



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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

The Department of Social Services is seeking Transitional Housing Program Plus (THP+), Family Unification Program - Youth (FUP Youth), and Family Unification Program - Families (FUP Families) Services consisting of transitional housing and case management services as follows:

- 1) THP+: Transitional housing and supportive case management services for former foster youth, ages 18 to 24, inclusive, to assist these youth in developing self-sufficiency and transition to independent living. Services can be provided up to 24 months and include educational guidance, employment counseling, and referrals to other community services.
- 2) FUP Youth: In partnership with the Fresno Housing Authority, housing assistance and case management services to former foster youth ages 18 to 24, inclusive, exiting the CWS. Services can be provided up to 36 months and include Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), job readiness, assistance in obtaining educational goals, and referrals to other community services.
- 3) FUP Families: Housing assistance in the form of HCVs and case management services for families exiting the CWS for whom housing insecurity remains a barrier to reunification. Case management services include job readiness, assistance in obtaining educational goals, and referrals to community services. These services are voluntary and completion is not a necessary Housing Authority requirement to receive HCV.

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

Aspiranet
1320 E. Shaw Ave, Suite 140
Fresno, CA 93710
Attn: Vernon Brown, Executive Director
(650) 866-4080
vbrown@aspiranet.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 is \$1,115,140 for a term of 10 months.

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.

Recent changes in legislation, including an increase in Federal funding and extension of FUP Youth program participation time, have resulted in the Department's desire to assess the best method for providing THP+ and FUP transitional housing and case management services going forward. As this represents a significant change to THP+/FUP services in Fresno County it is critical that the Department is able to evaluate the effect of these changes. Aspiranet has been the sole provider of these services for Fresno County since 2015. Continuing to utilize the same vendor who provided the services in previous years will allow the Department to ensure that changes in quality of service/outcomes are due to programmatic changes rather than differences in vendor implementation.

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.

An RFP for THP+ and FUP services will be going out in the next few months and, because the Department is interested in expanding the programs in the future to better serve clients, it is essential that program continuity and structure are maintained during the evaluation period. Continuity and comparability of the base service are essential to evaluate the changes the Department is making to the programs. Aspiranet, as the previous provider of THP+/FUP services for Fresno County, is the only vendor able to guarantee the necessary continuity required to most effectively

evaluate the successes and shortcomings of the programs.

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.

A review of prior contracts confirms that Aspiranet is the most recent provider of THP+, FUP Youth, and FUP Families services for the County of Fresno, and has been for several years. Given the upcoming RFP, limited duration of this contract, and the necessity of program continuity, Aspiranet is uniquely qualified to fulfill the Department's needs.

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Requested By:

Staff Analyst

Title

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

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

martik 2/5/2024 11:48:45 AM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

mvilanova 2/5/2024 2:12:14 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

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