



Call for Proposals For NAZA Project Evaluation

Background

The Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) is a partnership of the Nashville Public Library, Metro Nashville Public Schools, the Mayor's Office, and youth development organizations. NAZA seeks to increase youths' equitable access to out-of-school opportunities and build youth development organizations' capacity to offer youth transformative learning experiences outside of the school day.

In 2021, NAZA received a new multi-year federal grant from the Institute of Library and Museum Services to support the implementation of Nashville's Vision for Holistic Youth Development framework, created through a partnership with Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education and Human Development. The framework was based on a comprehensive needs assessment study completed by a Peabody research team in collaboration with a city-wide working group represented by the city, schools, non-profits, youth, business leaders, etc. The goal was to strengthen Nashville's capacity to help children/youth thrive through developing skills that are essential in education, career, and life success in line with the principles of [Nashville's Vision for Holistic Youth Development](#).

The Evaluation Scope:

NAZA is looking for an independent consultant or organization to conduct project implementation and impact evaluation for a 3-year federally funded project by the end of the third year (July, 2024) . The Consultant(s) will lead a summative assessment of the project outcomes using a methodology that will be agreed upon in the contract.

This project called the "Implementation of the Vision for Holistic Youth Development" is aimed at deeply engaging the community in raising awareness about holistic youth development and the importance of specific skills that youth need to thrive, co-creating interactive learning materials and measurement tools, and engaging the community in deeper conversation about youth development needs. Additionally, as a National Leadership Grant, this project is aimed at sharing the gained knowledge and experience nationwide so that other communities could create their own shared youth development vision learning from this initiative.



The evaluation will focus on the following research components:

1. The level of achievement of the set project goals (see annex 1).
2. The availability of data to support the goals achievement.
3. The level of community engagement in the implementation of the project, including co-creation of learning and measurement tools.
4. The value, relevance and importance of the Vision and this project for the Nashville youth development community and community partners.
5. The accessibility and usefulness of the project deliverables nationwide for other interested communities.

Methodology and timeline

The applicant should propose a detailed evaluation methodology based on the information provided in the document and the project details available through the link above with brief rationale for each of the selected methods and details about data analysis. Mixed methods will be welcome. A detailed outline of addressing the research questions with respective methodology and proposed timeline must be provided using the table below:

Table 1:

Research Question	Proposed methodology	Timeline	Notes/rationale



Proposed budget

The applicant should attach a detailed budget with line items identified and explained using the template below.

Name of the consultant/organization					
Period					
Item	Unit	Unit #	Unit cost	Total	Notes (please itemize and be specific)
Salaries and wages <i>(breakdown by individual position and indicate full- or part-time. \$x/hr; x hrs/wk) add or remove lines as needed</i>					
Name, last name, position/role					
Name and last name					
Name and last name					
Salaries and wages subtotal:					
Program participant incentives <i>(gift cards, giveaways, prizes, etc.)</i>					
Travel <i>(mileage, gas, parking)</i>					
Other (specify)					
TOTAL Direct Costs					
TOTAL COSTS					



Qualifications: To be successful in implementing this task, the consultant(s) should:

1. Have prior experience (at least 3 years) leading similar research projects.
2. Have a doctoral degree in humanities, social sciences, education, or related disciplines (for the lead researcher, if there are few applicants). If applying as an organization or a group of consultants, the co-consultants must have at least master's degree in relevant disciplines.
3. Have strong skills and experience in developing data collection tools.
4. Have strong skills in research synthesis, as well as analyzing and presenting the collected data in a summary and full reports with data visualization.

Please submit your application that includes your full proposal (including the methodology and timeline), budget and curriculum vitae of all included team members in delivering this work to anna.harutyunyan@nashville.gov and copy james.turnerii@nashville.gov by **March 25th, 2024**.

Annex 1- Project goals

Goal 1: To strengthen Nashville's capacity to support children's/youths' growth in the individual and community growth practices that will help them thrive in education, work, and life as defined in Nashville's Vision for Holistic Youth Development.

Goal 1 Objective: To strengthen community youths' and adults' readiness to take action to support youth thriving in alignment with the Vision.

Goal 1 Outcomes:

- 1) Over the course of 3 years, 75% (or 750) of an estimated 1,000 local youth and adults who engage in Vision integration sessions will report that they have increased their knowledge or skills related to how to integrate the Vision's individual and community growth practices into their context (e.g. afterschool program, at home, at school, workplace).
- 2) 75% of participant youth will report that they have strengthened at least three of the twelve individual growth practices.
- 3) 25% of participant youth will report having an intentional participation/leadership development opportunity within their programs.

Goal 2: To support the capacity of other communities to help children/youth thrive in education, work, and life by sharing Nashville's best practices.



Goal 2 Objective: To support the readiness of other communities' stakeholders to further their own local journeys to support children/youth in thriving.

Goal 2 Outcomes:

1) 75% of respondents in other communities will report that the strategies and resources shared by NAZA will help them further their own local journeys to support children/youth in thriving.



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Este proyecto fue posible en parte por el Instituto de Servicios de Museos y Bibliotecas Transformando el Aprendizaje, Transformando la Comunidad: Una Subvención de Enfoque Holístico [IMLS LG-250051-OLS021].