



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

Lori A. Shibinette
 Commissioner

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April 19, 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** contract with NFI North, Inc. (VC# 177575), Contoocook, NH, in the amount of \$1,000,000 to work 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, with the option to renew for up to one (1) additional year, effective upon Governor approval through June 30, 2021. 100% Other Funds (GOFERR Funds).

Funds are available in the following account for State Fiscal Year 2021, with the authority to adjust budget line items within the price limitation 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	Total Amount
2021	103-502664	Contracts for Oper Svc	95010771	\$1,000,000
			Total	\$1,000,000

EXPLANATION

This request is **Sole Source** because 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 request is for the Contractor to open 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 have experienced 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 50-80 children and youth will be served through June 30, 2021, depending on the trajectory of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Contractor will work with Community Mental Health Centers and hospitals to identify youth and children who are 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 attached contract, the parties have the option to extend the agreement for up one (1) additional year, contingent upon satisfactory delivery of services, available funding, agreement of the parties and appropriate State approval.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: 100% Other Funds (GOFERR Funds)

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, and 2021-06, and suspend the Manual of Procedures 150, V., A., 3 requirement.

4.23.21

Date



Name: Governor Christopher T. Sununu