

**REQUEST FOR
PROPOSAL**

for

Audit Services

Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands SC

Date of Issuance: February 6, 2024

Proposal Due Date: February 23, 2024

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. INVITATION

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) is to solicit proposals from qualified audit firms to provide audit services to Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands SC (hereinafter “Goodwill” or “Company”).

Goodwill is issuing this RFP to select an audit firm to serve as its audit provider.

Goodwill invites proposals until February 23, 2024.

Point of Contact:

Tonya Donnan
purchasing@goodwillsc.org
115 Haywood Rd
Greenville, SC 29607

The Company reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any informalities or irregularities and to make the selection among the proposals as are deemed in the best interest of Goodwill. Goodwill is not liable for any costs incurred to prepare or present a response to this RFP.

B. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

Goodwill is a South Carolina not-for-profit corporation. Our agency was founded in 1902. First South Carolina store opening in Greenville, SC in 1973. We are a 501c3 organization.

An overview of our organization follows:

Two major operating divisions:

1. Retail Division – Currently operating 40 retail stores, 2 outlet stores and 3 eCommerce sites in Upstate and Midlands of South Carolina. These stores operate primarily from donated inventory, which is received at numerous donation centers. In addition, a portion of donated goods income results from the sale of salvage.
2. Career Solutions Division – The heart of our organization and the reason our Retail Division and support functions exist. Our employment and training programs are supported through the profits from our retail operations, donations, grants, and limited governmental funding.

Located across 16 counties within the Upstate and Midlands of SC, Goodwill is more than a not-for-profit. We are a person-to-person phenomenon that fosters material and economic sustainability throughout the local community. One that accepts gently-used goods, sells them in our more than 40 retail stores, then uses the proceeds to fund career training and placement services across a wide variety of industries. We are individuals from all walks of life, exchanging worth and finding value in all its different forms. Simple convenience for some. Profound opportunity for others. Goodwill to all.

Additional information regarding Goodwill can be found on our website, <https://goodwillsc.org>

C. REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION

Goodwill seeks proposals from qualified audit firms. The objective is to secure the most efficient and effective audit services. Goodwill may award a contract to the best service provider with innovative ideas, which may not be the low price proposer. Goodwill reserves the right not to award some or all of the services contemplated herein.

D. GENERAL PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

It is requested that proposals be prepared in a comprehensive manner as to content. Although permissible, there is no necessity for expensive binders, color displays or other promotional material. The proposal should be prepared in a format that will permit ready identification of your response to each component of this RFP in a concise manner.

The proposal must be signed by the duly authorized partner or officer who will have overall responsibility for work under the proposal.

All pricing proposals must remain in effect for at least one hundred twenty (120) days beginning the next business day after the proposals are opened. Goodwill is not responsible for any costs incurred in the preparations and presentation of your proposal.

The selected proposer will be expected to enter into a contract or engagement letter with Goodwill in a form acceptable to Goodwill.

E. CONTRACT AWARD

Goodwill shall have the right to select who in the opinion of Goodwill will be in the best interest of and/or the most advantageous to Goodwill after considering the criteria set forth in this RFP. Goodwill reserves the right to waive any minor informalities or technicalities in proposals received, as may be deemed in the best interest of Goodwill in Goodwill's sole discretion. Additionally, Goodwill reserves the right to reject all Proposers at any time prior to execution of a contract and to resolicit (or not) in its sole discretion. A decision to terminate the solicitation process may be made at any time before Goodwill enters into a contract with a selected Proposer. A recommendation of contract award does not constitute a contract.

All proposals will be subject to a review and evaluation process. It is the intent of Goodwill that all proposers responding to this RFP, who meet the requirements, will be ranked in accordance with the criteria established in these documents. Goodwill will consider all responsive and responsible proposals received in its evaluation and award process.

Firms submitting a proposal along with the required information and documentation will have their proposal evaluated and scored based on the evaluation criteria set forth herein.

Further, each proposal will be evaluated for full compliance with the RFP instructions to the proposers and the terms and conditions set forth within the

RFP document.

Proposals will be scored and ranked in accordance with Goodwill's criteria.

Goodwill is not obligated to make an award to the Proposer with the lowest bid or price submitted. Proposals will be evaluated and an award made to that Proposer who is determined to be responsible and responsive to this Request for Proposal and whose proposal is the most advantageous to Goodwill in terms of price, quality of service, the Proposer's qualifications and capabilities to provide the specified services and comply with the applicable conditions of this Request for Proposal and Contract, and who in the judgment of Goodwill will best serve the needs and interests of Goodwill.

F. TERM OF ENGAGEMENT

It is Goodwill's intent to award the contract for an initial three year period with the option to renew for two additional three year periods or a maximum of nine years. The decision to renew the contract will be at the sole discretion of Goodwill. Proposers must agree to fix contract fees for at least the first one year. If the vendor intends to revise its fee schedule after the initial period, it must give written notice to Goodwill at least ninety (90) days in advance of any fee change. These fees are subject to negotiation and approval by Goodwill.

