Books for Classroom Libraries and/or Literacy Hubs
Request for Proposal (“RFP”)
For Goods Purchased from approximately September 1, 2023–September 30, 2025

Valley of the Sun United Way (“VSUW”), on behalf of Project C.A.L.L. (Collaborating to Accelerate Literacy and Learning) and the West Valley Early Childhood Education Consortium, is seeking a vendor(s) to provide culturally relevant books for Pre-K children and adults.

VSUW envisions a community where every child, family and individual is healthy, has a safe place to live, and has every opportunity to succeed in school, in life and in work. As VSUW works with the community as well as corporate and nonprofit partners to implement MC2026, its five-year plan for Mighty Change, VSUW will put all of its efforts toward reaching bold goals for Maricopa County in Health, Housing and Homelessness, Education, and Workforce Development.

Along with others, VSUW seeks to:

- Close opportunity gaps to ensure children read at grade level by 3rd grade and youth are prepared for educational success and employment.
- Remove barriers to ensure everyone in our community is healthy, with a focus on access to food and health care.
- Ensure all can have a safe home to call their own.
- Open pathways to better paying jobs.

This RFP represents an open and competitive process. Proposals must be submitted electronically to dgerundo@vsuw.org no later than 11:59 PM (Arizona time) on August 15, 2023. Any proposals received after this date and time may not be considered.

A selection decision will be made by August 30, 2023 and notification of selection/non-selection will be sent after that date. Contract terms and conditions will be determined upon selection of a proposal. All contractual terms and conditions will be subject to review and final approval by VSUW and will include scope, budget, schedule, and other necessary items. Submission of a proposal neither guarantees a contract nor guarantees that VSUW will retain your services.

Through this RFP, VSUW is seeking vendor(s) from which it can purchase libraries/books to support the Project C.A.L.L. and West Valley Early Childhood Education Consortium programs.
GOODS REQUESTED

VSUW is seeking a vendor(s) to provide the following libraries:

- A 30-50 book preschool library (anchored to the Science of Reading)
  - Culturally diverse/relevant
  - Multilingual books in languages such as:
    - Spanish
    - Swahili
    - Farsi
    - Arabic
    - Mandarin
  - Gender neutral roles
  - Ability diverse
  - Social/Emotional learning

- A 25-30 parent/infant toddler board book library (anchored to the Science of Reading)
  - Culturally diverse/relevant
  - Multilingual books in languages such as:
    - Spanish
    - Swahili
    - Farsi
    - Arabic
    - Mandarin
  - Gender neutral roles
  - Ability diverse
  - Social/Emotional learning

- Adult/Family Educational Resources Library with books to include:
  - General Education Diploma coursework
  - Multilingual Parent Educational books in languages such as:
    - Spanish
    - Swahili
    - Farsi
    - Arabic
    - Mandarin
  - English language learners (ELL)
  - Financial literacy
  - Health and Nutrition literacy
  - Parenting
  - Social/Emotional learning
Proposals also should include background information about you/your organization, and what qualifications you/your organization have in this industry.

Please provide, in your proposal, all fee/cost information (including any applicable sales tax) for the above-mentioned services. Please recognize that VSUW is a 501(c)(3) organization when providing fee/cost information. Please also include a plan for future purchases to include any discount rates, partnerships, and/or reduced shipping costs, if applicable.

At a minimum, VSUW must select a vendor that complies with 2 CFR 200.327; additional contractual terms to this effect will be included in the awarded contract. Vendors also:

- Should have experience curating libraries for educational programs/institutions
- Should have experience curating libraries adult learners
- Must be able to drop ship to multiple locations around Arizona
- Must be able to deliver within 30 days unless otherwise mutually agreed upon
- Ability to provide quotes for individual books and/or educational software upon request within 3 business days at fair market value

**SCORING RUBRIC**

VSUW will evaluate submitted proposals based on the following Scoring Rubric. Scoring Rubrics are proprietary and confidential to VSUW and will not be shared or disseminated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scoring Rubric</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchored to VSUW mission and vision (culturally relevant, diverse, gender neutral, bilingual, ability diverse) and multilingual availability</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anchored to the Science of Reading and/or supporting adult learners</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Accessibility (timeliness, delivery model, inventory, contact)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Budget (discounts, shipping costs, incentives)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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For questions, please contact Dawn Gerundo at dgerundo@vsuw.org.