NOTICE OF INTENDED DECISION
TO ENTER INTO A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT
(PUR 7778)

This Notice of Intended Decision to Enter into a Single Source Contract is posted in accordance with Rule 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, and section 287.057(3), Florida Statutes.

AGENCY: Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

TITLE: Tandem: Recruitment and Substitute Staffing Services
Short description of the commodity or service desired: Child care-specific staffing support and related services that allow participating early learning providers to recruit and hire permanent educators through Tandem Recruit and obtain vetted substitute educators for same-day, short-term, or long-term classroom coverage through Tandem Substitute.

CONTACT
Name: Kerry Gaylord
Address: 600 8th Avenue West, Suite 100, Palmetto, FL
Telephone: 941-212-4991
Email: kgaylord@elc-manatee.org

Internal tracking number, if any: NA
DMS Single Source number, if applicable:

Date posted: 11/25/26 Time posted: 8:00AM

Commodity or Contractual Service (commodity or United Nation Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), manufacturer, model, and description, as appropriate):
Tandem staffing services for Florida early learning programs, including (1) Recruit, a permanent educator recruitment and hiring solution, and (2) Substitute, an on-demand substitute educator staffing solution.

Requestor (division, bureau, office, individual, as appropriate):
Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

Performance and/or Design Requirements (intended use, function or application, compatibility, requirements; reference to policy, rule, statute or other act of the Legislature, as appropriate):
Tandem supports Florida licensed child care programs and provides both permanent and temporary staffing capabilities within one child care-specific platform. Inlcuding: Recruitent: tool to post permanent educator openings, identify child care-qualified candidates, review candidate education, experience, credentials, and certifications, communicate with candidates, and support the selection and hiring of permanent educators.
Substitute: tool to post same-day, short-term, recurring, or long-term coverage needs and match providers with available substitute educators. All while ensuring Florida childcare compliance.

Intended Single Source:

Tandem

Price:
$100,000

Justification for Single Source Purchase (what is necessary and unique about the commodity, contractual service, or source; steps taken to confirm unavailability of competition, as appropriate):
This solution represents a unique, fully integrated child care recuitment and subsitute staffing platform that inlcudes Florida compliance support, has integrated permanent and substitute staffing functions, and an established pool of vetted educators available through the Tandem platform. Procuring comparable services from multiple vendors would increase costs, create administrative burden, and result in fragmented training experiences, making this solution the only viable and efficient option.

Approved By (names & titles, as appropriate, e.g., requestor, requestor management, information systems, budget, purchasing):
Darrell King, Chief Executive Officer

Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Section 120.57(3), Florida Statutes, or failure to file a bond or other security within the time allowed for filing a bond, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under Chapter 120, Florida Statutes. Protests may be filed with the agency by:

Mail: Attn: Kerry Gaylord 600 8th Avenue West, Suite 100, Palmetto, FL 34221

Email: kgaylord@elc-manatee.org

Fax: