Question: Does UNLV have to be named as a partner in the proposed collaboration?

Answer: No. A collaboration with a UNLV office or department is not a requirement.

Question: For the mental health proposals, will The Lincy Institute focus on applications that only support children's mental health?

Answer: No. Applicants can propose plans that target the mental health needs of children, adults or seniors.

Question: Can we attend an Information Session in order to identify potential partners that might be applying?

Answer: Yes. During the Information Sessions we will provide networking time.

Question: Can the collaborative include non-traditional types of mental health or education providers? For example, can the desired project be comprised of a coalition of law enforcement?

Answer: The collaborating members can comprise a variety of groups and organizations. Applicants should describe the interconnectedness of the collaborating entities.

Question: Will individuals with developmental disabilities be considered under the “underserved population” category of mental health?

Answer: This particular round of the mental health planning awards will not focus on developmental disabilities. However, in the context of academic success and/or education, proposals that target individuals with developmental or learning disabilities will be considered.
Question: Can I schedule an in-person meeting with a representative from The Lincy Institute to discuss my interest in the Call for Collaborations?

Answer: Given the tremendous amount of inquiries that we have received we are unable to schedule in-person meetings. However, there are four ways to get additional information or to have your specific questions answered: (1) attend either the July 29th or September 4th Information Session; (2) email Ramona Denby-Brinson (ramona.denby@unlv.edu); (3) schedule a phone conference by emailing Ramona or calling her at 702-895-0099; or (4) access the audio playback of the Information Sessions by going to The Lincy Institute’s website (http://www.unlv.edu/lincyinstitute).

Question: In the case of multi-agency/multi-organization coalitions should the coalition apply or the agencies?

Answer: We recommend that the coalition decides who among them will be the lead agency/organization and then the other members of the coalition serve as co-applicants on the grant proposal.

Question: Will small organizations be considered for the awards?

Answer: We are encouraging agencies and organizations of varying size and capacity to partner with one another and submit one application. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the capacity to carry forward the plan that is proposed. Therefore, if an organization lacks capacity with respect to staff, resources, time in the community, etc., it may be more strategic to partner with others who can demonstrate capacity while benefiting from the strengths that the smaller or newer organization has to offer.

Question: Will the awardees be responsible for the evaluation or research that is proposed or will The Lincy Institute carry out that function?

Answer: It is expected that the awardees will execute their proposed evaluation or research plan. However, The Lincy Institute will provide technical assistance to the awardees as they carry out the proposed evaluation or research.

Question: Should I put grant writing, technical assistance and other support that I will need from The Lincy Institute in my budget proposal?

Answer: No. The budget proposal should only include a plan for how the monetary portion of the award will be spent. The grant writing, technical assistance, data management, and research support will be provided directly by The Lincy Institute but need not be reflected in the budget spreadsheet or budget narrative that the applicants prepare.

Question: Can partners and/or additional team members be added after the project has started?

Answer: Yes. Additional partnerships can be forged based on the needs of your project. However, the original lead entity must remain the same throughout the two year planning period. Also, the core group (at least three primary entities) must be maintained throughout the project.
Question: Does the monetary portion of the award need to be used solely on one full-time person or can it be used in other configurations (e.g., multiple part-time staff positions)?

Answer: The monetary portion of the award does not necessarily need to be allocated to just one full-time position. Applicants can propose a part-time hire but you must be able to demonstrate that there will be a designated person responsible for oversight and development of the planning project.

Question: Can the monetary portion of the award be used for operation and/or hosting expenses?

Answer: Yes, a portion of the award could be used for operation and/or hosting. However a portion of the direct support **must be used** to hire an individual who will be responsible for the oversight and development of the planning project.

Question: If a team (lead entity and/or partners) has existing resources and is able to demonstrate that necessary staff time (in support of the proposed project) will be covered using those resources, should such be reflected in the proposal?

Answer: Yes. Given that you want to demonstrate your ability to carry out the proposed project it is advisable that you share information about your existing capacity including situations where in which staff time that will be allocated to the project is covered by additional funding sources. **NOTE:** As it relates to your budget spreadsheet and budget narrative you need only to reflect the amount and source of the fringe benefits package that you or your partners will provide for the designated hire. In order to demonstrate existing capacity with respect to your ability to provide resources to cover other necessary staff lines, you can provide such information in either the “Team Structure” or “Shared Project Management Plan” (i.e., Model of Collaboration) sections of your proposal narrative.

Question: If the team/collaboration identifies a current employee who will be responsible for the project oversight, can the award be used to augment the salary of that individual as long as the lead entity demonstrates a source for the fringe benefits?

Answer: Yes.

Question: What will be the financial structure of the contract, in other words will the contract be a “fixed rate” or “reimbursable” award?

