



**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/OBH/Maddison Bourassa/Stephanie Kadnar		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Jeanne Garza/Jennifer Levesque		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		OSA-23-500		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 200,000.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT 10A 20230217000000002137
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	1/1/2023	Proposed End Date:	8/31/2023
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:		MaineHealth		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Overdose Prevention - DHARMA		

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input 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

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.

The purpose of this agreement is to maximize impact, effectively leverage federal funding, and to honor the work plan submitted to and approved by the OD2A federal officers, the funding earmarked in OD2A to fund a drug checking pilot should instead be utilized to bolster the existing work of Project DHARMA. Project DHARMA, a SAMSHA grant award received with a support letter from OBH, will utilize the funds of \$200,000 to support administrative work, technical assistance, and equipment purchasing.

Through the collaborative program Distribution of Harm Reduction Access in Rural Maine Areas (Project DHARMA), funded through an award of SAMHSA's Harm Reduction Grant Program, this project will make the benefits of sophisticated, drug checking accessible to drug-using communities, increase awareness of, and improve response to, the full scope of negative health outcomes due to a contaminated supply.

Through this innovative project the following outcomes are expected:

- Increase community access to sophisticated drug-checking technology;
- Increase the dissemination of drug supply and health outcome data that is accessible to community; specifically, people who use drugs
- Increase community knowledge on the complex effects of a contaminated drug supply on health outcomes, best practices regarding drug checking, data collection, disseminating information and response to drug related health problems including but not limited to overdose;
- Empower individuals within drug-using communities by partnering with them to help direct the implementation of this project and gather life-saving information through sample donations.

Through the use of Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Reagents (also known as spot or colorimetric tests), coupled with access to Mass spectrometry (MS) at Colby College, this project aims to obtain and disseminate data on the current, local drug supply and correlate this with health outcomes to reduce drug-related harms including overdose, injection related infections and reactions; increase public awareness, inform policy initiatives and professional education; and build access to equitable healthcare within high-risk communities.

Utilizing OD2A Funds-In the final Year 4 work plan, the OD2A team added activities around a harm reduction drug checking pilot program. This was a direct response to conversations with stakeholders, primarily those involved in the Maine Naloxone Distribution Initiative. Through this pilot, OD2A would fund a harm reduction partner to increase drug checking capacity in Maine. OD2A federal funder, the US CDC, approved this activity including the purchase of drug checking equipment by the pilot partner. However, rather than develop and launch a pilot, OD2A proposes collaborating with Project DHARMA to increase the funding, and therefore collective impact of, innovative harm reduction strategies and drug checking.

With OD2A funds, the DHARMA Project will purchase drug checking equipment, including FTR equipment and reagents for in-house drug checking capabilities at partnering programs. Funds will also be used towards qualitative evaluation, administrative/project coordination, and technical assistance for the Project DHARMA team as we build out these services. Regular check ins, including project progress and findings, will be scheduled between the Project DHARMA team and the State.

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

MaineHealth was awarded the SAMSHA Harm Reduction Grant to develop and implement Project DHARMA. The vendor is uniquely qualified as the implementing and visionary body for Project DHARMA convening key stakeholders and community partners.

**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

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

MaineHealth was awarded the SAMSHA Harm Reduction Grant to develop and implement Project DHARMA

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

Support from the State, through OD2A grant funds, will amplify the impact of the project. Collaborating with Project DHARMA, rather than developing a parallel project, effectively leverages funding while honoring the work plan submitted for OBH federal OD2A dollars.

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

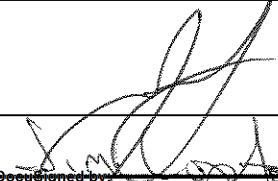

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

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:	5 Jun 23
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:			
Typed Name:	Kathy Paquette	Date:	8/11/2023