



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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

Fresno County Department of Public Health (DPH) is in need of a vendor for its Rural Mobile Health program to provide mobile vision services to residents living in Fresno County's rural areas. The vendor will provide a professional eye exam and prescription eyeglasses in the same visit for either children or adults at no cost to the patient. DPH will identify the location, avoiding duplication of services, for the mobile vision services.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Buddhist Tzu Chi Medical Foundation
Tzu Chi Mobile Clinic
Attn: Olivia Chung
3898 N Ann Ave, Fresno, CA 93727
Phone: (559) 291-8800
Email: Olivia.Chung@tzu-chimedical.us
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 not to exceed three (3) consecutive years which includes a two (2) year base term with optional one-year extension. Total cost not to exceed \$200,000/year; maximum compensation not to exceed \$600,000 for the entire term.
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.

Tzu Chi Mobile Clinic is the only mobile vision services provider in the Central Valley that provides the full menu of same day services desired by DPH's Rural Mobile Health program. It is important to be able to provide the professional eye exam and prescription eyeglasses in the same visit as the target population in Fresno County's rural areas may often not have consistent addresses for receiving eyeglasses later in the mail, especially considering agricultural communities that may relocate following various harvest seasons.
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 Rural Mobile Health program, with mobile vision services included, will allow DPH to continue its work towards improving health equity, health disparities and overall population health. These mobile health services will improve health access to local disadvantaged communities in the County's rural areas. Routine eyecare is essential to an individual's overall health.
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.

Through internet research, DPH was able to identify other vendors that could provide mobile vision services in the Central Valley, but the vendors did not provide prescription eyeglasses in the same visit. Optical Academy and Vision Service Plan (VSP) Global Eyes of Hope mobile clinics provide a professional eye exam but only provide prescription eyeglasses via mail delivery several weeks later to the patient's address. Tzu Chi Mobile Clinic is the only vendor that provides the professional eye exam and prescription eyeglasses in the same visit. Additionally, VSP had many restrictions for patient eligibility for the mobile vision services, including income and insurance limits, which could limit the patients that could be served at the rural mobile clinics. DPH also inquired with other agencies and local community-based organizations that also fund mobile vision services to confirm Tzu Chi Mobile Clinic is the only vendor providing the full same day services.

Requested By:

Title

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

dluchini 3/16/2023 10:35:13 AM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

gcornuelle 3/17/2023 7:39:47 AM

Purchasing Manager Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!