

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Justification and Approval**  
**For**  
**Other Than Full and Open Competition**

**1. Contracting Activity:**

Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office (NCO) 21, Sierra Nevada Health Care System (VASNHCS), 975 Kirman Ave., Reno, NV 89502

Requisition No.: 654-15-1-168-0005 Reno Mass Shelter for Homeless Veterans

**2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**

The VASNHCS anticipates entering into a sole source acquisition negotiation in accordance with FAR 13.106-(b) with the City of Reno's Shelter of Reno, Nevada for mass shelter services for homeless veterans in need of immediate placement and/or emergency housing in a safe environment. This will allow the VASNHCS's Health Care for Homeless Veteran's (HCHV) program to remove homeless Veterans from the street or habitation unfit for Veterans and place them in community-based, residential environments with sufficient supportive services to meet their needs and ultimately, facilitate the improvement of their overall health status and housing situation. The Government intends to award a new firm fixed price contract for fiscal year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014 – Sep. 30, 2105.)

**3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

A sole source award will be made to the City of Reno Mass Shelter, for contracted emergency residential services to eligible veterans. The City of Reno's shelter will provide standard amenities and direct services to include: room & board, laundry facilities, care planning, recovery, medication management, permanent housing search, discharge planning, and VA Coordination.

Contracting Officer's (CO) Cost Estimate: Placements will be made in emergency housing facilities based on the individual needs of the Veteran being served. The cost estimate is based the estimate on the historical usage rate for this residency program of 20 beds per night for 365 days. The value of the contract would be approximately \$132,203 per year. The period of performance is October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015.

**4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

*41 USC §253(c)(1), as implemented by FAR 6.302-1: Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements.*

**5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**

The City of Reno's Shelter is currently supporting the VASNHCS by providing service designed to serve homeless veterans in need of immediate placement and/or emergency housing in a safe environment. Currently the City of Reno shelter is the only mass shelter within Washoe County. This is the type of shelter needed for this specific contract. The City of Reno Shelter services are essential for homeless veterans who are in need of emergency housing. Emergency housing is the first step in the Continuum of Care which provides immediate alternatives to the street.

A break in service would displace these Veterans which would prove detrimental and negatively impact the homeless Veteran population who require temporary housing in a safe and stable living environment. A break in service may cause veterans to remain on the street or other habitation unfit for Veterans. The VASNHCS has been placing Veterans in the City of Reno's Homeless Shelter for several years.

The City of Reno Shelter has been successfully providing services to homeless Veterans. Discontinuation of the current contract services will cause an unacceptable delay in fulfilling the agency's requirement defined in VHA Handbook 1162 pertaining to HCHV Contracted Residential Services "(1)Contracted Emergency Residential Services (CERS) programs target and prioritize homeless Veterans transitioning from literal street homelessness, those being discharged from institutions including those in need of medical respite, and Veterans who recently became homeless and require safe and stable living arrangements while they seek permanent housing. CERS Programs, either directly or through linkage with community and VA services, provide time limited services such as supporting mental health stabilization, substance use disorder treatment services, enhancement of independent living skills, vocational and employment services. Emphasis is placed on referral and placement in permanent housing, or longer term residential programs utilizing VA and/or community resources. Lengths of stay in CERS typically range from 30 to 90 days with the option to extend based on clinical need."

The City of Reno's homeless shelter is the only mass shelter within the VASNHCS's catchment area. Accordingly the City of Reno is the only firm capable of providing the supplies and services described in Section III above without the Veteran's Health Administration experiencing substantial duplication of cost that could not be expected to be recovered through competition and unacceptable delays in fulfilling its requirements.

**6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:**

A sources sought for emergency housing for homeless veterans was posted to FBO on May 23, 2014 with a response date of May 30, 2014 to gain knowledge of potential contractors that are capable of providing these services. One response was received as a result; the responder however will not operate a mass shelter.

A notice of Intent to Sole Source will be published on FedBizOpps. Any responses will be referred to the Supervisor for the Health Care for Homeless Veteran (HCHV) Program to determine if additional sources capable of satisfying the agency's requirements exist.

**7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:**

Price reasonableness will be determined in accordance with Simplified acquisition procedures (FAR 13.106-3 (a)(2) If only one response is received.)

**8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:**

As described in Section VI above, market research was conducted in accordance with FAR Part 10 with a synopsis of the proposed acquisition, advising industry of the pending acquisition and soliciting from interested parties. In addition, Nevada 211 and the Washoe County HUD Continuum of Care were contacted. It was determined that the City of Reno Shelter is the only mass shelter within Nevada.

**9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:**

All pertinent facts have been noted above.

**10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

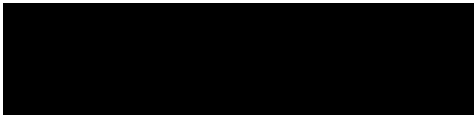
See Section VI above.

**11. A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:**

The procurement action will be posted to the Government Point of Entry (GPE). Any responses will be referred to the Supervisor for the Health Care for Homeless Veteran (HCHV) Program to determine if additional sources capable of satisfying the agency's requirements exist.

12. **Requirements Certification:** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide Need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I certify the technical requirements are accurate and complete to support the recommendation of other than full and open competition.

  
Name: Elizabeth Pope, LCSW  
Title: Supervisor, Health Care  
for Homeless Veterans Program

08/04/14  
Date

13. **Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
Nancy Wornen  
Contracting Officer  
Network Contracting Office (NCO) 21

9/5/14  
Date

- b. **NCM/PCM (Required \$3K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

  
Claire K. Orsino, VHA-CM  
Branch Chief, Medical Sharing 1  
Network Contracting Office (NCO) 21

8/29/14  
Date