

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 45

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements service contract with INDIGENT CARE COLLABORATION, Austin, TX, for software licensing and training services in an estimated amount not to exceed \$441,000, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$140,000 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$861,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$61,250 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Community Care Services Department. Funding for the remaining 31 months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Barbara McConnell, Buyer II, 972-4009

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract will provide the Community Care Services Department (CCSD) with medical software services to screen patients for eligibility, enroll them in the Medical Assistance Program or sliding fee scale program, and aid in Medicaid claims adjudication.

As of May 2008, CCSD's current software supplier (Ascension) will no longer provide medical eligibility software access or technical support.

The ICC is a non-profit alliance of healthcare providers (of which CCSD is a member) that work together to provide care to the region's medically indigent population. ICC provides its members with specialized, custom software called Medicaider/Case Tracker. Medicaider/Case Tracker is a Web-based tool used to determine a patient's eligibility for Medicaid, SSI, SCHIP, and local charitable assistance programs (offered, for example, by local hospitals or clinics). Once the patient's eligibility for assistance is established, the software provides the enrollment forms, thus helping to expedite the enrollment process. Medicaider/Case Tracker can also be used to determine a patient's eligibility for free or discounted drugs offered by pharmaceutical manufacturers' patient assistance programs. The application is hosted by a third party.

No other software programs are available that provide eligibility determinations for the many indigent healthcare programs available in Central Texas. ICC is the sole provider of this customized Medicaider/Case Tracker software.

This purchase will allow CCSD to fulfill its obligations to the Travis County Healthcare District to operate and manage the District's indigent health care programs.