



City of Tacoma

**Resolution No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** March 21, 2023

**Contract and Award Letter  
Purchase Resolution —Exhibit "A"**

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**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards  
**FROM:** Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood & Community Services  
Vicky McLaurin, Interim-Assistant Director, Neighborhood and Community Services  
**COPY:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and Erica Pierce, Senior Buyer, Finance/Purchasing  
**SUBJECT:** Mental Health Co-Responder  
Direct Negotiation Waiver SR3749681746 - Contract No. CW2254926 – March 21, 2023, City Council  
**DATE:** February 24, 2023

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**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:**

Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) requests approval to increase CW2254926 to MultiCare Behavioral Health, Puyallup, WA, by \$271,989.72, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from 1185 Mental Health & Chemical Dependency (MHCD), for behavioral health crisis intervention for individuals who have contact with law enforcement. This increase will bring the contract to a cumulative total of \$887,081, plus applicable taxes.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

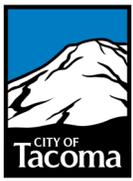
- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2015, in partnership with MultiCare Behavioral Health, the City established a mental health co-responder program to increase earlier identification and intervention for residents with mental illness who have contact with law enforcement. The City re-negotiated the contract each biennium and ended the contract December 31, 2019, when the designated crisis responders became City employees. After a period managing the program in this manner, it was determined to be more effective for designated crisis responders to return to employment by MultiCare Behavioral Health. This extension will provide designated crisis responders for the Tacoma Police Department (TPD) and the Homeless Engagement Alternatives Liaisons (HEAL) through 2024.

**ISSUE:** There is a deficit in mental health resource options available to Tacoma Police patrol officers and the Homeless Engagement Alternative Liasons (HEAL) responding to individuals in mental health crisis. The current budget allows for 1.3 Designated Crisis Responders (DCR), however there is a need for two DCRs. MultiCare is the only agency providing this service. Under RCW 71.05.025, Washington State Health Care Authority authorized Pierce County the ability to appoint entities to designate crisis responders for its regional service area (RSA). Beginning January 1, 2019, Pierce County appointed MultiCare as the sole designator of the crisis responders for Pierce County. There is no other Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) with Designated Crisis Responders (DCR) in the City of Tacoma.

**ALTERNATIVES:** The City can decide to not increase the full-time employees from 1.3 to 2.0 DCRs, and instead continue the contract as written with only 1.3 DCRs.



**COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS:** Due to the critical nature of services, alignment with Council priorities, and/or programs that recently competed for funding, NCS did not require currently funded programs in the following areas to compete for 2023-2024 funding:

- City initiatives and interlocal agreements (Crystal Judson Family Justice Center, Health Department, Mental Health Co-Responder, TACID)
- Food Insecurity
- Senior Centers
- Shelters, including set-aside funding for temporary and inclement weather shelter operations
- Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction (specifically programs that were funded as part of a recent funding process)

This program with MultiCare was one of the programs identified and was authorized under Direct Negotiation Waiver SR3749681746.

**CONTRACT HISTORY:** CW2254926 was negotiated via Direct Negotiation Waiver and approved for award via Resolution 41121 on January 10, 2023. The approved 2023-2024 budget allows for 1.3 DCRs. This request will authorize the staff to contract with MultiCare Behavioral Health for 2 DCRs. If Council elects to not increase funding, the City will maintain staffing levels at 1.3 FTEs.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Not applicable

**EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable

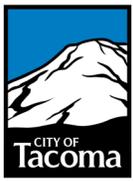
**LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable

**DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE):** Not applicable

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1185-MHCD-HRHS Mental Health & Chemical Dependency	859310	5330100	\$271,989.72
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$271,989.72</b>



**REVENUES:**

<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)</b>	<b>COST ELEMENT</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>
1185-MHCD-HRHS Mental Health & Chemical Dependency	Various	4313250	\$271,989.72
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$271,989.72</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$271,989.72**

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes**

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. N/A**