

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VISN 6
Justification and Approval
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 6, Hampton VA Medical Center plans to contract by means other than full and open competition. VA Form 2237: 590-12-3-819-0524.

2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed: The purpose of this memorandum is to document justification for other than full and open competition by the Department of Veteran Affairs, Hampton VA Medical Center (HVAMC). The action will be awarded as a sole source procurement utilizing a new firm fixed price contract. Sole source negotiations will be conducted with Jeffrey Van Es to provide mental health social services assistance in the Healthcare of Homeless Veterans Program three days per week, starting June 4, 2012 and ending September 30, 2012 or not to exceed 120 days.

3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs: The social services assistant will be required to have technical expertise in four key areas: clinical, administrative, customer service and organizational knowledge. Clinical and organizational knowledge are two of the primary demands of the position. Daily interactions are with Veterans who have mental health illnesses, substance abuse diagnosis and/or chronically homeless situations. The domiciliary is staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The social services assistant is required to provide back-up coverage in the absence of psychiatrists, addiction therapist and other clinicians who provide the care for rehabilitation of Veterans seeking these services. Mental health services are currently understaffed to meet the increase in the Veteran population requiring these services.

Period of performance under this contract is from date of award until September 30, 2012. This contract is not to exceed 120 days. Total estimated value of this acquisition is \$7,752.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition: Under the authority of Title 41 USC §253(c)(1), as implemented by FAR 6.302-1 other than full and open competition is justified when supplies are deemed available only from the original source or only one supplier with unique capabilities.

- (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

5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority): Under the authority of Title 41 U.S.C. 254 (1) and FAR 6.302-1(b)(1)(i) other than full and open

competition is justified when supplies are deemed available only from the original source or only one supplier with unique capabilities. Mr. Van Es has twelve years of experience as a social sciences assistant in domiciliary services. He has worked in a facility that houses 169 Veterans who have diagnoses of homelessness, substance abuse and other medical or psychiatric needs. He is experienced in working with Veterans who have a variety of physical, mental, emotional and behavior problems that require the use of various therapeutic intervention techniques, unique to Veterans with PTSD and potential suicide issues. He has played an integral role in the development of patient treatment plans and has expertise in the documentation of mental health medical records. He has completed UDSs and entered requests, collected and delivered specimens for lab for analysis which is a time sensitive process for drug and alcohol abuse assessments. Mr. Van Es has led Drop- In Group Medical Appointment (DIGMA) Health and Education Groups for the Homeless Veterans enrolled in the DIGMA Clinics. The explosion of the Veteran population requiring domiciliary services and the acquisition timeline attached to full and open competition would result in an undue hardship for our Veteran population and increase the number of Veterans that would be turned away from services. Based on the knowledge needed for this position, it is unrealistic to hire a private sector temporary that will have no knowledge of the VA Medical Center Mental Health Service's policies and procedures, or in working with homeless Veterans that have complex social and medical needs. There would be an unacceptable delay to fulfill Hampton VAMC need for this position and it would result in Veterans not receiving required services.

6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable: Under the authority of Title 41 U.S.C. 254 (1) and FAR 6.302-1(b)(1)(i) other than full and open competition is justified when supplies are deemed available only from the original source or only one supplier with unique capabilities. Mr. Van Es has the existing knowledge of Hampton VAMC policy and procedures to perform the duties related to the management of Veterans in crisis and delivering psych education classes. This position requires a unique ability to provide clinical and administrative support for the homeless program for Veterans. The time required to procure and train a new contractor will result in the dialysis department's inability to process cultures, seriously compromising Veteran care. The possibility of a new contractor unfamiliar with the VA's existing process would not be interested in a 60 day contract.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable: IAW FAR 15.404-1, the contract includes all associated costs during this contract period. Service is requested for 24 hours per week for 17 weeks (51 days). Mr. Van Es has proposed to provide Mental Health Social Service Assistance services for a total of \$7,752.00 over a 17 week period. Hourly pay rate for a Mental Health Social Service Assistant, GS 6 is \$21.74 per hour. Based on GS pay rate for the services requested, this price is determined to be fair and reasonable.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted: Market research revealed that Potomac Healthcare Solutions also provided the services required, and their geographic coverage service area included Virginia. A contract specialist made attempts to contact the agency but was unsuccessful. On May 10, 2012 Intent to Sole Source was posted to FBO. It closed on May 15, 2012 and zero responses were received. The time required to procure and train a new contractor would result in the Mental Health Homeless Veteran Program's inability to provide Veteran intake and dormitory management. This action would result in a negative out come to the care of the Mental Health Homeless Veteran. The position will not be backfilled, so a vacancy announcement to permanently recruit for this position does not exist.

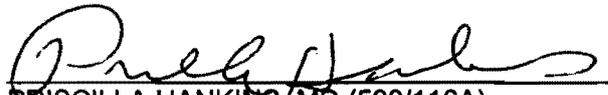
9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition: The unique nature of the service that will be provided, limits the pool of contractors that can meet HVAMC requirements. Mr. Van Es is an experienced social service specialist who is familiar with the Homeless Veterans program and the uniqueness of their diagnosis. Mr. Van Es is familiar with the appropriate precautions that must be taken in cases of injury, potential suicide or infectious diseases and is knowledgeable of the appropriate staff that must be contacted for these special needs.

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: At this time, there are no actions to be taken to overcome barrier to competition as Mr. Van Es is the only qualified source immediately available to perform these services.

Justification and Approval for Other Than Full and Open Competition-MH SW Assistant

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.



PRISCILLA HANKINS, MD (590/116A)
Chief, Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences
VA Medical Center Hampton (HVAMC)

5-9-12

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.



PATRICIA HOAGLAND
Contracting Specialist
VISN 6, NCA

5-9-2012

Date



ZULANDA BANKS
Contracting Officer
VISN 6, NCA

5-9-2012

Date

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



CAROL A. EDMEAD
Supervisory Contract Specialist
Services Team
VISN 6, NCA

5-18-2012

Date