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# NOTICE OF COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION

**HCA Solicitation #2021HCA33**

**SOLICITATION TITLE: Peer Specialist Emotional Support Network**

**SOLICITATION BUDGET: $500,000.00**

**SOLICITATION POSTING DATE: 12/16/2021**

**RESPONSE DUE DATE: 2/4/2022**

**Find the full solicitation on** [Washington’s Electronic Business Solution (WEBS)](https://pr-webs-vendor.des.wa.gov/). Vendors not registered in WEBS will not receive updates or amendments to the solicitation, which may put them at a disadvantage.

**Estimated Schedule of Procurement Activities**

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| HCA Release of Request for Applications | December 20, 2021 |
| Questions Due from Applicants | January 7, 2022 – 12:00p.m. |
| HCA Posts Answers to Applicant(s) Questions | January 17, 2022 |
| Application(s) Due Date | February 4, 2022 - 12:00p.m. |
| Evaluate Applications | February 7-16, 2022 |
| Announce the Apparent Successful Applicant &  Notify Unsuccessful Applicants | February 14, 2022 |
| Applicant Request for Debrief Due Date | February 17-21, 2022 |
| Hold Debrief Conferences via conference call (if needed) | February 22-24, 2022 |
| Estimated Contract Start Date | March 15, 2022 |

**Purpose and Objectives**

The Washington State Health Care Authority, hereafter called “HCA”, was directed in the Washington State Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill, Section 215, to establish a Peer Specialist Emotional Support Network program for individuals employed as Peer Specialists. HCA is initiating this Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit Applications from Peer Run Organizations interested in leading the development and implementation of this new program. The resulting program must provide for all Peer Specialists represented in Behavioral Health, Youth, Adult, and Parent/Family Peer Specialists and must include, but is not limited to, support groups for Peer Specialists, recovery support targeted to the Peer Specialists themselves, and support to address specifically the secondary trauma inherent in peer work.

There are distinct challenges that can arise for the Peer Specialist workforce who are working in unique roles, throughout different regions, and with diverse populations in Washington State. This Peer Specialist Emotional Support Network is intended to increase employment retention, promote wellness, and provide skill building by establishing an effective and confidential support network throughout Washington State. It is essential that this support and networking be provided by Peer Specialists for Peer Specialists. It is therefore essential that the awarded Applicant is able to demonstrate their understanding of, and experience with, each Peer Specialist role this should include the differences and similarities, best practices, and the ability of the Applicant to support each unique role.

Once established, the network services must include, but is not limited to, support groups for Peer Specialists, recovery support for the Peer Specialists themselves, and targeted support for the secondary trauma inherent in peer work. Qualified Applicants will provide a safe-space environment conducive for the effective engagement of Peer Specialists employed to provide Peer Support Services in various roles, settings, and communities.

As a steward of the state of Washington HCA seeks to make the best use of limited resources while providing the highest quality and most effective support services for employed Peer Specialists. It is HCA’s expectation that most if not all components of the Peer Specialist Emotional Support Network will be made available virtually with a plan to promote the new network which incorporates social media, hard-copy, and word of mouth notification.

**Minimum Qualifications**

* Licensed to do business in the state of Washington.
* Must be a Peer Run Organization, as defined below, located in Washington State.
  + Peer Run Organization - a program or organization in which a majority of the individuals who oversee the organization's operation, and are in positions of control, have received Behavioral Health Services.
* Either maintains a currently active and established network encompassing all of Washington State, or provides a commitment to develop and implement a new network within three (3) months of Contract execution.
* A minimum of three (3) years’ experience providing Behavioral Health Services, defined as follows:
  + Behavioral Health Services - are services which promote mental health, resilience, and wellbeing, the treatment of mental and substance use disorders, and the support of those who experience and/or are in recovery from these conditions, along with their families and communities.
* A minimum of three (3) years’ experience providing Peer Support Services.
* Must have at least one (1) year of experience providing and processing Medicaid Reimbursable Peer Support Services.

**Solicitation Coordinator**

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| Name | Cassie Bryden |
| E-Mail Address | [HCAProcurements@hca.wa.gov](mailto:HCAProcurements@hca.wa.gov) |

**WEBS Commodity Codes**:

* 948-07 Administration Services, Health
* 948-47 Health Care Center Services
* 948-48 Health Care Services (Not Otherwise Classified)
* 948-45 Home Health Care Services
* 948-46 Hospital Services, Inpatient and Outpatient
* 948-76 Psychologists/Psychological and Psychiatric Services (Including Behavioral Management Services)
* 948-86 Therapy and Rehabilitation Services
* 952-05 Alcohol and Drug Detoxification (Incl. Rehabilitation)
* 952-06 Alcohol and Drug Prevention
* 952-08 Assisted Living Services
* 952-15 Case Management
* 952-22 Community Service Campaigns (Anti-Litter Programs, etc.)
* 952-21 Counseling
* 952-38 Employee Assistance Programs (Including Unemployment Compensation Administration Services)
* 952-39 Employment Generating Activities
* 952-58 Human Resources Development Services
* 952-59 Human Services (Not Otherwise Classified)
* 952-62 Mental Health Services: Vocational, Residential, Etc.
* 952-85 Support Services
* 958-56 Health Care Management Services (Including Managed Care Services)
* 958-67 Mental Health/Retardation Management Services (Incl. Operations, Facilities Maintenance, Nursing, Food Service, etc. 24/7
* 958-77 Project Management Services
* 958-68 Support Services, Management
* 962-58 Professional Services (Not Otherwise Classified)

Submit any questions or concerns regarding this solicitation to the Solicitation Coordinator shown above.