



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 11, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services

Subject: Contract: JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. for Community Health Assessment, Innovation, and Improvement Plan Consultant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. to serve as a Community Health Assessment, Innovation, and Improvement Plan consultant for the City of Berkeley's Health, Housing, and Community Services (HHCS) Department from May 1, 2023 to May 1, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$249,413.00.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding in the amount of \$249,413.00 for the Community Health Assessment, Innovation, and Improvement Plan consultant is available in the FY 2023 budget in the General Fund (Fund 011).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

As a public health jurisdiction, the City's core public health functions include assessing the health of the community's population and identifying plans to improve it. Health, Housing, and Community Services (HHCS) issued a Request for Proposals for a Community Health Assessment, Innovation, and Improvement Plan consultant to conduct a landscape scan for partnership opportunities to reduce chronic racial disparities and improve Berkeley's public health strategy, conduct a Community Health Assessment (CHA), develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and design a Health Innovation and Equity District pilot program. JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. was identified as the best-qualified vendor.

While a CHA and CHIP are critical to informing effective strategies to reduce health disparities, this project goes a step further by establishing a Health Innovation and Equity District Pilot, introduced by Councilmember Bartlett and passed by Berkeley City Council on March 27, 2018, in response to concerning health disparities documented in the City's Health Status Report of 2018. The scope of work includes evaluating and making recommendations for a pilot program that leverages and integrates efforts between the managed care system, for-profit organizations, philanthropy, and other key

stakeholders to create enhanced and innovative new partnerships to improve health outcomes.

The City issued RFP Specification No. 23-11562-C with proposals due no later than January 12, 2023. The City received three proposals. The selection committee was comprised of the Health Officer, an Epidemiologist, a Senior Management Analyst, Community Services Specialist III, and a senior program manager. Interviews were conducted with the two most qualified organizations before a selection was made.

HHCS' health equity work is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity and achieving health equity.

BACKGROUND

The State of California encourages all public health jurisdictions to complete regular Community Health Assessments and develop Community Health Improvement Plan. These are prerequisites for public health department accreditation, which has been discussed as a state priority.

The City of Berkeley is a thriving community with considerable wealth, high levels of educational attainment, and a rich culture that all contribute to a healthy community. However, Berkeley is not a city where all people are living long and healthy lives and achieving the highest possible level of health. In Berkeley, African American/Black and other people of color are more likely to die prematurely and experience a wide variety of adverse health conditions throughout their lives.

As reported in the 2018 City of Berkeley Health Status Report, a higher incidence of disease is linked to neighborhoods that have been historically under-resourced and overexposed to unhealthy conditions. These neighborhoods have more people living in poverty and more people of color than surrounding neighborhoods. Like other jurisdictions, these historic and ongoing health inequities have been exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities of color, specifically African American/Black and Hispanic/Latinx residents, have a higher COVID-19 positivity rate, hospitalizations, and deaths compared to White residents.

Since 2018, extensive work has been done by HHCS to analyze and identify solutions to overcome the underlying issues that perpetuate these health inequities. HHCS programs serve individuals who are most impacted in Berkeley and continue to make progress toward solving health inequities that have existed and been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the action requested in this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City conducted a competitive bid process and JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., successfully met the bid requirements and ranked highest among all bidders given their applicable experience working on similar projects with other jurisdictions in California.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Lisa Hernandez, MD, MPH, Public Health Officer, HHCS, (510) 981-5308

Attachment:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: JSI RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE, INC. FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT, INNOVATION, AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN CONSULTANT

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has issued an RFP to obtain a consultant to conduct a landscape scan for partnership opportunities to reduce chronic racial disparities, improve health equity, and strengthen Berkeley's public health strategy, conduct a Community Health Assessment (CHA), develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and design a Health Innovation and Equity District pilot program.

WHEREAS, the City conducted RFP Specification No. 23-11562-C with proposals due no later than January 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City received three proposals in response to this RFP; and

WHEREAS, two finalists were invited to meet with the selection committee for a more in-depth review of their proposal and describe their past work with other jurisdictions in California, resulting in the selection of JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. as the best-qualified vendor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley to adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. from May 1, 2023 to May 1, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$249,413.00.