

## Response to Questions for Health Care Connect RFP- June 6, 2014

Question#1 When reading through this RFP it states that the due date for this bid is 30 days after it is released to USAC which would be June 25, 2014 and award announcement would be made 10 days after the due date which would make it June 5<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) going by non-business days and June 9<sup>th</sup> going by business days. The issue is that the 3 documents released state that all services must be installed and working by July 1, 2014, in here lays a problem as we are not going to start installing service until contract is awarded. Is this a typo and meant to be July 1, 2015?

Response#1 In reference to the July 1, 2014 service start/activation date - The solicitation was released later than originally planned so the Consortium recognizes that the desired July 1, 2014 date is no longer possible and is seeking implementation of all sites as soon as possible following contract award (as indicated in the posted "Scheduled of Events"). Contract Award is scheduled to occur "July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (or as soon as possible thereafter). Therefore, the vendor's proposal should include a proposed activation timeline for site activations in the requested implementation plan which occur as soon as possible thereafter.

Question#2 Is the Southwest Alabama Behavioral Health Care System looking to have multiple service providers to service all 62 sites within the RFP?

Response#2 In reference to the number of service providers providing services to the 62 sites – As per the RFP, "The Customer is seeking a single contract with a single vendor or integrator to provide the requested WAN, or equivalent, and Internet services and the purchase of network switches. However, one or more separate contracts may be awarded for the other "associated" products and services requested in this solicitation." We recognize that a single provider's network may not cover all 62 sites so multiple service provider networks may be used to provide the requested WAN & Internet services. However, we are seeking a single contract for WAN and Internet services. Therefore, if multiple service provider networks are used to build the network, there should be a single contract for the integrated network with one of the providers who acts as the Integrator.