

**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**

Department Office/Division/Program:		DHHS/Rural Health and Primary Care Program/Nicole Breton		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Chris Moiles / Jeanne Garza		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		CD0-22-2251A		
Original Amount:	\$ 380,500.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT 10A 20211029000000001104	
Amendment Amount	\$ 86,160.00			
New Contract Amount	\$ 466,660.00			
<b>CONTRACT</b>	Proposed Start Date:	<b>09/01/2021</b>	Proposed End Date:	08/31/2023
<b>AMENDMENT</b>	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:	
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:	
<b>GRANT</b>	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		New England Rural Health Association (NERHA) Newfield, Maine		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		New England Performance Improvement Healthcare Collaborative and education and training for health professionals in rural areas		

**PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION**

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	L. Other Authorization

**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.

The Department receives grant funding to specifically address multi-state rural healthcare challenges, such as the Hospital and Clinic financial transition to value-based purchasing and the development of telehealth services. The NERHA provides technical assistance to include the development of evidence-based strategies for improving small and rural hospital operational performance, collects rural healthcare data across the New England states and coordinates educational opportunities to support a volume license for professional certifications of health professionals working in rural areas.

This amendment increases the agreement by \$86,160 to provide five (5) additional mini grants to rural healthcare entities during year 1 (9/1/2021-8/31/2022) of the agreement to strengthen rural hospitals' operational performance and development of telehealth services. This additional funding is from Rural Health Flex Grant carryover funds that must be used by 08/31/2022.

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

As a grant partner, the NERHA coordinates the many activities for this multi-state collaboration including an Annual Symposium, coordination of the New England Performance Improvement Collaborative (NEPI) and Critical Assess Hospital (CAH) professional education/certification for Quality Improvement/Infection Control/Patient Safety/Value-Based Purchasing through the Institute for Health Care Improvement (IHI) Open School. No other entity within New England States has the unique business attributes as well as the stated mission or expertise to provide these services to the HRSA 19-024 Flex Program recipients from the New England States.

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

The administrative and operational costs of the NERHA are divided among the New England States. This collaborative reduces per State costs while increasing resources that are available to Maine's Healthcare providers and other stakeholders that would otherwise be unavailable in a single-state project. The NERHA reduces duplication of limited resources and improves efficiency to accomplish its work across the State.

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

The Department does not intend to competitively bid these services.

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

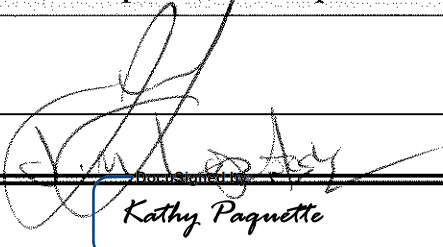

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

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:	8/8/22
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:			
Typed Name:	Kathy Paquette	Date:	8/8/2022