

Request for Proposals (RFP): Event Management and Strategic Partnership StolenYouth 2026-2027

Seeking a Visionary Partner to Shape Transformative Fundraising Events and Community Engagement

Introduction

StolenYouth is excited to announce an open Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Washington-based, dynamic, creative, and strategic event management partner to collaborate with our organization for the 2026 and 2027 calendar years. Our vision is to elevate our annual events, deepen community impact, and foster long-term relationships with attendees, supporters, and families. This RFP is not merely a search for vendors but an invitation for a partnership—a shared journey in designing and executing events that bring our mission to life.

We invite qualified organizations with proven experience, strategic insight, and creative flair to submit proposals outlining their approach to event planning and management, with a focus on collaboration, innovation, and mission alignment. Our selection process will be competitive, and our criteria prioritize not only cost but also fit, experience, creativity, and a genuine willingness to strategize alongside us.

About StolenYouth

StolenYouth is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child sexual exploitation and trafficking through advocacy, education, and empowerment. Our annual events serve as vital touchpoints for fundraising, community engagement, and awareness-building. Each gathering is an opportunity to connect, inspire, and rally support for our cause.

Background & Context

For the past 12 years, StolenYouth has hosted an annual fundraising luncheon each Spring from 12–1 pm. Attendance has ranged from roughly 300–1000 people, with an average of approximately 500 attendees. This event has consistently raised between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000.

While the luncheon has been a longstanding tradition, we are increasingly hearing feedback that the format feels dated or has lost momentum. Many donors and community partners attend out of habit, but engagement has been inconsistent. Additionally, the luncheon has attempted to serve too many stakeholder groups at once, diluting its effectiveness.



StolenYouth is in the midst of several strategic shifts, including reducing reliance on a single major fundraising event each year. This transition creates an opportunity to rethink our event strategy, experiment with new formats, and better tailor experiences to specific audiences.

We are seeking a partner who is not only creative and strategic but also willing to test new ideas, take calculated risks, and learn from each year's outcomes. Our aim is to strengthen engagement, diversify our approaches, and build events that reflect the vitality and mission of StolenYouth.

Looking ahead, we are eager for **fresh**, **creative event concepts** that will **reignite enthusiasm among our long-term supporters** while also **welcoming and inspiring new donors and community members**. This is a chance to build events that don't just meet goals but spark lasting excitement and deepen connections with the StolenYouth mission.

Scope of Services

We are seeking an event management partner who will:

- **Strategize collaboratively** with StolenYouth leadership to design, plan, and execute impactful events that align with our mission and goals.
- Propose creative event concepts tailored to specific audiences, with a focus on maximizing engagement, inclusivity, and impact.
- **Provide project management**, manage logistics, vendor coordination, timeline development, and on-site execution for all events.
- **Facilitate marketing and communication planning** in partnership with our team to ensure strong event promotion and attendance.
- **Align event strategies** with StolenYouth's mission, fundraising goals, and community-building efforts.
- Recommend creative approaches for increasing engagement and impact.
- **Provide guidance on cost caps and budgeting**, ensuring fiscal responsibility while maintaining quality and vision.
- Offer post-event evaluation and recommendations for continuous improvement.

Annual Event Overview

The following reflects our current thinking, but please challenge it! We are open to ideas. (Honestly...We kind of need to keep the luncheon for 2026 – but beyond that we are open!)



Spring Event:

• Format: Luncheon

• Attendance: No more than 100 guests

• Timing: April-May 2025

 Goal: Intimate setting conducive to major fundraising, networking, and supporter recognition.

Fall Event:

- Format: Flexible—can be a festival, fair, walk/run, family day, or other creative concept
- Focus: Community engagement, family-friendly activities, and broad outreach
- Timing: September-November 2025
- Goal: Foster community connections, bring in new donors, raise awareness, and provide a welcoming space for families

Proposal Requirements

All proposals must address the following areas:

- **Organizational Overview:** Briefly describe your company, relevant experience, and client portfolio, particularly with nonprofits and community events.
- **Strategic Approach:** Share your philosophy and methodology for strategic event planning and management, with examples of successful collaboration.
- **Creative Vision:** Present a basic concept for StolenYouth's spring and fall events, outlining themes, or formats that align with our mission and audience.*
- **Logistical Plan:** Share how you would handle event logistics, vendor management, and risk mitigation.
- **Round Numbers:** Rather than detailed line-item budgets, please propose <u>rough</u> cost estimates for each event type. We're looking for order of magnitude not detailed numbers.
- **Team and Roles:** Introduce key staff who would be assigned to our partnership, including summaries of relevant experience.
- Willingness to Strategize: Illustrate your commitment to ongoing partnership and co-creation, including approaches to joint planning and communication.
- **References:** Include at least two references from similar projects, preferably with nonprofit or community-oriented clients.



