

JUSTIFICATION FOR SINGLE SOURCE AWARDS IAW FAR 13.106-1
(OVER MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD(\$3K) BUT NOT EXCEEDING THE SAT (\$150K))

IAW FAR13.104, COs must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. When competition is not practicable, IAW FAR13.106-1(b), COs solicit from a single source for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold. COs may solicit from one source if the CO determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand-name or industrial mobilization). IAW FAR13.106-3(b)(3), COs are required to include additional statements *explaining the absence of competition* (see 13.106-1 for brand name purchases) if only one source is solicited and the acquisition does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (does not apply to an acquisition of utility services available from only one source) or supporting the award decision if other than price-related factors were considered in selecting the supplier. This template when completed can be used to document single source awards IAW FAR13.106-3(b)(3). Note: Statements such as "only known source" or "only source which can meet the required delivery date" are inadequate to support a sole source purchase.

1. PURCHASE REQUEST OR REQUISITION NUMBER:	1A. PROJECT/TASK #	1B. ESTIMATED AMOUNT:
691-15-3-2955-0077	NA	\$75,000.00

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED AND THE INTENDED USE:

VAGLA is planning Phase 4 Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction training for staff and patients to include a mentorship program. The will allow the staff to address stressors in patients more effectively. Only one responsible source is available as there is no other service can satisfy agency requirements.

3. UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SERVICE THAT LIMIT AVAILABILITY TO ONLY ONE SOURCE, WITH THE REASON NO OTHER SUPPLIES OR SERVICES CAN BE USED:

Characteristics that limit availability to only one source are as follows:

1. The current Phase being procured is Phase 4. Phases 1-3 have previously been satisfied through InsightLA. Awarding subsequent Phases to a new company would risk undoing the innovation, management style, training and ideas that have been the foundation of the current project and the VA would lose the continuity the clinicians and veterans need.
2. Phase 4 needs the expertise of a company that can provide a variety of programs in mindfulness/mindful self-compassion that includes clinician education and supervision, mentoring, and training based on the foundation that has been laid in Phase 1-3.
3. Over several hundred hours have been spent developing the current multimedia training documents, online courses and other clinical training material that the VA medical staff has become academically certified in would be lost if award was made to a new company.
4. The VA medical staff has received certification based on the internationally recognized methods InsightLA's training and this training has already been instituted for VISN-wide.
5. Phase 4 requires trainers that are certified to train the medical staff which will subsequently deliver the stress reduction methods to patients without supervision.
6. The requirement requires the VA clinicians to have access to Christiane Wolf, Md, PhD which is the director of the MBSR program and internationally recognized experts in MBSR.
7. Phase 4 requires clinicians be certified in Train the Trainer programs, curriculum development, oversight of Phase 1-4 online and call-in Blackboard course.
8. Since Phase 4 will entail addressing issues such as grief, chronic pain and PTSD, the VA needs a company that is medically capable of addressing these issues in wellness and self-care sessions for VA departments.
9. Phase 4 requires face to face meeting in Los Angeles with the vendor and is important because there is an increased requirement to provide clinicians outside of GLA, and across the country, in different time zones. This includes an understanding of VA technology platforms, as well as the need to share best practices using effective cost efficient training mechanisms. Due to cost constraints, the program can not incur the additional cost of transportation of a new vendor for face to face consultations.

4. REASON THAT SUGGESTED SOURCE IS THE ONLY SOURCE, WHICH CAN PROVIDE THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES:

The current Phase being procured is Phase 4. Phases 1-3 have previously been satisfied through InsightLA. Awarding subsequent Phases to a new company would risk undoing the innovation, management style, training and ideas that have been the foundation of the current project and the VA would lose the continuity the clinicians and veterans need. The requested vendor is the only vendor who can provide continuity of phases 1-3 which have already been completed at the VAGLA.

InsightLA is the only vendor with certifications (ie., MD, LCSW, RN, NP, Ph.D., Psy.D) and experience (experience delivering mindfulness programs using remote/distant learning options/ technology: Blackboard (online), conference calls, SCAN Echo, or other approved technology for VA) deemed acceptable according to requirements set forth by the VAGLA.

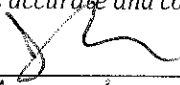
Based on past performance, InsightLA is the only vendor who can provide qualified teachers who can step in, in case of illness, vacation, and etc. It is vital not to cancel or interrupt Veteran classes/clinics. They are also the only vendor who can meet or exceed the requirement to be onsite at VA Greater Los Angeles at least 1x weekly for in person meetings. This ensures continuity of the program, allowing time for understanding of the forthcoming necessary elements to continue to expand the program based on the currently foundation, and allows weekly contact with VA staff, quality control and alignment.

InsightLA is the only vendor who provides evidence based best practices in mindfulness. They are the only company that provides the founder with a PhD Long term teacher trainings using evidence based MBSR curriculum, with built in mentorship program by internationally trained experts. Consultation is done by Jon Kabat Zinn, PhD, founder and creator of MBSR (professor emeritus from UMASS medical school and researcher at the University of Massachusetts) who is also on the InsightLA Advisory Board around core issues of adaptation. This is important because he is the creator of mindfulness based stress reduction in 1979 and approves teaching curriculum for MBSR. A core network of trained Mindfulness-Based teachers are available who can be immediately deployed for the unique needs of the VA clinicians and Veterans, headed by Dr. Christiane Wolf, MD, PhD, who is a certified senior MBSR teacher and trainer. It is required that the consultants be certified in MBSR Teacher Training and MSC Teacher Training, to ensure fidelity to the treatment and quality control for our Veterans.

5. DESCRIPTION OF MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AND RESULTS OR STATEMENT WHY IT WAS NOT CONDUCTED:

Market research was conducted which resulted in numerous responses that didn't have the expertise, training or certifications needed to continue with the platform previously laid out for the department. Some weren't certified through academic/scholarly organizations, didn't have experience or Teaching Certifications required to train VA nurses and provide them with credible certifications. Furthermore, some didn't have the continuing medical education credits required in both research and academic credentials. Since the VA offers evidence based approaches and favors approaches with academic affiliations and degrees/credentials by training team, Insight LA is the only company that has both the academic credentials and research expertise to teach the VA medical staff and practice mindfulness and mindful self-compassion on patients.

6. Contracting Officer's Certification: *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

Signature: 
Name: Johnny Kim
Title: Contracting Officer
Facility: NCO 22

Date: 09-30-15