

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS FOR AWARD OF CONTRACT ON  
SOLE SOURCE BASIS**

**Program Agency:** Department of Behavioral Health  
**Proposed Contractor:** Children's National Medical Center (CNMC)  
**Contract Number:** RM-16-SS-069-BY0-DJW  
**Caption:** Emergency Psychiatric Services for Children & Youth

**AUTHORITY**

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 27 DCMR 1304, 1700, and 1701

**1. MINIMUM NEED:**

The Department of Behavioral Health is obligated to provide emergency services to Children and Youth. The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) closed the Children's Emergency Psychiatry program on DC General Hospital grounds in 2002 after reaching agreement with Children's National Medical Center (CNMC). The costs for salaries alone at the DBH operated "Children's CPEP" were \$2.5 million per year. CNMC agreed to assume some of the responsibilities from DBH in providing Emergency Mental Health Assessments and referral if DBH supported additional staffing in the Emergency Department to assist with the increase in referrals. DBH has worked with CNMC since 2002 to assure cost and clinically effective services.

Upon arrival to the Emergency Room at CNMC, the Child/Youth receives a comprehensive assessment to determine if hospitalization is warranted at the time of arrival. If the Child/Youth cannot be stabilized and exhibits behavior that is a danger to self or others, he is admitted for inpatient care.

**2. FAIR AND REASONABLE PRICE:**

This Sole Source Contract shall support the delivery of Emergency Room Assessment Services to Children/Youth in Psychiatric Crisis. CNMC serves approximately 1,090 youth and their families in their Emergency Room on an annual basis. The Emergency Room at CNMC is operated twenty-four (24) hours per day, 365 days per year.

DBH conducted an analysis of the non-reimbursable costs CNMC incurred to provide emergency room services for children and youth requiring emergency psychiatric care. Based upon this analysis, CNMC indicated that \$90,000.00 per year or \$7,500.00 in costs per month were not reimbursed by Medicaid or any other source. The Director of DBH determined that these costs would be covered within the Department's local dollar budget allocation.

In making this determination, the following factors were considered:

- a) The Contractor shall provide Emergency Psychiatric Assessment Services for Children and Youth.

- b) Payment for the goods and services shall be made with Local Dollars and paid monthly in the amount of \$7,500.00 per month.

The parties acknowledge and agree that their respective obligations to fulfill financial obligations of any kind pursuant to any and all provisions of this Contract are and shall remain subject to the provisions (i) the federal Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1342, 1349, 1351, (ii) the District of Columbia Anti-Deficiency Act, D.C. Official Code §§ 47-355-.01-355.08 (2001), (iii) D.C. Official Code § 47-105 (2001), and (iv) D.C. Official Code § 1-204-46 (2006 Supp).

3. **FACTS SUPPORTING SOURCE SELECTION:**

Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) has the only child serving Emergency Department with 24/7 Mental Health Services in the District. There is no other provider in the District that is available to provide this service 365 days a year, thus a Sole Source (SS) Contract is required for this purpose. CNMC is the District's sole site for advanced training for Psychiatrists in Child and Youth.

CNMC has been a good partner of the DBH since assuming some of the responsibility delegated by the DBH. The volume of children seen has increased from about 30 per month at the old DC General site to about 180-200 per month.

CNMC is a highly regarded medical institution and has consistently been listed as one of America's best pediatric institutions by U.S. News & World Report. CNMC ranks ninth in the nation for the 2006 rankings.

CNMC has provided hope to sick children and their families in the District for more than 130 years. What started as a small hospital in the city has grown to a nationally recognized leader in pediatric medicine with research facilities, satellite offices around the beltway, and primary care centers. CNMC's Physicians and Nurses are among the best in the nation -- providing everything from routine well-baby exams to pediatric specialists in all medical disciplines. In addition, CNMC is also a research facility, with hundreds of grants and studies performed each year.

**CNMC Mission Statement:**

Children's National Medical Center will:

- a) Improve health outcomes for children regionally, nationally and internationally.
- b) Be a leader in creating innovative solutions to pediatric healthcare problems.
- c) Excel in Care, Advocacy, Research, and Education to meet the unique needs of children, adolescents and their families.

**Vision Statement:**

Children's National Medical Center will set the standards of excellence for the care of children. We will serve as the voice for the most vulnerable among us: our children. We will lead the quest to cure some of childhood's most devastating diseases. We will prepare the nation's future leaders in child health.

We will be the children's hospital against which all others are measured.  
Child-Centered Vision.

By incorporating feedback from our families, we have developed our first child-centered vision, which looks at the hospital experience through a child's eyes. Healing a child's body, mind and spirit takes more than medicine - it takes a team to fulfill a family's dream.

My hospital is a bright and happy place that feels like home.

My providers, my family and I are a team, and everyone's job is important.

The way my hospital works was built around me.

My providers don't all look alike.

My hospital is my family's connection to everything I need for my health, whether they provide it or blaze a trail to it.

**4. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:**

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Tanya Royster, Agency Director  
Department of Behavioral Health

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**5. CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACT SPECIALIST**

I hereby certify that the above findings are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Further, I certify that the notice on intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 1304 and that no response was received.

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Denise J. Wells, CPPB  
Contract Specialist

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Date

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under either Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practice Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code §2-354.02 or 2-354.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the Sole Source method of procurement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Lewis  
Contracting Officer

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Date