



# Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

[\[Email Me\]](#)  
Double click!

1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.  
Outreach and support services to agricultural employees and their families throughout Fresno County about various communicable diseases including Valley Fever, Avian Flu, COVID-19 and others they may be at risk of in their work and lives. Outreach is necessary to convey the importance of wearing personal protective equipment, staying hygienic, getting tested, and receiving vaccines and treatments for receiving communicable diseases like COVID-19, and to continue compliance with health and safety protocols to reduce the chance of outbreaks within the agricultural community.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.  
Insure America Project  
Manual Cunha Jr.  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
(559) 287-5610  
mcunha@niseifarmerleague.com  
  
Luis Ramirez  
1775 North Fine Ave  
Fresno, CA 93727  
(559) 251-8468  
lramirez@niseifarmersleague.com
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.  
Term: April 1, 2024 through March 31 2026.  
Total compensation for the term not to exceed: \$330,400
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.  
Prior to their previous contracts (P-21-159 and A-23-086) with the County, Insure America Project was working extensively with the agriculture community in Fresno County, which is their agency was selected to best reach the at-risk communities. The Insure America Project non-profit agency was working with the Fresno County agricultural community through Board agreement (A-23-086) for outreach to agricultural employees and their families in rural communities, assisting community members by providing personal protective equipment and COVID-19 tests. Through their existing services they have gained an even greater understanding of the various needs, barriers, and communication strategies that have proven most impactful at reaching the members of the agricultural community. They have currently been successfully assisting the County's efforts by educating on the importance of testing, hygiene, and available resources to this population.
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.  
The Department is in need of continued effective communication aimed at the agricultural worker community to help promote a message of prevention through education on mitigation actions that reduce the spread of communicable diseases like Valley Fever, Avian Flu, and COVID-19. Insure America Project has a long standing history of working with the agricultural worker population within Fresno County and have the abilities and experience to employ the most effective communication strategies with this community, on the topics of prevention via vaccination and following health guidance. This agency has continued to grow trust within the community through the current efforts on testing, health education and supports.

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.

The Department is currently actively working with various organizations with the goal of education on preventive measures, with a vaccine safety focus. Other agencies the Department has partnered with to provide these services include CBO's, Federal Qualified Health Centers, and various other partners, including Nisei Farmers League. Focused education to the agricultural community is still needed as the workforce is constantly migrating through various work areas. Insure America Project has a long standing relationship within the farming community and will continue to work with various partners to assure outreach and support services are provided throughout the various areas, while ensuring no duplication of effort.

aadebiyi 5/29/2024 3:16:58 PM

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.**

dluchini 5/30/2024 8:19:35 AM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

mvilanova 5/31/2024 4:07:14 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!