



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 domestic violence services to California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Welfare-to-Work (WTW) participants as part of the Family Stabilization Program (FSP). These services are for clients either currently experiencing a domestic violence (DV) crisis, or dealing with the residual effects of past domestic violence, that are destabilizing the family and would interfere with an adult client's ability to participate in WTW activities and services. These services encompass initial assessments, safe house intakes, orientation, collaborative case planning with DSS staff, parenting classes, play therapy, and the development of community support plans.

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

Marjaree Mason Center, Inc.
255 W. Bullard Ave, Fresno, CA 93704
Contact: Nicole Linder, (559) 237-4706, nicole@mmcenter.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.

\$869,663 annually for the first 3-year term; \$869,663 for each 12-month term thereafter (maximum 2 renewals) for a total of \$4,348,315.

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.

MMC is Fresno County's only dedicated provider of DV shelter and support services, including education for victims and youth. As a result, MMC is the only organization in the County with in-house shelters specifically for victims of DV that are also equipped to offer comprehensive domestic violence services for victims of DV, provided at no additional cost.

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.

MMC is committed to delivering a range of DV services and resources to families served by DSS. Furthermore, MMC offers DV training for Department of Social Services personnel, allowing several staff members each year to achieve certification as DV counselors. MMC also conducts introductory training on DV and its related family dynamics for DSS personnel. MMC offers comprehensive counseling and enrichment programs for children, support groups for survivors of domestic violence, parenting classes, and healthy lifestyle curriculum.

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.

No other agency in Fresno County meets the criteria for a domestic violence shelter-based program as outlined in WIC Section 18294. Moreover, an annual Request for Statements of Qualifications (RFSQ) is issued to identify any new organizations that may be eligible for funding, and MMC continues to be the sole recipient as of the most recent RFSQ concluded on October 8, 2024. MMC operates the only DV shelter within Fresno County that also emphasizes family support. Additionally, they provide participants with critical services such as crisis intake, safety planning, counseling, and various other resources that justify a suspension of competition.

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Requested By:

Staff Analyst I

Title

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

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Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 4/17/2025 8:46:14 AM

Purchasing Manager Signature

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