

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
PURCHASING DIVISION**

DATE: August 3, 2022

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Kristin Daniels, Director, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Jennifer Hyde, Purchasing Manager

SUBJECT: Award of RFP 2022060 - Mental Health Coordinator Services

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of the Emergency Services Department, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued for licensed mental health professionals for Mental Health Coordinator Services, to assist in the oversight and implementation of mental health and wellness programs for first responders. Some of the services needed include management and implementation of a Behavioral Health Access Program (BHAP), providing guidance on programs and policies relating to mental health and substance abuse, and incident response.

RFP RESULTS:

Advertising Date: June 1, 2022
 RFP Opening Date: June 17, 2022
 Solicitation Broadcast to: 212 Subscribers
 RFP Documents Requested by: 4 Firms
 Replies: 2 Providers

	Proposing Provider	Location	Proposed Annual Price
1.	Nursing Events Management Productions	Plantation	\$281,200
2.	Kate Priest, LCSW LLC dba Heartspace Counseling	Port St. Lucie	\$60,000

ANALYSIS:

The RFP stated the Department is seeking the services of licensed mental health professionals, and noted that the selected provider must maintain that license for the duration of the agreement. During review of the credentials supplied, Kathryn F. Priest, LCSW was found to be actively registered in Florida as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. The only licensure held by Nursing Events Management Productions is an Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). Their proposed mental health counselor was not found to hold any license.

Staff finds Nursing Events Management Productions to be non-responsible, as defined in the Purchasing Manual, as they do not have “the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements... as determined by the County.” In addition to the lack of licensure, their submitted expertise is in youth mental health first aid, and not applicable to the Department’s needs.

A selection committee comprised of Dave Johnson, Director, Emergency Services Department, Steve Greer, Battalion Chief, Thomas Schilling, Lieutenant, and Dustin Hawkins, Chaplain/Lieutenant met to discuss the proposals, and determined Kate Priest, LCSW LLC dba Heartspace Counseling (“Hearospace”) to meet or exceed the requirements of the RFP. The provider has worked with other local agencies in the development of their BHAPs, and has completed courses, certifications, and registrations specific to the needs of firefighters and paramedics.

FUNDING:

Expenses incurred for mental health coordinator services are budgeted and available for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/2022 in the amount of \$15,000 in the Emergency Services District/Fire Rescue/Other Professional Services account (11412022-033190). The annual cost for FY 2022/2023 is \$60,000. There is \$40,000 budgeted for FY 2022/2023, therefore a budget amendment may be necessary next fiscal year to cover the shortfall.

Description	Account	Amount
Emergency Services District/Fire Rescue/Other Professional Services	11412022-033190	\$15,000 (FY 21/22) \$60,000 (FY 22/23)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board award the mental health coordinator services to Kate Priest, LCSW LLC dba Heartspace Counseling, approve the sample agreement, and authorize the Chairman to execute the agreement after the County Attorney has approved it as to form and legal sufficiency.

ATTACHMENT

Sample Agreement