



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families is contemplating awarding a sole source contract to the National Equity Project to provide racial equity and consultation services to DCYF to guide the integration of Liberatory Design principles within the practices of the agency. National Equity Project's knowledge and expertise were crucial when we wrote the initial Preschool Development Grant in 2018 to create a new plan. Their equity-focused, strategic planning with collective impact approach and network impact/liberatory designs were vital to the development of our work on the Preschool Development Grant with a community-centered approach. Liberatory Design was created by the National Equity Project and employing the founding expertise of NEP has been an essential part of this grant process. Their experience in equity-focused system designs was influential in our decisions and makes them uniquely qualified for the work. The National Equity Project (NEP) is an education reform organization that specializes in leadership development and changing culture and conditions to further equity objectives. The National Equity Project has over twenty (20) years of experience partnering with education system leaders and has developed proprietary training to grow understanding and skills around their Liberatory Design approach. They will continue building upon the Liberatory Design approach with agency leaders and the employees of DCYF.

The contract will be issued on or about 04/25/2024. The dollar value is estimated at \$50,000.00 for work required during the period ending 12/30/2024. At the sole discretion of DCYF, this contract may be extended for an additional one-year (1) term if funding is available.

Offerors contemplating the above requirements are required to submit capability statements detailing their ability to meet the state's requirements by 04/18/2024. The following information should be included in the capability statements:

- Provide a plan for education reform that specializes in leadership development, changing culture and conditions to further equity objectives, using historical and current knowledge of DCYF Early Learning Systems and the community.
- Provided a detailed explanation on how your organization will build the final phases of our current Early Learning Coordination Plan with equity-focused expertise.
- Provided documentation that your organization has access to the Liberatory Design approach and training materials and can provide training to 300+ DCYF employees.

In the absence of other qualified sources, it is the state's intent to make a sole source award of the Contract.

To submit capability statements or for questions, contact:

Contact Name: Lucia Barbu
E-mail: lucia.barbu@dcyf.wa.gov