



**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 Theresa Witham    Michael Freysinger		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		DHHS/DCM		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		OSA-24-656		
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 396,208.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT-10A-20230516000000003213
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	10/1/2023	Proposed End Date:	9/30/2024
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:		CHURCH OF SAFE INJECTION Portland, ME		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Peer Navigators Pilot		

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 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 expand harm reduction services through Peer Outreach positions, additional harm reduction supplies, and increased trainings and technical assistance.

The intended client served by this pilot's outreach services are individuals in active opioid and poly-substance use. Specific outreach and engagement strategies will be employed to identify and connect with individuals reluctant to engage in services currently provided in the regions served. Once connections are made, if/when an individual is in a place to consider more long-term treatment and recovery services or other supportive services such as housing, food, health care, etc, referrals will be made to appropriate provider agencies.

The intended client served by the training and technical assistance component of this pilot are community members and providers who may come into contact with active drug users including law enforcement, recovery services providers, health care providers, treatment providers, and community groups.

The intent of this Peer Outreach work is to increase connections with individuals actively engaged in opioid use to foster relationships which will lead to safer use practices, referrals to additional supports, and reduce the risk of overdose and overdose fatalities and other harmful health outcomes associated with opioid and poly-substance use disorder.

The target population of this pilot includes active drug users not currently accessing available services who may be identified as high-risk for overdose, overdose fatalities, hepatitis C and/or HIV transmission, and other serious negative health outcomes associated with opioid and poly-substance use disorder. Additionally, funds will be used to purchase and distribute harm reduction supplies and deliver harm reduction trainings and technical assistance to providers offering services to individuals actively using opioids and other substances.

This service was identified as a priority area in response to recent opioid overdose data, particularly increased reports of overdose fatalities, including data that suggests individuals counted in these reports aren't accessing available services for several reasons. Providing additional resources via a peer outreach position and built on a foundation of noncoercive relationship building and harm reduction philosophy offers the potential to reach members of the community not currently being served.

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

This Provider currently offers harm-reduction services supported by OBH funds. Because of the unique nature of this project, the vendor selected has a demonstrated history showing capability to do the street level outreach necessary to connect with the target population of the project. There are limited harm reduction agencies in Maine with the capacity to satisfy both street level outreach by peers as well as training and education related to harm reduction. This vendor had also already been certified as a syringe service program, so they were able to start working on the pilot immediately without needing to get further certifications. This is the second year of a two-year pilot with this vendor, who consistently demonstrates their capabilities to not only meet the goals of the pilot, but also continuously looking toward how to improve outcomes with outreach and training beyond expectation.

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

Costs in this agreement were negotiated with the provider and reflect similar costs for peer support positions in other contracts held by Department. Harm reduction supplies and trainings are similar in cost to other contracts held with the provider.

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

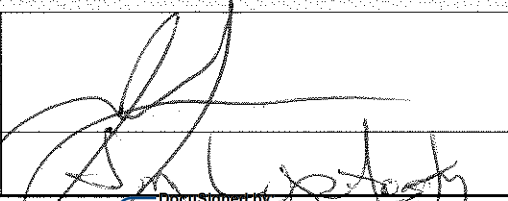

This service is a Pilot. If the Pilot is a success, the Department will issue a RFP for a 10/1/2025 contract start date.

**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):			Date:	3-04-23
Typed Name:			Date:	
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	 <small>DocuSigned by: Kathy Paquette</small>		Date:	12/6/2023
Typed Name:	kathy Paquette		Date:	