

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval (J&A)

For

Sole Source Acquisition

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA69D-16-AP-2414

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, NCO 12 Great Lakes Acquisition Center, 115 S. 84th Street, Suite 101, Milwaukee, WI 53214, on behalf of Jesse Brown VA Medical Center (JBVAMC), 820 S. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL, 60612. The Contracting Activity plans to contract on a sole-source basis. This document sets forth the justification and approval as required by FAR 13.501(a). Purchase Request # 537-17-1-345-0001.

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

Justification and approval for a new contract to A Safe Haven LLC for a 5 year firm fixed price IDIQ contract for Contracted Emergency Residential Services (CERS) for homeless veterans served by the JBVAMC, as well as the Milwaukee VA Medical Center (MVAMC) and the Hines VA Hospital (HVAH) pursuant to FAR 13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items; specifically FAR 13.501 Special Documentation Requirements in which acquisitions conducted under simplified procedures are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2.

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

The CERS contract is being awarded on behalf of JBVAMC; however, MVAMC and HVAH will refer patients to the JBVAMC CERS Coordinator if they are not able to place homeless veterans through their local programs. Both facilities will obtain prior authorization from the CERS Coordinator prior to arranging transportation to A Safe Haven. CERS is a result of a National VA Directive for the temporary housing, feeding, and case management of homeless veterans who need immediate food, shelter, and case management. These critical services are needed on an ongoing basis. There are on average several hundred veterans placed in the existing CERS program on any given day, and any gap in continuity of providing these services would result in immediate displacement of these veterans. The proposed facility must be located within the 7-mile catchment area of the JBVAMC which will allow veterans to take public transportation to and from A Safe Haven from JBVAMC if necessary. The facility/program provided by the contractor must have passed a VA required inspection of the proposed site. The contractor must also provide ongoing case management services, 3 nutritious meals per day, on-site laundry services, and transport services.

The estimated period of performance is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021.

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

The authority for applying the simplified procedures for Commercial Items of FAR 13.5 is 41 U.S.C. 1901 Simplified Acquisition Procedures and is implemented by restricting competition on this procurement via FAR 13.106-1(b)(2).

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

CERS is necessary for continuity of operations, as veterans are currently being housed, fed, and provided case management services. At this time, A Safe Haven LLC is the only contractor that currently has an operable facility and case management staff within the catchment area of the JBVAMC. Accordingly, A Safe Haven LLC is the only firm capable of providing the supplies and services described in Section III above without the Veteran's Health Administration experiencing unacceptable delays in fulfilling its mission to end homelessness among veterans.

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

Market research shows that although there are homeless shelters in the Chicago area, no other known organization is currently in operation within the Chicago area that meets VA requirements, aside from the incumbent (A Safe Haven LLC). An Intent to sole source was issued on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 and closed on Monday, September 19, 2016. Only one response was received, of which the respondent (VT Enterprises) indicated they would not provide a facility, but instead place veterans in local or VA transitional housing. This is not an acceptable practice according to VA requirements, as a VA inspected and approved facility must be provided.

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

Pricing has remained unchanged since the initial contract for CERS was awarded in 2011, at which time pricing was determined fair and reasonable.

Pricing offered will be compared to the Government estimate, market research, and prior contracts for the same services prior to award. The Contracting Officer will consider other than certified cost or pricing data for this commercial service.

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

Other CERS/Transitional Housing providers in the JBVAMC catchment area were initially identified, and it was later determined that none of them could meet VA requirements. An Intent to Sole-Source was posted to the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) portal on September 14, 2016 and closed on September 19, 2016. Only one response was received and it only offered placement services as opposed to a facility for placements.

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

None.

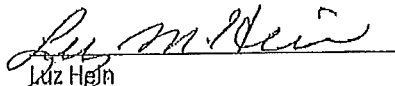
10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:

Volunteers of America - Illinois and VT Enterprises

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:

Due to the anticipated reductions and further cuts to these CERS programs over the next 2-3 years, it is not anticipated that there will be a need for soliciting these services.

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.


Liz Hein
Department Chief, Social Work
Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

11/17/2016
Date

13. Approvals in accordance with the VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP.

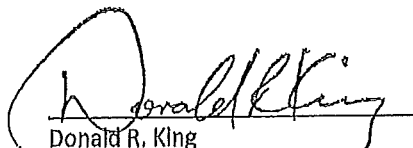
a. Contracting Officer or Designee's Certification: I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DARRYL A.
SCHERER 266369
Darryl Scherer
Contracting Officer
NCO-12, GLAC

Digitally signed by DARRYL A. SCHERER
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11/16/2016
Date

b. Director of Contracting (DoC) Certification: I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approving for other than full and open competition.


Donald R. King
Acting Director of Contracting
NCO-12, GLAC

11/26/2016
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 approve for other than full and open competition.

Linda S.
Greaves 404790
Linda S. Greaves
Acting Director, SAO Central Region
SAO Central Head of Contracting (HCA)

Digitally signed by Linda S. Greaves 404790
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12/5/2016
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