

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Child and Family Services Agency



CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT ADMINISTRATION

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS FOR
A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT**

CONTRACT NO.: DCRL-2012-C-0075
CAPTION: GLBT Youth Transitional Support Services
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Transgender Health Empowerment, Inc.
PROGRAM AGENCY: Child and Family Services Agency

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Official Code § 2-354.04, 27 DCMR 1304 and 1702

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia, Child and Family Services Agency, Office of Youth Empowerment has an immediate need for a Contractor to provide GLBT Youth Transitional Support Services. The period of performance shall be One year from date of award.

3. ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:

\$91,250

4. FACTORS WHICH JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

(a) The Office of Youth Empowerment (OYE) administers services and supports under Section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677) entitled the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. The purpose of the program is multifaceted, but most specifically for this sole source procurement:

- To provide an emergency transitional living program for homeless (or in immediate danger of losing housing) GLBT youth ages 16 – 21 for up to 60 days, and to assist youth in the following ways: a. to transition from homelessness to self-sufficient living; and/or b. To reunify the youth with his/her family, when possible.
- To provide financial, housing, counseling, employment, education, and other appropriate support and services to youth between 18 and 21 years of age to

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complement their own efforts to achieve self-sufficiency, and to assure that program participants recognize and accept their personal responsibility for preparing for, and then making the transition from adolescence to adulthood.

S.J is a transgender youth who was recently discharged from the Devereux Residential Treatment Center in Georgia. SJ was placed at SAGA Adventures, a therapeutic group home, but following her arrest for Arson and Assault with Intent to kill on 5-12-12 a stay away order was issued. SJ was then moved to Quadri Technology, where she threatened a staff member to burn the place down with her inside of it, a threat the staff could not ignore given SJ's history of fire setting. Police officers transported SJ to CPEP where she stayed for 2 days. She was released based on a psychiatric recommendation given the absence of psychosis or mania. CFSA attempted to place SJ at Crossing Place to obtain a full psychological evaluation to determine the most appropriate placement setting. However, SJ repeatedly left the facility and refused to be evaluated. SJ subsequently agreed to admit herself into PIW with the help of CFSA, but also refused an evaluation there and signed herself out after the 48 hour holding period was over. Attempts were also made to place SJ with family which became impractical after a two week period, given SJ's unacceptable behavior.

- (b) The proposed contractor is the only entity capable of meeting the District's minimum need during the proposed period of performance. The proposed contractor, the Wanda Alston House operated by Transgender Health Empowerment, is aware of the services to be provided and is capable of performing services and has performed in this capacity before.
- (c) A market survey was performed subsequent to the failed attempts to place SJ with family. CFSA arranged for SJ to be placed at Covenant House temporarily, but SJ was discharged due to her returning to the facility very late, and the inability of the Covenant House to provide the intense case management needed for SJ's behavior in general. The staff at Covenant House indicated they were simply unable to keep SJ around. CFSA then attempted to place SJ at Psychiatric Institute of Washington, a sub-acute unit, until a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation could be done, but SJ refused this placement.

Further efforts were then made to explore other relatives' homes for placement options for SJ. A great grandmother was identified and CFSA transported SJ to her house after issuing her a fare card and grocery gift cards. Since that placement, SJ has continued to have arguments and altercations with various family members.

5. **CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:**

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

Date

Director
Brenda Donald

6. **CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING OFFICER:**

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 1304.

Date

Tara Sigamoni
Chief Contracting Officer

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.

Date

Tara Sigamoni
Agency Chief Procurement Officer