Answer: We intend to use a “reimbursable” structure in which the teams are initially awarded one-fourth of the total grant amount in order to get the project started and to hire necessary staff. Thereafter, quarterly payments will be made after receipt of the team’s quarterly progress report.
Question: What is the expectation concerning the collection of pilot data prior to the start of the project?

Answer: In order to substantiate the need for the proposed project applicants can use primary or secondary data sources. For example, such national data sources as the U.S. Children’s Bureau or American Fact Finder could be used to develop the Purpose and/or Rationale sections of the proposal. If applicants have their own existing pilot data they can use it as well. The collection and/or analysis of additional data will not be required until after the awards have been made.

Question: Will it benefit our application if we involve more than the minimum of three partnering agencies?

Answer: The Call for Collaborations states that the overall purpose of this initiative is to support collaborative teams interested in building local capacity. Eligibility require a minimum of three partners, among them a lead agency. Multiple community partners and multi-disciplinary collaborations are of particular interest to The Lincy Institute, but significant and meaningful involvement of all partners must be demonstrated.

Question: To what extent are existing collaborations (still in their infancy and with a need to further establish their approach and methods of intervention) going to be considered for the awards?

Answer: We are seeking innovative, solution-driven, practical planning approaches that can inform policy reform, data development, or programming/service generation. Although evidence-based approaches are desired we will also consider promising or emerging practices.

Question: Does The Lincy Institute plan to publish (i.e., academic articles) the findings from the planning awards?

Answer: No. The Lincy Institute will not seek to use the data generated from the planning awards for its own publication purposes. The teams will maintain proprietary rights of their data but will be required to share data with the community and The Lincy Institute as outlined in the Call for Collaborations.

Question: Are organizations permitted to participate in more than one proposal?

Answer: Yes. However, an organization can be the lead applicant on only one proposal.

Question: What is the maximum grant award (dollar amount)?

Answer: The funding amount is $125,000 (total two-year project period). Each award will receive a maximum of $80,000 in direct funding (cash) and $45,000 in in-kind support (staff time) from The Lincy Institute.
Question: Is there going to be a website or list that we can refer to in order to learn about some of the ideas that are being proposed or to see existing projects?

Answer: The Lincy Institute will compile a list of the names, contact information, and areas of interest of those individuals willing to share such. The list will be emailed to everyone who registered for the Information Session. Additionally, the information will be made available on The Lincy Institute website. We are also establishing a section on our Facebook page that will enable interested groups to share ideas about potential partnerships.

Question: If an organization has two departments that will be collaborating on a proposal is that considered a single entity?

Answer: Yes. Multiple units within one organization are considered to be “one organization.” For example, the College of Urban Affairs, the College of Education, and the Law School are all under the structure of UNLV and considered to be “one organization” or “one entity.” We strongly encourage you to build your collaboration using multiple entities.

Question: Should the teams be comprised of a mix of academics and practitioners?

Answer: We strongly encourage the use of multidisciplinary teams. A team specifying roles for researchers, practitioners, administrators, service providers, consumers of services/clients, and others is one way of illustrating the multi-disciplinary nature of the proposed project.

Question: Does the lead applicant need to be established prior to the submission of the grant proposal?

Answer: Yes. The lead applicant must be able to demonstrate capacity (financially, temporally, and organizationally). If the lead is a nonprofit organization, the agency is required to submit its 501 (c) (3) IRS Tax Exempt letter and a copy of the lead applicant’s most recent audited financial statement.

Question: Can public entities and municipalities apply for the planning awards?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If the lead applicant is a non-profit can other members of the collaborative be for-profit organizations?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If the lead applicant is headquartered in a city other than Las Vegas or a state other than Nevada, will it still be considered for the planning award?

Answer: The lead applicant can be headquartered outside of Las Vegas, Nevada but the applicant will have to demonstrate that its services, supports, or operations are provided to Southern Nevada residents. Organizations headquartered outside of Las Vegas, Nevada must have a local office and be able to demonstrate local impact and capacity.
Question: Does The Lincy Institute plan to issue the *Call for Collaborations* again next year?

Answer: At this point we are not sure if we will issue the *Call for Collaborations* annually. We will support the group of awardees that will be selected in October. In doing so, our aim is to demonstrate a level of success that strengthens the capacity of local social service organizations to address the needs of the individuals that they serve. We believe that the collaborative projects can be effective and we plan to demonstrate that the *Call for Collaborations* approach is worthy of emulation.

Question: Aside from using the monetary support to hire a designated project coordinator or facilitator, can the lead applicant direct a portion of the funding to its collaborating partners to cover the costs that partners will incur as they engage in the two-year planning process?

Answer: Yes. However a portion of the direct support **must be used** to hire an individual who will be responsible for the oversight and development of the planning project. The lead applicant must be able to demonstrate throughout the entire two-year planning period that there is a designated person in charge of keeping the project on task and managing the efforts of the team.