General Questions

What budget scale would be appropriate in response to this RFQ? Would a mixed methods evaluation proposal be welcomed?
The Treasurer’s office will consider all evaluation methodologies proposed. As stated in the RFQ, amongst other items, the Treasurer’s office is seeking information on the Respondent’s evaluation strategy, Respondent’s vision for the role of the evaluator, and any modifications, innovations, or efficiencies that ResultsOHIO should consider for its evaluation process.

ResultsOHIO will consider all cost estimates proposed. As described in the RFQ, the Treasurer’s office is seeking information regarding any ideas to generate efficiencies for the evaluation of this project, which could include cost efficiencies or efforts that could lead to cost efficiencies.

What level of specificity are you seeking in proposals? To clarify, given the limited information available, we plan to propose an appropriate budget for a project of this size and then detail the kinds of evaluation activity that we would typically provide, recognizing that the actual evaluation components will be finalized during the pre-evaluation stage in July. Does this fit with what you are anticipating?
This approach is acceptable. However, please note that the Treasurer’s office is seeking a total project cost for each evaluation methodology you recommend (if multiple), how those costs breakdown annually, and a breakdown of the costs attributable to administrative expenses/costs.

Given that the evaluation plan will only be fully fleshed out after conversations with the team whose project is being evaluated, how much flexibility will there be in the budget we have to submit now? Or are we locked in to the budget we propose now even if we discover important aspects of the program/project that would improve the rigor of the evaluation?
The final evaluation costs are subject to appropriations secured in the state budget and negotiations with the Treasurer’s office. Therefore, there may be budget adjustments during negotiations with the Treasurer’s office, at which point the appropriation will also be known.

What is the role of the independent evaluator?
Please review the RFQ.

What are the specific responsibilities of the independent evaluator?
Please refer to Section III of the RFQ, which details the scope of services.

Can we offer suggestions on additional data collection procedures?
Yes.

Can we suggest additional datasets?
Yes.

Are we able to use our federally negotiated indirect cost rate?
The Treasurer’s office does not have enough information to answer this question.

What types of dissemination outlets are allowed (e.g. conference presentations, journal articles)?
Both outlets listed in the question will be considered by the Treasurer’s office. As stated in the RFQ, selected independent evaluators will have the opportunity to publish findings and engage in other public-facing opportunities, as agreed to by the Treasurer’s office.
What is the timeline from review to receipt of funding?
For each project that receives funding, the Treasurer’s office anticipates selecting and executing a contract with an independent evaluator as soon as July of 2021. Services are anticipated to commence following the contract execution. The Treasurer’s office will know which projects will receive an appropriation when the 2022-2023 biennial budget is signed into law.

What is the Pay for Success initiative?
As stated in the RFQ, ResultsOHIO utilizes a pay for success project delivery and financing model, where private funders provide the upfront funding for project delivery and the government only reimburses if performance metrics are achieved, as determined by the independent evaluator. More information on ResultsOHIO and its model can be found at http://www.tos.ohio.gov/resultsohio/, ORC 113.60 through 113.62, and OAC 113-8.

Will we have the opportunity to meet with the project team to discuss aspects of their evaluation plan?
For any projects that receive funding, once an independent evaluator has been selected then there will be opportunities to meet with the project team to discuss the evaluation plan. The Treasurer’s office anticipates the evaluation plans being finalized during the pre-evaluation services phase in collaboration with the project team.

Questions Related to Onefifteen Recovery Project

How will participants be recruited? We assume by the courts by referral, but want to be sure.
The Treasurer’s office anticipates discussing this information with the selected independent evaluator during the pre-evaluation services phase.

How many participants will be recruited to participate in the PROGRESS program.? The introductory narrative states between 1000 to 1500. However, Exhibit H, states enroll first patient to progress program. Will they all be recruited in the 1st 6 months or over the 1st year of the project?
If OneFifteen Recovery were to receive an appropriation at the amount requested in the Feasibility Report, it is anticipated that 1,500 participants could be served. OneFifteen Recovery expects to recruit 1,500 over the course of the three year program, with about 500 individuals recruited each year.

What does the telehealth model involve?
The Treasurer’s office anticipates discussing this information with the selected independent evaluator during the pre-evaluation services phase.

What will individuals be asked to disclose during the telehealth meetings? Will these meetings be held in private?
The Treasurer’s office anticipates discussing this information with the selected independent evaluator during the pre-evaluation services phase.

The co-located telehealth hubs will be placed in pretrial services, public defenders’ offices…How do these differ from the general telehealth hubs? What will participants be asked to disclose in these locations how does that differ from what they will be asked to disclose at a non-co-located hub?
The Treasurer’s office anticipates discussing this information with the selected independent evaluator during the pre-evaluation services phase.