



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Table with 5 columns and 10 rows containing procurement details such as Department Office/Division/Program, Amount, Proposed Start Date, and Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name.

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

Table with 4 columns and 8 rows listing justification options A through L, with option J 'Willing and Qualified' checked.

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

### PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

Maine CDC is responsible for protecting public health from drug overdoses and blood-borne diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis B & C. Maine ranks 6th highest in the nation of opioid overdoses. People who inject drugs are at the highest risk to be infected with HIV and hepatitis B & C. Connecting people with substance use disorder (SUD) to services is incredibly challenging, especially in Maine's rural counties. Providing Patient navigation services. Connecting people with SUD to a wide variety of needed services has been a proven method for addressing the opioid crisis. This contract will support Patient Navigation Services through the hiring of patient navigators in the most vulnerable counties in Maine, as determined by the State's Vulnerability Assessment for Opioid Overdose and Bloodborne Infections. Providing this service supports the Department's goal of preventing opioid overdoses and bloodborne infections.

Maine CDC has obtained grant funding from the federal CDC, through the Overdose Data to Action Project CDC-RFA-CE19-1904 Strategy 6, which is to be used to support Patient Navigators in providing linkage to care for persons with substance use disorders (SUD). Per the Governor's office, Director of Opioid Response, and Maine's CDC Director, funding used to address the opioid crisis should be directed at the 5 most vulnerable counties listed in the *State's Vulnerability Assessment for Opioid Overdoses and Bloodborne Infections Associated with Non-Sterile Injection Drug Use in Maine, July 2019* (<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/navtabs/documents/Maine-CDC-Vulnerability-Assessment-Report.pdf>).

These contracts provide support to the most vulnerable areas. The Department does not have the staffing, resources, or expertise available within the State of Maine's government, or other governmental entities to conduct this work. Syringe service programs, Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) clinics, and free medical care clinics are three of the most ideal places to connect people with SUD to services. These agreements will fund providers in five of the most vulnerable counties: Cumberland, Kennebec, Somerset, Penobscot, and Washington counties.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

The providers below met the Department's qualifications of providing patient navigation services and are willing to provide these services in the services areas as indicated:

City of Portland, Portland Public Health (PPH) operates the only syringe service program and only free medical care clinic in Cumberland county, along with an STD clinic on site.

MaineGeneral Medical Center (MGMC) operates the only two syringe service programs in the county. MGMC also operates the largest outpatient SUD clinic in Kennebec county

Penobscot Valley Hospital (PVH), through its network of facilities, provides Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment programs, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs, and Behavioral Health programs. These are three of the most ideal places to connect people with SUD to services. PVH will provide these services to rural Penobscot County,

Redington Fairview General Hospital's Somerset Public Health (SPH), located in the southern end of Somerset County SPH is currently working with another organization from outside Somerset County to open the only syringe service program in Somerset county. SPH operates the only substance use prevention program in the southern end of the county and runs the Somerset County Rural Communities Opioid Response Planning Consortium, the only organization like it in the county.

Regional Medical Center at Lubec (RMCL) provides Substance Use Disorder (SUD) recovery and treatment services, Behavioral Health programs, HIV/Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) clinics, and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and are some of the most ideal places to connect people with SUD to services. RMCL is the only FQHC that provides all these services in Washington County. A survey by the Viral Hepatitis Prevention

**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Coordinator revealed that there are no other Federally Qualified Health Clinics or community-based organizations in Washington County that provide as many services as RMCL does.

3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

Maine CDC determined that the costs will be fair and reasonable for patient navigation services based on the rates of other patient navigation service providers in the State, such as Penobscot Community Health Care Centers in Penobscot County. Because patient navigation services can be cost-prohibitive to health care organizations, most do not provide this service and instead rely on simple referrals to other services.

The funding supporting this initiative has been extended by one year, providing additional time for the vendors to complete the workload through August 31, 2023, and providing an opportunity to reallocate funding between vendors as needed.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

The Department does not intend to RFP these services as they are awarded on a willing and qualified basis.

**PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)**

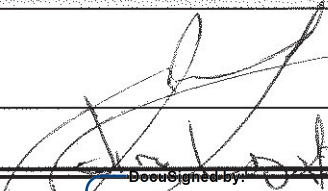
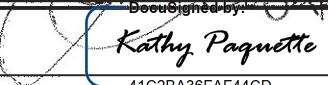
Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

No – If No, proceed to Part V

**PART V: APPROVALS**

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:		Date:	16 Feb 23
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	 41C2BA36FAF44CD...		
Typed Name:	Kathy Paquette	Date:	4/21/2023

HIV PREVENTION LINKAGE -SFY23

**Addendum**

Table of Providers

Vendor	Agreement Number	CT 10A:	Agreement Amount
Redington-Fairview Gen Hospital, Skowhegan, ME, 04976	CD5-23-5162	CT 10A 20221018000000001158	\$ 168,644.10
Penobscot Valley Hospital Lincoln, ME 04457-0368	CD6-23-5102	CT 10A 20221018000000001159	\$ 184,429.67
Regional Medical Center at Lubec Lubec, ME 04652	CD7-23-5151	CT 10A 20221018000000001160	\$ 160,000.00
MaineGeneral Medical Center, Augusta, ME 04330	CDM-23-5105	CT 10A 20221018000000001161	\$ 191,842.72
City of Portland Portland, ME 04101	CDM-23-5166	CT 10A 20221018000000001162	\$ 160,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 864,916.49</b>