

**DETERMINATION AND FINDING
FOR A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public Schools
CAPTION: SEL Program Support and Fiscal Management
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: The Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Code 2-354 and 27 DCMR, Section 1304 and 1702

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is seeking external support at Roosevelt High School (RHS). Specifically, DCPS would like to continue to partner with the Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative (GAFSC) as the fiscal administrator to support the provision of opportunities for awareness, growth, and overall customer (i.e. students, families, staff) satisfaction. GAFSC shall provide support for School Year (SY) 2021-2022 Social Emotional Learning and School Climate Goals.

3. ESTIMATED COST:

The estimated cost is \$100,000.00 for SY 2021-2022.

4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The District of Columbia Public Schools recommends partnering with GAFSC to provide a fiscal administrator to ensure timely and accurate funding of programs and activities that align with the DCPS goals.

Background and history of this vendor with DCPS

The Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative has been a long-standing partner with the Roosevelt High School community for nearly ten years. Being one of the most consistent partnership entities within RHS, GAFSC has driven many of the supports and opportunities presented to and for those that the RHS community serves (i.e. students, family, and staff). RHS's vision is to continue collaborating with GAFSC to ensure that the social emotional and strengthening school climate/culture work that is pivotal after returning into the building following 17 months of virtual learning.

With RHS being a component of the District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) system, this particular school community automatically falls within the overall mission currently being executed under the five-year Capital Commitment, which consists of six high level goals to achieve by 2022. The fourth goal specifically speaks to *"100 percent of students feeling loved, challenged, and prepared."* During this five-year plan, RHS will be focused on ensuring that students:

- feel they are valued members of the school community;

- feel that staff hold them to high expectations/standards; thus, believing they can succeed in achieving academic outcomes; *and*
- learn to manage their behaviors and emotions and can persevere through challenges.

DCPS Roosevelt High School would like to continue fostering this long-standing partnership with the Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative as the fiscal agent to support the provision of opportunities for awareness, growth, and overall customer (i.e. students, families, staff) satisfaction. Examples on how this can look in practice can be demonstrated by including, but not limiting interventions to, the following mechanisms:

- team building opportunities;
- exposure experiences; and/or
- monthly character development platforms.

It is the mission of DCPS and GAFSC to utilize the research mentioned above, as well as the continuing data collection through DCPS Panorama Survey, to create the ultimate social and emotional climate that services our population. This collaborative goal can make this vision a reality.

DCPS has performed market research to determine if other vendors could provide the support services and it was determined that although GAFSC is one of five Healthy Families Thriving Communities (HFTC) Collaboratives in the District of Columbia these nonprofit organizations focus primarily on their particular communities and therefore are Ward-based while GAFSC work collectively to plan programs and services, advocate for low-income families and implement and maintain common practice standards.

The Proposed Vendor’s Unique Qualifications:

The Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative (GAFSC) was formed in 1998 to respond to the needs of at-risk families and children in Wards 1 and 4. With support from the D.C. child welfare agency, then under receivership, GAFSC engaged residents, conducted needs assessments and developed governance bodies in the target communities, and, in 1999, initiated services in the Petworth neighborhood of Ward 4, with Lutheran Social Services as the fiscal agent. GAFSC currently has a diverse staff of 37 fulltime and 3 part-time, including bilingual staff who can serve the Spanish- and Amharic-speaking clients.

The Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative mission is to support children, youth and families to become healthy, empowered and connected in a multi-cultural community. GAFSC envision a diverse community where individuals and families prosper, are invested, are self-reliant and live safe and healthy lives.

Their Core Values are

- Compassion
- Innovation
- Ethical Practice
- Accountability
- Diversity

GAFSC will serve as the fiscal agent to ensure timely and accurate funding of programs and activities that align with the goals described above, tracking of all expenditures and alignment of expenditures with the budget.

In light of the above findings a sole source award is in the best interest of the DCPS and would be the most efficient and cost-effective procurement method.

CERTIFICATION BY ROSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL:

I hereby certify that the above findings are correct and the anticipated cost to DCPS is fair and reasonable.

Date

Principal, RHS

CERTIFICATION AND DETERMINATION

Based on the above certified findings in accordance cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; DC Code 2-354 and 27 DCMR 1304 and 1702).

Date

Contracting Officer