

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Procurement and Contracts Division

Date Received

NON-COMPETITIVE PURCHASE REQUEST JUSTIFICATION

Required for all (non-emergency) sole source acquisitions in excess of \$5,000.00 and sole source service requests in excess of \$100,000.00.

This justification document consists of three (3) pages. All information must be provided and all questions must be answered. **Department Head approval is required.**

Requesting Department Information

Department:	Org Code:	
51-Social Services	5130	
Contact Name:	Subobject:	User Code:
Alexxa Lotze		
Telephone:	Fax:	
(530)642-4860	(530)626-7427	

Required Supplier / Vendor Information


Vendor / Supplier Name:	Vendor / Supplier Address:
Whole Person Learning, Inc.	11816 Kemper Rd, Auburn, CA 95603
Contact Name:	
Christina Nicholson	
Estimated Purchase Price/Contract Amount:	Vendor / Supplier Email Address:
\$1,500,000.00	wplcep@pacbell.net
Telephone:	Fax:
Office: (530)823-2499; Cell: (530)558-5355	

Provide a brief description of the request, including all goods and/or services the vendor/supplier will provide and supporting exemption reference from Board Policy C-17 - Procurement Policy:

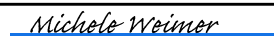
The Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) is an optional, county-certified, provider-based transitional housing placement option for former foster youth, including those formerly supervised by probation, ages 18 to 24 who exited foster care at or after age 18. Former foster youth in this program are not eligible for AFDC-FC funds. THP-Plus is a state program created in 2001 and is governed by Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) Sections 11403.2(a)(2) and 16522. The program's goal is to provide a safe living environment, for up to 24 months, while assisting the youth in developing the life skills necessary to be successful living independently. The program provides supervised transitional living housing and supportive services including, but not limited to rental subsidy, grocery vouchers, utility assistance, transportation assistance, household supplies, furnishings, and education and employment expenses. The services provided are based on a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP), which is developed by the young adult, the county, and other supportive persons. The TILP details the goals and objectives they will achieve while working toward self-sufficiency. Proposed THP-Plus programs must be certified by the County, and the Board of Supervisors approved the El Dorado County THP-Plus Plan on March 28, 2006.

The El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has contracted with Whole Person Learning, Inc. since 2011 and has a current contract with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for the provision of THP-Plus services. HHSA has clients placed with Whole Person Learning, Inc. and transitioning these young adults to another service provider could be detrimental to their treatment program. Continuing services with Whole Person Learning, Inc. is the best option to ensure consistent and continual treatment for these young adults. HHSA respectfully requests a competitive selection waiver for the provision of THP-Plus services provided by Whole Person Learning, Inc.

Department Head:


Olivia Byron-Cooper (Sep 27, 2024 12:18 PDT)
Signature

Purchasing Agent:


Michele Weimer (Sep 27, 2024 15:50 PDT)
Signature

Board of Supervisors:

Date:	
Item:	

P&C Assignment:

Assigned To:	
Date:	

A. The good/service requested is restricted to one supplier for the reason stated below:

1. Why is the acquisition restricted to this goods/services supplier? (Explain why the acquisition cannot be competitively sourced. Explain how the supplier is the only source for the acquisition.)

HHSA has contracted with Whole Person Learning, Inc. since 2011 for the provision of THP-Plus services. HHSA previously determined that Whole Person Learning, Inc.'s program meets the THP-Plus requirements outlined in the California W&IC Section 16522.1(h)(1)(21) and they are within close proximity to El Dorado County. HHSA has also determined that the THP-Plus program is vital to meet the needs of emancipated foster youth in their quest to become self-sufficient. At this time, Whole Person Learning, Inc. is the only THP-Plus provider that is certified by the County. Based on ongoing HHSA's experience and ongoing working relationship with Whole Person Learning, Inc., the vendor has demonstrated their ability to perform the services and meet personnel qualifications, and they have demonstrated that they have the capacity and availability to perform the services. HHSA currently has clients utilizing Whole Person Learning Inc.'s services and continuity of services for the emancipated foster youth population is of the utmost importance to ensure their path to self-sufficiency.

2. Provide the background of events leading to this acquisition.

Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) was enacted by the legislature with Assembly Bill (AB) 427 (Chapter 125, Statutes of 2001) effective July 30, 2001. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved the County's THP-Plus Plan on March 28, 2006 (Item #06-0476). The BOS then approved the following Agreements for Services:

- Agreement for Services #554-S0711 on March 27, 2007 (Item #07-501) with Remi Vista, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 03/27/2007 through 06/30/2007.
- Agreement for Services #028-S0811 on April 22, 2008 (Item #08-0469) with Remi Vista, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 07/01/2007 through 06/30/2010.
- Agreement for Services #012-S1111 on May 18, 2010 (Item #10-0405) with Remi Vista, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 07/01/2010 through 06/30/2011.
- Agreement for Services #291-S1110 on March 1, 2011 (Item #11-0161) with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 01/12/2011 through 01/11/2014.
- Amendment I for Agreement for Services #012-S1111 on September 27, 2011 (Item #11-1054) with Remi Vista, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 07/01/2010 through 06/30/2012.
- Agreement for Services #010-S1311 on November 12, 2013 (Item #13-1330) with Tahoe Turning Point, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 11/12/2013 through 01/11/2018.
- Agreement for Services #440-S1411 on February 11, 2014 (Item #14-0189) with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 03/01/2014 through 02/28/2017.
- Agreement for Services #355-S1711 on February 7, 2017 (Item #17-0039) with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 03/01/2017 through 02/28/2020.
- Agreement for Services #4520 on February 25, 2020 (Item #19-1833) with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for THP-Plus services from 02/29/2020 through 02/28/2025.

