

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval (J&A)  
For  
Other Than Full and Open Competition (>\$150K)

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA730-16-AP-0013

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, Program Contracting Office - Fayetteville, Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), Purchase Request number 101-16-3-727-0009
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**  
Request for justification and approval to award a contract to Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc (TAC). The proposed bridge/interim contract action is a new three (3) months, five (5) days firm fixed price (FFP) task effort. This contract is to provide grant management technical assistance to Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grantees. SSVF awards \$300 million annually to nearly 400 SSVF grantees serving over 170,000 Veterans and their families in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The contract would cover the period of June 25, 2016 thru September 29, 2016.

**FAR13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items:**

This procurement is for Grant Management Services in accordance with FAR 13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items

**Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** SVF is a critical part of VA's strategy to end homelessness among Veterans. SSVF has pioneered new interventions in the field of homelessness through widespread use of rapid re-housing and prevention services. In order for these interventions to be deployed effectively and efficiently, grantees must have access to technical assistance that allows them to provide evidence-based services.

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

- (x) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- ( ) (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- ( ) (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- ( ) (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- ( ) (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- ( ) (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- ( ) (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

**FAR13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items:** The authority for applying the Simplified Procedures for Commercial Items of FAR 13.5 is 41 U.S.C. 1901 and is implemented by Program Contracting Office East for restricting competition on this procurement via FAR 13.106-1(b)(2).

3. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** TAC is the incumbent contractor. The goal is to maintain continuity in service until a new long-term contract is awarded, that has been solicited via competitive bid, not later than September 29, 2016. SSVF provides essential resources

to communities throughout the country and is a critical component of VA's drive to end homelessness among Veterans. This technical assistance contract is used to support the dissemination of evidence-based practices, provide training on program rules and expectation, and facilitate community planning across Continuums of Care throughout the country. This planning enables VA resources to be used efficiently and effectively, not only in SSVF, but also to support the \$1.4 billion in resources deployed by the Homeless Program Office. As the contract is just over 3 months, it is imperative that the contractor is able to be productive on the first day as the contract is too short to support time to build capacity and program knowledge. This contract will allow VA to bridge the period between the end of the current TAC contract and the award of the new contract without causing a disruption in SSVF service quality. The homelessness program will experience a significant deficit if this bridge is not awarded. Any break in service will directly impact the Veteran by not supplying adequate training and support to community planning and grass root agencies that have direct access to these individuals, in need.

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

This is simply a three month bridge contract. An RFQ for a base plus four years will be solicited on FBO in seven days. An award will be made on or before September 29, 2016.

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

I, Shamike Bethea, anticipate the cost will be considered fair and reasonable based upon the estimated completed value of the current contract in comparison to the need to increase funding on previous contracts.

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

Market research through issuing a Sources Sought determined that sources are capable of satisfying the agency's requirements exist commercially that will satisfy the agency's needs.

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

N/A

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

Clark House Inc  
DS Federal  
Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc  
VA Grant Management Optimus  
V3 Technical Services, LLC

**9. 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:**

Program Contracting Office East plans to solicit for services and make an award not later than September 29, 2016.

**10. 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.

John H Kuhn  
153004

Digitally signed by John H Kuhn 153004  
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0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=John.Kuhn2@va.  
gov, cn=John H Kuhn 153004  
Date: 2016.07.06 09:44:24 -0400

JOHN H. KUHN  
National Director  
Supportive Services for Veteran Families

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

**11. Approvals in accordance with the [VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP](#).**

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

SHAMIKE L.  
BETHEA 644428

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Date: 2016.07.06 12:56:42 -0400

SHAMIKE L. BETHEA  
Contracting Officer  
PCOE

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

b. **Director of Contracting /Designee (Required over\$150K but not exceeding \$700K):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Gloria D.  
Prettiman  
1000088

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Date: 2016.07.07 09:56:10 -0400

GLORIA D.L. PRETTIMAN  
Branch Chief – SAO/PCO East –  
Washington, DC & Fayetteville, NC

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

c. **VHA SAO HCA Review and Approval:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval (if over \$13.5 million) or approve (\$700K to 13.5 million) for other than full and open competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph MaLetta  
VHA Head of Contracting Activity (HCA)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

d. **VA Deputy Senior Procurement Executive Approval (over \$13.5 million but not exceeding \$68 million):** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and approve for other than full and open competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Deputy Senior Procurement Executive (DSPE)  
Office of Acquisition and Logistics  
Department of Veterans Affairs

- e. **VHA Senior Procurement Executive Approval (over \$68 million)**: I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and approve for other than full and open competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAN R. FRYE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Logistics  
Senior Procurement Executive (SPE)  
Department of Veterans Affairs