

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Brand Name Justification IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)**

**For**

**Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT (\$250K)**

**Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA259-18-AP-7501**

- 1. Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 19, Sheridan Medical Center  
Network Contracting Office 19  
666-18-3-137-0115

**2. Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:**

Kwalu brand dormitory furniture. Furnishings are to be used in a 15,000-square foot building addition, currently wrapping up construction at the Sheridan VA Healthcare System (SVAHCS). The additional square footage will house 45 patient beds in the Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans program.

**3. Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one manufacturer, with the reason no other manufacturer can be used:**

Kwalu provides high quality, commercial grade furnishings, best suited to our Domiciliary Environment of Care. The frames are constructed with steel-reinforced joints, thus eliminating joint failure typical of other brands of furnishings. Kwalu products are highly resistant to abuse, while still maintaining a home-like appearance. Their finishes mimic warm wood tones and patterns, to further lend to the residential aesthetic we are required to provide our Veterans. The finishes can be cleaned with healthcare grade cleansers, without wearing down. This helps maintain the infection control standards necessary in a healthcare setting. These features combined make Kwalu a stand-alone product for our need. No other company offers products that combine all of these features in each piece of their furniture. The goal is to match existing furnishings.

**4. Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:**

We have Kwalu furnishings in our Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (MHR RTP) building that opened three years ago. The furnishings still look brand-new after three years of 24/7 use. After searching through many manufacturers' product catalogs and websites, and attending a national conference that showcases all available commercial furniture, I was unable to find anything that compared to what Kwalu offered for this type of environment.

**5. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Requester

\_\_\_\_\_  
8/30/2018  
Date

**6. Approvals:**

- a. **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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contracting Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date