



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.

The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is requesting third-party administration services for the Community Care Expansion (CCE) Preservation Program, which includes disbursement and oversight of Operating Subsidy Payments (OSP) and Capital Project funds to eligible residential care facilities serving low-income, elderly, and at-risk individuals. The third-party administrator will provide technical assistance, program monitoring, disbursement processing, reporting, and compliance oversight to ensure adherence to California Department of Social Services (CDSS) guidelines and all funding requirements.

2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Vendor: California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA)

Contact Person: Jeremy Wilson, Senior Program Director

Address: 1610 Arden Way, Ste. 175, Sacramento, CA 95815

Phone: (279) 234-0713

Email: jeremy.wilson@calmhsa.org

3. What is the total cost of the acquisition? If an agreement, state the total cost of the initial term and the amounts for potential renewal terms.

The total cost of the agreement is \$6,282,842.15. The total maximum funding amount is comprised of \$5,463,341.00 and \$819,501.15 for CalMHSA's Program Management Fee.

The total cost of acquiring CalMHSA's services as the third-party administrator for Fresno County's CCE Preservation Program grant is based on the maximum allowable 15% administrative cost. This is calculated separately for each component of the grant:

* Operating Subsidy Payment (OSP) funds: \$2,351,591.00

* Maximum administrative cost: \$352,738.65

* Capital Project (CP) funds: \$3,111,750.00

* Maximum administrative cost: \$466,762.50

* Total combined administrative cost: \$819,501.15

The term of this Agreement will align with the CDSS grant timeline, effective upon execution through June 30, 2029, with no renewal terms anticipated.

4. Identify the unique qualities and/or capabilities of the service(s) and/or product(s) that qualify this as a Suspension of Competition acquisition.

CalMHSA is a joint powers authority created by California counties specifically to serve the administrative and operational needs of county behavioral health departments. It has established infrastructure and experience in administering large-scale, statewide behavioral health initiatives, including fund management, fiscal disbursement, and regulatory reporting. CalMHSA already serves in this capacity for other counties' CCE Preservation Programs, including San Mateo and San Francisco, and has developed standardized tools and relationships with CDSS and the grant facilitator for this purpose.

5. Identify from Administrative Policy #34 what circumstances constitute a Suspension of Competition.

- ☐ In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare, or safety, or for the protection of County property.
- ☐ When the contract is with a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
- ☐ When the department head, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Agent, finds that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case will equal or exceed the estimated contract amount or \$5,000 whichever is more.
- ☐ When a contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is to be no payment for services rendered.
- ☐ When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
- ☒ When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Manager determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.

6. Explain why the unique qualities and/or capabilities described above are essential to your department.

DBH lacks internal staffing capacity and expertise to meet the prevailing wage, fiscal oversight, and capital project compliance requirements associated with the CCE Preservation Program. CalMHSA's experience in administering similar grants and their existing relationship with CDSS enables immediate program implementation without the delay or learning curve associated with other vendors. Their government status, behavioral health specialization, and project-ready infrastructure are critical to the County's ability to meet state-mandated timelines and avoid reversion of unspent funds.

7. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the research done to verify that the recommended vendor is the only vendor with the unique qualities and/or capabilities stated above. Include a list of all other vendors contacted, what they were asked, and their responses.

DBH consulted with San Mateo County Behavioral Health, who confirmed CalMHSA's successful administration of their CCE Preservation Program after the County's unsuccessful competitive procurement process. No other known governmental or nonprofit entities in California currently offer equivalent statewide behavioral health grant administration services. A preliminary inquiry was made to standard fiscal service providers; however, none were equipped to manage public behavioral health capital and OSP funding under CDSS's strict regulatory framework, particularly related to prevailing wage and compliance auditing. As such, CalMHSA is uniquely positioned to fulfill these functions without delay.

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Requested By:

Division Manager

Title

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

I approve this request to suspend competition for the service(s) and/or product(s) identified herein.

sholt 1/6/2026 7:57:39 AM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 1/8/2026 12:06:39 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

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