

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: Choices Inc.
Contract Number: **RM-17-SS-026-BY0-RS**
Caption: Contractor to provide Mental Health Focused Care
Coordination Wraparound services for Children/Youth
Consumers.

AUTHORITY

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

1. MINIMUM NEED:

The Government of the District of Columbia Office of Contracting and Procurement, on behalf of the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) requires immediate need for a High Fidelity Wraparound Service provider with demonstrated competency and capacity to provide care coordination services and supports to children, youth and their families including those at-risk or currently receiving in-patient psychiatric treatment at residential or hospital type facilities. These Consumers often are involved in or at-risk for various behaviors to include but not limited to sex trafficking, foster care, truancy, mental health crisis and youth detention facilities.

The Wraparound Service model is critically important to support DBH in meeting its mission to serve the most vulnerable residents of the District along with meeting its obligation as a recipient of funding from the District's Child and Family Service Agency (CFSA), Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE) and the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS). The CFSA, OSSE and DYRS agencies transfer funds to DBH to support the implementation and operation of Wraparound Care Coordination services for District children/youth who demonstrate severe emotional, behavioral and substance abuse disorders.

The Wraparound service model is considered among the most effective interventions for children/youth diagnosed or at risk for severe emotional, behavioral and substance abuse disorders. The service model has been determined to be essential to any public mental health system servicing the child/youth population as a result of its ability to connect with the Consumer and Consumers' Family in order to achieve positive outcomes who often have not remained consisted with previous behavioral health programs. Failure to procure these services will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the lives of the District's most vulnerable children, youth and their families.

2. ESTIMATED FAIR AND REASONABLE PRICE:

The total amount of funding to be allocated for Wraparound is in the amount not to exceed \$900,000.00 for a Period of Performance of ninety days of date of award. This conclusion has been reached based on industry standards for care coordination services and pricing obtained by DBH through historical pricing for these services. The price shall cover staffing, care

Determination and Findings Single Available Source Contract

– Professional Services: High Fidelity Wraparound services for Children, Youth and Families

coordination services/supports, flex funds for non-traditional medically necessary services not otherwise reimbursable by Medicaid or other District Mental Health Programs.

3. FACTS SUPPORTING SOURCE SELECTION:

- It is in the best interests of the District to contract with DC Choices as a result of its established and reputable performance in delivering wrap around services within the United States. The vendor has extensive experience locally and nationally with service delivery available in Indiana, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.
- DC Choices is a non-profit organization that is nationally recognized for providing high quality care coordination to a wide range of populations, including those at-risk-of or currently placed in psychiatric hospitals, residential treatment centers, child welfare or juvenile justice systems.
- DC Choices has immediate capability, capacity and a highly specialized trained workforce and the necessary infrastructure to provide this individualized care for youth and their families.
- The Contractor has been verified as having an existing partnership with behavioral health providers and other child-serving agencies to maximize resources and quickly deliver these services.
- The Wraparound service model is a complex service delivery concept requiring a varying degree of competencies, education and skill sets. The unique staffing model requires staff with key roles to complete substantial training, as well as ongoing coaching and supervision, to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to achieve a consistent level of success and progress with Consumers.
- DC Choices has an established training institute for Wraparound which provides in house training throughout their service centers. To establish an effective Wraparound program the early stage of development requires reliance on extensive training, coaching and consultation and a continuous quality improvement process for ongoing staff development and quality assurance.
- The Surgeon General has embraced the effectiveness of community-based services like wraparound services, both in the *Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health and the Report on Youth Violence*. Moreover, wraparound services not only have better outcomes but also cost far less than more restrictive institutional and group care. Studies have found that these children make substantial improvements when provided wraparound services instead of

Determination and Findings Single Available Source Contract
– Professional Services: High Fidelity Wraparound services for Children, Youth and Families

institutional care, including that they are hospitalized less often; have fewer arrests and stays in detention; sustain their mental health improvements; have less suicidal behavior; and have better school attendance and achievement.

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.

Robert Snowden
Contract Specialist

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.

Margaret T. Desper, CPPB
Contracting Officer

Date