



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Lori A. Shibinette  
 Commissioner

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June 3, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
 State House  
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to enter into a **Sole Source** amendment to an existing contract with NFI North, Inc. (VC#177575), Contoocook, NH, to continue working with providers to expand access to clinically-appropriate, community-based behavioral health services to children and youth who are experiencing increased need for these services due to the COVID-19 pandemic, by exercising a contract renewal option with no change to the price limitation of \$1,000,000 and extending the completion date from June 30, 2021, to September 30, 2021, effective upon Governor approval. 100% Other Funds (GOFERR Funds).

The original contract was approved by the Governor on April 23, 2021, and presented to the Executive Council on May 19, 2021, item #V.

Funds are available in the following account for State Fiscal Year 2021, and are anticipated to be available in State Fiscal Year 2022, upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget, with the authority to adjust budget line items within the price limitation and encumbrances between state fiscal years through the Budget Office, if needed and justified.\*

**05-95-92-950010-19290000- HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVS, HHS: COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, DHHS COVID RELIEF FD FR GOFERR (100% Other Funds)**

State Fiscal Year	Class / Account	Class Title	Job Number	Current Budget	Increased (Decreased) Amount	Revised Budget
2021	103-502664	Contracts for Oper Svc	95010771	\$1,000,000	(\$985,000)	\$15,000
2022	103-502664	Contracts for Oper Svc	95010771	\$0	\$985,000	\$985,000
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

\*This request is contingent on approval by the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery to extend funds through September 30, 2021.

**EXPLANATION**

This request is **Sole Source** because the contract was originally approved as sole source and MOP 150 requires any subsequent amendments to be labeled as sole source. The Department, in the interest of the public's health and safety, identified a vendor with capacity to quickly provide these services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department has identified the Contractor

as a Care Management Entity that provides comprehensive wraparound services to families with children and youth who have complex mental health challenges.

The purpose of this amendment is for the Contractor to continue efforts to expand access to the community-based crisis and treatment services that are not otherwise available to children and youth who do not typically access the behavioral health crisis system, due to coverage limitations from commercial insurers or being uninsured. Children and youth continue to experience increased social and educational isolation and decreased educational supports during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in an unprecedented number of children and youth presenting at the emergency departments and the behavioral health system for the first time. These include children and youth who are either under-insured, uninsured, or have not previously been engaged in the publicly-funded behavioral health system and are presenting with depression and anxiety at a level that requires more intensive services than are traditionally available to them.

Approximately 50 to 80 children and youth will be served through September 30, 2021, depending on the trajectory of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Contractor will continue to work with Community Mental Health Centers and hospitals to identify youth and children who continue to be in need of additional services and who are uninsured or under-insured, with the objective of keeping children and youth in their communities and out of emergency departments, reducing emergency department surge. The Contractor will work with Community Mental Health Centers to provide in-home crisis intervention and stabilization and to ensure proper billing codes are used. The Contractor will also work with providers to make therapeutic day treatment available to a broader category of children and youth and to assess capacity for providing therapeutic day treatment in person versus remote options for children and youth as needed. Finally, the Contractor will work with Hampstead Hospital to address rapid re-admissions that Hampstead Hospital is experiencing during the pandemic.

The Department will monitor contracted services by reviewing monthly data reports that reflect the use of the proper billing codes, discharge data, and readmissions.

As referenced in Exhibit A of the original contract, the parties have the option to extend the agreement for up to one (1) additional year, contingent upon satisfactory delivery of services, available funding, agreement of the parties and appropriate State approval. The Department is exercising its option to renew services for three (3) months of the one (1) year available.

Area served: Statewide.

In the event that the Other Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibinette  
Commissioner

I hereby approve this request pursuant to RSA 4:45, RSA 21-P:43, and Section 4 of Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, 2020-18, 2020-20, 2020-21, 2020-23, 2020-24, 2020-25, 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-08, and 2021-10, and suspend the Manual of Procedures 150, V., B., 1 requirements.

6.7.21

Date



Name: Governor Christopher T. Sununu