

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.

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 website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

| PART I: OVERVIEW | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Department Office/Division/Program: | Office of School and Student Supports, Maine Department of Education | | | |
| Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator: | Amelia Lyons, McKinney Vento Homeless Education Consultant | | | |
| (If applicable) Department Reference #: | N/A | | | |
| Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant) | \$ 40,000 | Advantage CT / RQS #: | 20210903*0585 | |
| CONTRACT | Proposed Start Date: | 9/13/21 | Proposed End Date: | 8/31/24 |
| 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: | Preble Street, 38 Preble St, Portland, ME 04101 | | | |
| Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant: | McKinney-Vento Implementation through American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth, State Reservation | | | |

| 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. |

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The services to be provided under this contract are to support the identification, outreach, and provision of services to children, youth, and families who qualify as McKinney-Vento. The provider will offer wrap around services and referrals for the children and youth and connect them to their local McKinney-Vento liaison for additional support. This provider will also assist the Maine Department of Education with a professional development project to Local Education Agencies throughout the state regarding their unique expertise in the field of serving people experiencing homelessness.

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

Preble Street is uniquely qualified to provide these services in the Southern region of the state because they are already the recognized provider in this region.

Preble Street established Preble Street Teen Services (PSTS) in 1996 to provide low-barrier shelter and services to youth experiencing homelessness in Portland, Maine. In the ensuing 25 years, Teen Services has grown to include the largest licensed youth shelter in the state of Maine (24 beds), a Drop-in Teen Center, a statewide Mobile Outreach program, and multiple transitional and rapid rehousing housing programs for youth. Today, PSTS provides comprehensive statewide services to runaway and homeless youth 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

Preble Street Teen Services is uniquely qualified to provide support, training, and professional development for McKinney-Vento liaisons throughout Region 1 and the state of Maine. We acutely understand the many needs of youth experiencing homelessness and provide regular internal and external trainings on topics such as: trauma-informed care, positive youth development, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's), human trafficking, and root causes of homelessness. Our staff have significant expertise identifying and supporting students experiencing homelessness, particularly those populations of youth who have been historically underserved by systems of care (including, but not limited to rural youth, Tribal youth, students of color, youth with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQIA+ youth, pregnant and parenting youth, etc). Portland, Maine is a primary hub for unaccompanied asylum-seeking youth, often referred to as New Mainers, and therefore Preble Street Teen Services is often the first place many of these young people land upon arriving in Maine with few supports and frequently no English language skills. Between FY 2016-2019 PSTS served 67 unaccompanied refugee youth with shelter and case management services. These youth come from all over the world – with the largest groups from the Democratic Republic of Congo (22) and Angola (20) – and need English language instruction and help finding housing and jobs, completing their secondary education, and accessing post-secondary education and training. Teen Services has a caseworker who is specifically trained to work with the nuanced and specialized needs of unaccompanied asylum-seeking youth.

PSTS is the sole provider of comprehensive homeless youth services in Region 1 (York and Cumberland counties), and we work closely with McKinney-Vento liaisons in school districts throughout the region. Our ongoing collaboration with local district liaisons allows us to quickly identify and respond to student needs as they arise throughout the year. Our unique expertise working with these specific populations make us well-positioned to support McKinney-Vento liaisons with the identification and support for students experiencing homelessness throughout the state of Maine.

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

This organization is uniquely positioned because they are already doing this work and have been for many years. This contract will be a natural extension of their work into the schools and use their unique voice and experience to provide valuable professional development to districts.


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

This funding was allocated to the grantee as it was divided up equally between all contracts to fully cover the state. This cost is fair and reasonable to support, at a minimum, .5 FTE for a staff person to dedicate time to these projects.

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

This funding is only available through 2024 and is a one-time payment of the American Rescue Plan. If additional funds are made available by the US Department of Education at a later date, then plans will be made on how to approach future competition for the services.

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: | Daniel A. Chuhta Deputy Commissionoiner | Date: | 9/3/2021 |
| Signature of DAFS Procurement Official: | <small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Michelle Fournier</i> | | |
| Printed Name: | Michelle Fournier | Date: | 9/23/2021 |