



**Hamilton County, Tennessee**  
**Department of Procurement & Contract Management**

**Notification of Award**

March 18, 2020

Title: Program for Assertive Community Treatment

Solicitation #:0919-040

Initial Term (From/To): 04/01/2020 - 03/31/2023

Reference: Attachment 1

This letter is the official notification of award to Mental Health Cooperative, Inc. for the above referenced solicitation. Please note, if this solicitation is awarded to multiple vendors, the Attachment provides the details regarding the awarded items specific to your company. If provided in the specification, Hamilton County reserves the right to extend this contract for two (2) years annually thereafter.

We wish to express our appreciation for your interest and cooperation in our procurement program. If you have any questions regarding this award, please contact the Purchasing Department at [BidQuestions@HamiltonTN.gov](mailto:BidQuestions@HamiltonTN.gov) or 423.209.6350.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L Parrish".

Lindsey Parrish  
Procurement Consultant / RFP Coordinator

Attachment 1

## **Behavioral Health Organization Proposal Evaluation**

### **Background**

Hamilton County in conjunction with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) #0919-040 to contract with a Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) for a two-year pilot to establish an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team in Hamilton County, Tennessee.

The ACT Team will be responsible for providing permanent housing, treatment and support services to 100 justice involved adults with severe and persistent mental illness (SMI) who are also experiencing homelessness. The adults who qualify for ACT services will be "frequent users" of local jails and hospitals, including local psychiatric facilities. Additionally, the RFP included provisions that could expand the number of individuals supported by this initiative, should additional funding become available.

FUSE, Hamilton County's frequent user pilot initiative, will provide oversight of the BHO.

### **RFP Responses**

Proposals were received from the following three Vendors:

- Helen Ross McNabb
- Mental Health Cooperative (MHC)
- Volunteer Behavioral Health

### **Evaluation and Recommendation**

A multidisciplinary evaluation team, specialists in criminal justice, behavioral health, housing and finance, was put together to vet the three responses received. Proposals were reviewed and evaluated and all three organizations gave presentations.

Mental Health Coop was determined to be the best provider for this project for the following reasons:

- Their organization was founded to serve the most vulnerable people with mental illness, the same population targeted for FUSE;
- Their willingness to provide ACT Team coverage immediately upon enrollment into the program, regardless of the person's coverage under TennCare;
- Their proposed budget which included a commitment of resources to help support the cost for people not covered under TennCare;
- Their experience with the ACT model in Tennessee, having operated a team for more than 20 years in Nashville; and
- Their established presence in Hamilton County.

After a full review and evaluation of the proposal submitted, the County and HCSO negotiated a contract with MHC.

***Based on a careful evaluation of how well each of the prospective organizations could meet the criteria considered, Mental Health Cooperative is our recommendation.***