mind.
As long as you are kind and there is love in your heart,
A thousand hands will naturally come to your aid,
As long as you are kind and there is love in your heart,
You will reach out with a thousand hands to help others.

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