

Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.
The County of Fresno, Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), has executed a Master Agreement (A-25-383) for the provision of eating disorder treatment services through licensed facilities, pursuant to Welfare Institutions Code (WIC) and California Code of Regulations (CCR). DBH is attempting to add two providers onto the executed Master Agreement.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.
Discovery Practice Management, Inc. d.b.a. Center for Discovery
18401 Von Karman Ave, Suite 500, Irvine, CA 92616
Magdalen Gustilo; contracting@discoverybh.com
BHC Alhambra Hospital, Inc. d.b.a. BHC Alhambra Hospital
4619 Rosemead Blvd, Rosemead, CA 91770
Brett Graves; brett.graves@uhsinc.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.
Contract Maximum - \$6,500,000
FY 2025-2026: \$1,300,000
FY 2026-2027: \$1,300,000
FY 2027-2028: \$1,300,000
FY 2028-2029: \$1,300,000
FY 2029-2030: \$1,300,000
The acquisition will not result in an increase in Net County Cost.
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.
Contracted providers on this agreement are licensed to provide placement and specialized residential mental health services for SED youth with severe and persistent mental health conditions and who are also suffering with eating disorders. The Department of Health Care Services retains a list of licensed facilities.
Eating Disorder providers range from stand alone programs to services provided in hospital settings. The services provided for persons served living with an eating disorder are specific to the needs and age of the person served which includes Behavioral Health as well as Physical Health treatments. Throughout the State of California, there are very few facilities that provide services. DBH seeks to contract with facilities located in Fresno County to keep persons served requiring these services closer to their families, but will also consider out-of-county facilities to ensure the proper levels of care are available for the Fresno County persons served community. Placement facilities specializing in Eating Disorder are rare to find and are able to sustain themselves through patient fees and private insurance. These facilities do not rely on Medi-Cal for revenue. For that reason, these facilities are typically unwilling to respond to County requests such as procurements.
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 provides mental health services to individuals suffering from an eating disorder, but can only provide services to a certain extent. Individuals receiving eating disorder treatment may require a higher level of care than the level DBH can provide. Without an eating disorder agreement in place, persons served needing a higher level of care would need to be hospitalized which can come at a higher cost to the County. Persons served already hospitalized would not have a place to discharge to and would need to remain hospitalized which can further impact their mental health. The need for these services has been increasing annually and it is necessary for the department to expand our network of specialized residential facilities to meet the needs of the people of Fresno County. The provision of

behavioral health treatment for persons living with an eating disorder is required by the Department of Health Care Services. County, through DBH, is a Behavioral Health Plan (BHP) as defined in Title 9 of the CCR, section 1810226. BHPs are required to cover all medically necessary treatment services including residential and day treatment intensive services to treat eating disorders.

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 issued an RFSQ requesting responses from providers licensed to provide eating disorder treatment. One response was received from the local provider, Oasis Eating Disorder Recovery, A Professional Psychology Corporation. DBH continues to receive an increasing number of referrals from local hospitals seeking emergency placement for SED persons served with severe mental illness (SMI) and suffering from eating disorders. When the Department is notified of a person served requiring Eating Disorder Treatment the Eating Disorder Team reaches out to the current contracted providers for placement. If these facilities cannot assist the persons served due to their specific needs based on this population the team attempts to identify a facility qualified and capable of meeting the specific clinical needs of the referred individuals. Historically, facilities that provide these services are very rare and the rates are very high. Upon current review, Oasis Eating Disorders Recovery remains the only available facility within the County of Fresno region with the remaining facilities located outside the County region. This can create hardship for the persons served as each facility cannot solely provide the specific needs of the persons served.

Both facilities listed above are currently contracted with the Department through the Specialized Residential Master Agreement, A-23-283. The execution of Master Agreement, A-25-383, served to create an eating disorder treatment-specific agreement to align the agreement scope of work and outcomes with the services provided. Approval of this suspension will ensure the provider network is not impacted by the expiration of the Specialized Residential Master Agreement, A-23-283, while simultaneously ensuring the appropriate allocation of these providers to the Master Agreement with the necessary terms and requirements for these providers and service types.

The facilities mentioned above have made it through the vetting process by the Eating Disorder team and have been identified as competent organizations that are able to provide adequate and quality services for eating disorder treatment. DBH has not had any issues while working with this organizations for the duration of their tenure on Agreement A-23-283. The addition of Discovery Practice Management, Inc. d.b.a. Center for Discovery will add residential treatment center level of care eating disorder treatment services and BHC Alhambra Hospital, Inc. d.b.a. BHC Alhambra Hospital will add inpatient level of care eating disorder treatment services to the Master Agreement. Approval of this Suspension of Competition will help maintain the integrity of the County's current eating disorder treatment provider network.

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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 8/26/2025 3:22:53 PM

Department Head Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

rblackburn 8/28/2025 12:47:00 PM

Purchasing Manager Signature

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!