G. TERMINATION

Goodwill reserves the right to cancel the contract, at any time, without cause and without penalty with a minimum ninety (90) days written notice.

Termination or cancellation of the contract will not relieve the Proposer of any obligations or liabilities resulting from any acts committed by the Proposer prior to the termination of the contract.

H. SELECTION PROCESS

1. Schedule

Request for Proposals Issued	February 6, 2024
Questions Due**	February 14, 2024 5:00PM EST
Responses to Questions Distributed**	February 16, 2024
Proposals Due (Submission Deadline)	February 23, 2024 5:00PM EST
Panel to Review	TBD
Oral Presentations	TBD
Award Notification Date	March 2024
New Contract Begin Date	April 2024

**Interested parties who submit questions must sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) to receive the distribution of questions and answers. All parties involved in the preparation or execution of oral presentations must sign an NDA. Questions must be submitted by the deadline to

purchasing@goodwillsc.org.

Questions and answers from all respondents will be compiled into one Q&A document and provided to all respondents who have submitted questions and the appropriate signed NDA(s). If the respondent has not provided GIUMSC with signed NDA(s) prior to the distribution date listed in the schedule, they will not receive the Q&A document.

Goodwill reserves the right to cancel and/or modify the RFP dates at any time.

2. Proposers are expected to fully inform themselves as to the conditions, requirements, and specifications before submitting proposals. Failure to do so will be at proposer's own risk, and they cannot secure relief on the plea of error. Questions regarding the RFP:

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to:
Goodwill's Purchasing Agent
Email: purchasing@goodwillsc.org
Subject line: Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands SC RFP – [Company Name]

Questions should be directly tied to the RFP and asked in consecutive order, from beginning to end, following the organization of the RFP. Each question should begin by referencing the RFP page number and subject number to which it relates.

Goodwill expects to distribute responses to questions by email on February 16, 2024.

3. Submission Instructions

Submission of proposals shall be in electronic format and submitted to the secure portal provided to bidders by GIUMSC.

Compliance with the proposal submission deadline will be determined by timestamp of upload of documents to the portal.

4. Right to Reject

Upon receipt of proposals, Goodwill will review each response to this Request for Proposal. Failure to properly address all of the items set forth below may disqualify the proposal. Goodwill reserves the right to reject any or all proposals at its sole discretion. We may interview one or more proposers to further assist in the review process and will award the contract at the sole discretion of Goodwill.

I. CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Responsiveness to the requirements of the RFP, as well as the relevance of the responses to the needs of Goodwill
- Scope of services offered
- Experience of the bidder in providing similar services to public and not-for-profit organizations
- Professional experience and qualifications of the individuals assigned to the project
- Financial strength, adequacy of financial controls, security and compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations for the services proposed
- Implementation/transition plan
- Cost proposal (including both direct and indirect costs)

II. SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. GENERAL Audit Services

The vendor awarded the contract will be Goodwill's primary audit service provider. This vendor will provide audit services to Goodwill.

1. General Information

Below is information on Goodwill's audit and their expectations.

- Preparation of audited financial statements and corresponding report to the Board of Directors.
- Preparation of organizational single audit
- Preparation of IRS Form 990

III. FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS

Proposers must respond to each item in this section by listing the item number and providing a complete response to each question.

A. QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

1. Provide a brief general overview and history of your organization, including parent and/or subsidiary companies and number of employees.
2. Provide the address of the office(s) that will cover work on Goodwill's audit.
3. Describe the experience of the bidder in providing similar services for public and not-for-profit entities.
4. Include references and/or examples of work similar to project.

B. KEY PROPOSED PERSONNEL & TEAM

1. Provide the name, title, address, phone number, and email address of the primary contact person(s) assigned to this project.
2. Provide information on the key personnel that will work with Goodwill. Information must include:
 - a. Proposed role with regard to Goodwill's account;
 - b. Biographical information;
 - c. Experience working with other public and not-for-profit entities;
 - d. Number of years of experience in this field;
 - e. Number of years with your company.
3. Customer Service

C. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. Disclose whether your company or any individuals assigned to provide services to Goodwill have any potential conflicts of interest with Goodwill, or any Board members or employees of Goodwill and, if so, the nature of the conflict.

D. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Confirm that the bidder maintains basic liability insurance with coverage amounts acceptable to Goodwill.

E. CONTROL

1. Describe the company's security environment. Specifically cover the physical and digital security and software safeguards that you have put in place to control access to data.
2. Describe the company's security procedures for its information reporting system, both for access and information protection

F. NEW/EXPANDED SERVICES AND IDEAS

1. Please provide any additional information that you believe to be pertinent but not specifically requested elsewhere in the RFP.

G. SUB-CONTRACTING

Subcontractors are not allowed

H. PRICING

1. For how long will the bidder guarantee the proposed costs and fees?
2. Provide a complete cost and fee detail. Cost related to all services described in the proposal must be listed. Also, include any one-time or set-up charges, research fees, minimum fees, and all other fees that will be associated. As a general rule of thumb, please include any information related to the Cost being charged to Goodwill.