

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

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

PART I: OVERVIEW

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Department Office/Division/Program: | | DHHS/OCFS | | | |
| Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator: | | Chris Moiles/Debbie Weston | | | |
| (If applicable) Department Reference #: | | CBH-21-4006 | | | |
| Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant) | \$ 308,556.00 | Advantage CT / RQS #: | CT 10A 2020060100000003620 | | |
| CONTRACT | Proposed Start Date: | 7/1/2020 | Proposed End Date: | 6/30/2022 | |
| AMENDMENT | Original Start Date: | | Effective Date: | | |
| | Previous End Date: | | New End Date: | | |
| GRANT | Project Start Date: | | Grant Start Date: | | |
| | Project End Date: | | Grant End Date: | | |
| Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State: | | Autism Society of Maine Winthrop, ME | | | |
| Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant: | | Family Support | | | |

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

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

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | A. Competitive Process | | G. Grant |
| | B. Amendment | | H. State Statute/Agency Directed |
| X | C. Single Source/Unique Vendor | | I. Federal Agency Directed |
| | D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents | | J. Willing and Qualified |
| | E. Emergency | | K. Client Choice |
| | F. University Cooperative Project | | L. Other Authorization |

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

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

The Autism population is growing, and it is important that families and the broader community understand the unique needs of those affected by Autism and how to respond to those needs as they relate to basic human rights, safety, education, health, providing services, and acceptance by their communities. Families can experience an increased ability to cope with the effects of Autism and an improved quality of life through effective natural supports in a least-restrictive environment. The Autism Society of Maine (ASM) is the only agency in the State whose sole mission is to respond to the needs of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families. There is a significant need to expand the knowledge of care for providers and families regarding supports to people with Autism, and the Autism Society provides the needed clinical/best practice information to these individuals providing support.

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The Department is obligated to provide services per the following statutes:

Title 34-B section 6204:

1.A. directs the Department to strengthen the capacity of families, natural helping networks, self-help groups and other community resources to support and serve children in need of treatment. Family organizations and youth peer programs are a critical component of these community resources and offer advocacy and family guidance and counseling;

1.C.1. to 1.C.10 directs the Department to support services to children in need of treatment and their families in the following capacities: Advocacy; Assessment and Diagnosis; Child Development; Consultation and Education; Crisis Intervention; Family Guidance and counseling; Preventive Intervention; Professional Consultation and Training; Family Support Services; and Treatment.

Autism Society of Maine either provides these services directly or refers families to qualified providers to meet their needs.

Title 34-B section 1801:

2.R defines Family Support services to include family education and training, Autism Society of Maine provides a substantial amount of education and training to families impacted by Autism.

2.T. defines Family Support services to include Information services.

Autism Society of Maine provides up-to-date information and also will help families to self-refer for services related to the Autism diagnosis.

Title 34-B section 1806:

States that the Commissioner may provide family support services directly from the Department or through agreements with community agencies.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

ASM through its personnel, contracted Autism Information Specialists, and other professional collaborators is the expert source for knowledge and treatment of autism in Maine. As mentioned before, the Autism Society of Maine is the sole Maine Chapter granted such status by the National Autism Society. An interruption of these services would be harmful to families and caregivers of children with ASD and to people with Autism, as ASD is a major public health concern with Maine having one of the highest rates in the country. Nationally, the figure is 1 out of 68 children with ASD. The ASM is a statewide nonprofit organization that has served Maine individuals with autism and their families, professionals and communities by providing education, advocacy, referrals and resource development, for over 42 years.

ASM exists to promote lifelong access and opportunity for all individuals on the autism spectrum to become participating members of their communities. Education, advocacy, support, and public awareness form the cornerstones of the Autism Society of Maine's efforts to carry forth their mission.

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

Services have been provided by the Autism Society of Maine (ASM) within reasonable costs of operation and creative methods to match federal funds through non-federal dollars. The agency supports its work through other funding sources, including highly visible and cost-effective private fundraising activities such as Autism Awareness Month, the Walk for Autism, and the Annual Ride for Autism, Break the Cycle events, among others. ASM relies on donations and fundraisers to help cover the cost of its programs and activities that bring awareness and community to individuals affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

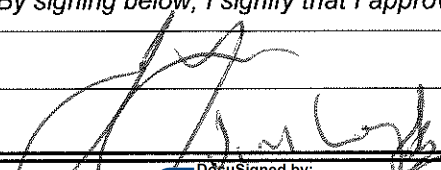
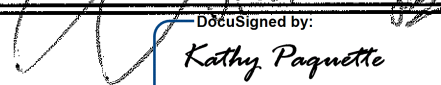
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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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

The Autism Society of Maine is the sole Maine Chapter granted such status by the National Autism Society. An interruption of these services would be harmful to families and caregivers of children with ASD and to people with Autism, as ASD is a major public health concern with Maine having one of the highest rates in the country. The Department does not intend to RFP this service.

PART IV: APPROVALS

| | | | |
|---|--|--------------|-------------------|
| Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee): | <i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i> | | |
| Printed Name: |  | Date: | <i>16 July 20</i> |
| Signature of DAFS Procurement Official: | <small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <i>Kathy Paquette</i> | | |
| Printed Name: | <small>41C2BA36FAF44CD...</small> kathy Paquette | Date: | 7/24/2020 |