

Description of Intended Single Source Purchase

AGENCY: Florida Housing Finance Corporation

TITLE: Oversight of Cost/Benefit Research on High Needs/High Cost Developments

CONTACT: Contract Administrator
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Date Posted: November 5, 2019

Time Posted: 3:05 p.m.

Term: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Performance and/or Design Requirements: Florida Housing issued grants to three pilot developments to develop and provide up to 50 units of rental housing to serve “high needs/high cost” chronically homeless residents in permanent supportive housing. Each developer committed to hire an independent research team to carry out Florida-specific cost-benefit studies. The purpose of these studies is to evaluate how well the permanent supportive housing model improves the quality of life and self-sufficiency for persons that were chronically homeless, in addition to whether the use of publicly funded emergency and crisis services are reduced after the person is stably housed. While evaluations of this sort have occurred in other states, our staff and stakeholders in Florida have found that Florida policymakers want to know how well such a model works in this state. The data collection started when residents moved into the units and will continue for 24 months, at which point the final reports will be written. Each organization is responsible for its own data collection, analysis, and report; and the study timelines for each pilot development will be dependent upon the length of time it takes to complete the construction and prepare the final report. The pilot development in Jacksonville is complete and has submitted their final report to Florida Housing. The pilot developments in Miami and St. Petersburg are scheduled to complete their final cost/benefit studies no later than early Fall 2020.

Since the inception of the Pilot, Florida Housing has contracted with a qualified vendor to assist the Corporation to ensure that there is adequate oversight of the research development, methodology, implementation and reporting.

The vendor will be required to:

- A. Work with Florida Housing to schedule and carry out regularly scheduled telephone or webinar calls with the development and research teams for the Miami and St. Petersburg Pilot sites (calls may be combined if appropriate), and special calls as needed, to monitor research progress and that the methodologies are being followed as approved. The expected approach is one call every two months unless special circumstances/problems arise.
1. Assist in troubleshooting as the research teams report to Florida Housing on progress. This assistance would help head off potential problems as they arise, helping to ensure that the final reports are high quality and therefore useful for discussions with policymakers;
 2. If data access problems arise, advise Florida Housing on best approaches to assist in helping the teams access needed data, if data access problems arise;
 3. Help Florida Housing address any issues related to the Miami and St. Petersburg teams completing their studies and final reports;
 4. Schedule and convene the Pilot's annual peer meeting, including assisting Florida Housing develop the meeting's agenda; and
 5. Provide technical assistance, as requested by Florida Housing, to review and analyze the cost-benefits studies' findings, as well as found best practices found in serving the intended households in this permanent supportive housing model.

Intended Source: Corporation for Supportive Housing, Inc.

Estimated Dollar Amount: \$20,000

Justification for Single Source Acquisition: CSH is the only firm nationally that specializes in this type of research. Florida Housing's High Need/High Cost Pilot is similar to a CSH's signature initiative, FUSE (Frequent Users Systems Engagement), which has been implemented in approximately 30 communities nationwide – including Orlando. The CSH program has its origins more than 10 years ago as a pilot experiment in New York City to develop an enhanced supportive housing model to target individuals with established patterns of cycling between jail and shelters in the city.

CSH continues to be a national leader around national research on supportive housing, working with other groups to identify what gaps exist in the current research, and engage the field in next steps towards further demonstrating evidence around the model's implementation for different populations. This capacity will continue to inform the evaluations being conducted in the three High Need/High Cost sites in Florida.

No other technical assistance provider has the depth and breadth of experience CSH does with frequent user/high utilizer supportive housing initiatives generally, and Florida Housing is not

aware of any that have tried to provide technical assistance particularly targeted to the type of pilot we are implementing.

Approved By: Florida Housing Finance Corporation's Executive Director, Harold L. Price, III.

This Description of Intended Single Source Purchases is posted in accordance with Rule 67-49.0031, Florida Administrative Code. Prospective vendors are requested to provide information regarding their ability to supply the commodities or contractual services described. If the Executive Director, after reviewing any information received from prospective vendors, determines that the commodities or contractual services are practically available from a single source, the Corporation shall provide notice of its intended decision to enter into a single-source purchase contract in the manner specified in Section 120.57(3), Fla. Stat.