*Note on Concepts & Partnership

We want to be clear that StolenYouth is not seeking fully developed event plans or detailed creative work as part of this RFP process. Our goal is to understand each firm's strategic approach, creativity, and fit as a potential long-term partner. Any concepts shared will be used solely for evaluation purposes and will remain the intellectual property of the submitting firm.

Proposal Submission Timeline

- RFP Release Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025
- Q&A Open Call: Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 2pm PT
- Proposals Due: Wednesday, October 15, 2025, by 5:00 PM PT
- Notification of Finalists: By October 17, 2025
- Finalist Interviews/Orals: October 20 24, 2025
- Final Selection: October 25, 2025

Evaluation Criteria

This is a competitive process. Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Mission Alignment & Fit: How well the firm understands StolenYouth's mission, values, culture, and long-term vision.
- **Relevant Experience**: Demonstrated success in managing events of similar scale and scope, especially within nonprofit or community-focused contexts.
- **Creativity & Innovation**: Ability to reimagine traditional fundraising formats, bring fresh ideas, and design experiences that inspire both long-term supporters and new audiences.
- **Strategic Partnership**: Willingness to act as a true collaborator, providing insights and strategies that go beyond logistics.
- Donor & Community Engagement: Proven approaches to strengthening relationships with current donors while also expanding outreach to new supporters and community members.
- Cost Effectiveness: Alignment with agreed-upon budget caps while delivering highquality, impactful events.

Submission Process

1. Please **notify us of your intent to bid** no later than Friday, October 3, 2025, by emailing us at https://news.notify.org. For those who notify us before October 1,



- 2025, we will share the dial-in information for the Q&A Open Call. The call will be recorded, and copies of the recording may be shared upon request.
- Please submit your proposal electronically in PDF format to StolenYouth's RFP Coordinator at hope@stolenyouth.org by 5pm PT on October 14, 2025. Late submissions will not be considered. Direct all questions regarding this RFP to the same email address.

Additional Information

- StolenYouth reserves the right to request additional information, conduct interviews, and negotiate terms as needed.
- Final selection will be based on best overall value and fit for organizational needs.
- No cost detail breakdown is required; focus on cost caps and overall strategy.
- All information contained in submissions will be kept confidential and used only for evaluation purposes.

Contact Information

StolenYouth

Attn: RFP Coordinator

Email: hope@stolenyouth.org Website: www.stolenyouth.org

Conclusion

StolenYouth is committed to finding a collaborative, creative, and strategic partner that will help us bring our annual events to life and deepen our impact in the fight against child trafficking. We encourage all qualified firms to share their vision, expertise, and enthusiasm for this partnership in their proposal.

Thank you for your interest in joining us as we create meaningful, memorable experiences for our community in 2026 and 2027.



Vision

StolenYouth envisions a world where every child and youth are safe from sexual exploitation and trafficking

Mission

To prevent child sexual exploitation and trafficking through education, advocacy, and empowerment

Statement of Values

VALUE: INTEGRITY

Guiding Principles

- We operate with transparency, responsibility, honesty, openness, and an unwavering commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards and practices in all our operations.
- We take responsibility for our actions, ensuring that our decisions, finances, and impact are clear to those who support and rely on our work.
- We share successes and challenges alike, fostering trust among survivors, partners, and our community and seeking out opportunities to learn, grow, and do better.

VALUE: COURAGE

Guiding Principles

- We tackle child exploitation with urgency, courage, and boldness wherever it is and refuse to look away.
- We challenge the status quo to create systemic change.
- We push boundaries, act with purpose, and prioritize long-term solutions, as protecting children requires both fearless advocacy and thoughtful, strategic action.
- We challenge systemic injustices and advocate for stronger community action that prevents harm to children.
- We are not afraid to disrupt harmful norms and take risks in pursuit of justice.

VALUE: COLLABORATION

Guiding Principles

• We believe real change happens when we work together, and that collective action is essential to ending exploitation.



- Every person we empower extends our reach, creating a movement that grows exponentially.
- Together, our collective impact is far greater than the sum of our parts.

VALUE: OPTIMISM

Guiding Principles

- We believe in a future where every child is loved, safe, and free.
- We believe that a world free from child exploitation is possible.
- Even in the face of difficult challenges, we remain hopeful and committed, focusing on solutions that empower communities, inspire action, and create lasting change.
- We focus on solutions and celebrate progress, no matter how small.
- We recognize that while our mission is serious, hope and joy fuel our resilience.

VALUE: PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Guiding Principles

- We seek creative, forward-thinking solutions to prevent and disrupt trafficking.
- We adapt to emerging threats and trends in trafficking with proactive strategies.
- We embrace new ideas and encourage collaboration to drive meaningful change.
- We commit to a culture of continuous learning and growth—individually and collectively—so we can adapt, lead with humility, and best serve our mission and community.

VALUE: GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

Guiding Principles

- We believe that empathy, respect, and love are at the heart of violence prevention and that we have a responsibility to model these values in how we treat each other, our staff, our donors, and our partners.
- We believe compassion is powerful and we refuse to remain passive in the face of cruelty and harm.