HHSA originally contracted with Remi Vista, Inc., located in Redding, California for THP-Plus services starting in 2008 as they were the sole qualified respondent to the RFP at that time. HHSA also later contracted with Tahoe Turning Point, Inc., located in South Lake Tahoe, California for THP-Plus services. However, in 2011 HHSA negotiated a lower monthly rate per participant for THP-Plus services with Whole Person Learning, Inc., located in Auburn, California. Whole Person Learning, Inc.'s THP-Plus plan is certified by the State and County and complies with the requirements of the THP-Plus program outlined in W&IC.

3. Describe the uniqueness of the acquisition. (Why was the goods/services supplier chosen?)

California W&IC sections 11403.2 and 16522.2 provide for optional, county-certified, THP-Plus services. HHSA is responsible for the oversight of the administration and provision of THP-Plus services for certain emancipated foster youth ages 18 to 24. Whole Person Learning, Inc. is the only vendor currently certified by the County and is in compliance with the requirements of the THP-Plus program as set forth in the California W&IC section 16522.1 (h)(1)(21). Whole Person Learning, Inc. possesses many of the desired qualities and qualifications that HHSA is required to have when selecting a THP-Plus vendor. Whole Person Learning, Inc. is within close proximity to El Dorado County, has a current county-certified THP-Plus program in place, has the ability to provide more financially/economically feasible services compared to past vendors., and HHSA currently has emancipated foster youth clients utilizing Whole Person Learning, Inc.'s THP-Plus services. HHSA has continued to contract solely with Whole Person Learning, Inc. for the provision of THP-Plus services while the other agreements with Remi Vista, Inc. and Tahoe Turning Point, Inc. have been terminated. HHSA has determined that the Whole Person Learning, Inc. THP-Plus program is vital to meet the needs of the emancipated foster youth population in their quest to become self-sufficient. At this time, Whole Person Learning, Inc. is the only THP-Plus provider certified by the County to provide THP-Plus services.

4. What are the consequences of not purchasing the goods/services or contracting with the proposed supplier?

Disapproval of the renewal for Agreement for Services #4520 with Whole Person Learning, Inc. would result in the disruption of THP-Plus services currently being provided to HHSA emancipated foster youth clients and would significantly diminish HHSA's ability to refer future clients to a THP-Plus program.

5. What market research was conducted to substantiate no competition, including the evaluation of other items or service providers? (Provide a narrative of your efforts to identify other similar or appropriate goods/services, including a summary of how the department concluded that such alternatives are either inappropriate or unavailable. The name and addresses of suppliers contacted and the reasons for not considering them must be included OR an explanation of why the survey or effort to identify other goods/services was not performed.)

In accordance with Board of Supervisors Policy C-17, Section 7.11 "Contracts over \$100,000", back in 2020 and prior to finalizing Agreement #4520 with Whole Person Learning, Inc., HHSA sought and received a review of the scope of services and the vendor's professional qualifications by a group of individuals qualified to judge the vendor's ability to perform the services, including one representative from outside the department requesting the services. Additionally, HHSA has determined, in accordance with County Ordinance Section 3.13.030, paragraph (B), that this contract may be awarded to Whole Person Learning, Inc. for THP-Plus services because they possess specialty skills and qualifications, including their THP-Plus certification, not expressly identified in County classifications that are involved in the performance of the work. The County also does not possess the facilities required to provide the THP-Plus services.

B. Price Analysis:

1. How was the price offered determined to be fair and reasonable? (Explain what basis was used for comparison and include cost analysis as applicable.)

Prior to 2011, HHSA was paying Remi Vista, Inc. \$2,396 per month per THP-Plus participant, and billing rates were not to exceed the cap established by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) which was set at \$2,934 by the State. However, the rate was able to be negotiated lower by the County. Back in 2011, HHSA was paying \$2,920 per month per participant for THP-Plus services with the vendor, Remi Vista, Inc. located in Redding, California and their contract was set to expire June 30, 2011. HHSA was and still is responsible for the oversight of the administration of the THP-Plus program and had negotiated a rate of \$2,396 per month per participant back in 2011 with Whole Person Learning, Inc., located in Auburn, California. The current Whole Person Learning, Inc. contract #4520 reflects a rate of \$2,688 per month per participant and they are proposing an increase up to \$2,794 per month per participant for THP-Plus services which is a little over a 16% increase over the span of 13 years. To put that into perspective, the California fair market and median gross rent history data shows that in 2020 the average rent was \$1,614 while the 2024 average rent is \$2,464 which is a little over a 34% increase over the span of only four (4) years. Given this information, it appears that Whole Person Learning, Inc. is offering THP-Plus services at a fair and reasonable rate for emancipated foster youth who would potentially otherwise be homeless or have to pay expensive rental prices when looking for housing.

2. Describe any cost savings or avoidance realized (one-time or ongoing) by acquiring the goods/services from this supplier.

N/A.