Local Government Health Insurance Board

Request for Proposals for

Managed Security Service Provider Partner RFP: LGHIB-2023-02

Responses to this Request for Proposals must be received on or before the date and time spec

acknowledge acknowledge	s that all informa s and represents tl	agent must sign below. By sign tion contained in the document is hat Respondent has read, acknowled by will disqualify this response.	true and correct. Respondent
	DOCUMENT	MAY DISQUALIFY YOUR RIACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF	ESPONSE.
or be to the cons	fore the return date a e services must be p idered, and (2) awa	spondents must submit a response to the and time. Pricing must remain good for 1 provided in the response. NOTE: (1) Lard(s) will be made in the best interes	80 days. All charges related atte responses will not be t of the State.
	Return by:	5:00 PM, CDT, September 22, 2023	
	Company Name: Address: City St Zip: Phone No.: E-mail address: Federal Tax ID #:		

Information Index

1. Type of Solicitation: Request for Proposals (RFP)

2. Issuing Office: Local Government Health Insurance Board

PO Box 304901

475 Technacenter Drive Montgomery, AL 36130-4901

3. Responses Requested From: Qualified Vendors

Managed Security Service Provider Partner

4. Type:

5. Responses to RFP: Sealed Competitive Offers

6. Contract, if any, resulting from RFP: Contract will incorporate RFP and

Respondent's Response, subject to the

limitations described in this RFP and approval

by the LGHIB.

7. Procurement Timetable: RFP Issued August 25, 2023

Intent to Propose Due September 1, 2023

Questions Due September 8, 2023

Proposals Due September 22,

2023 5:00 pm

CDT

8. Term: The initial term is two years from the effective

date specified in the contract with three one-

year renewal options

9. LGHIB Contact Personnel for this Chris Brodie

RFP:

Phone: (334) 851-6824

E-mail: cbrodie@lghip.org

10. Intent to Propose: See form in Appendix A

11. Evaluation of Responses:

<u>Criteria</u> <u>Weight</u>

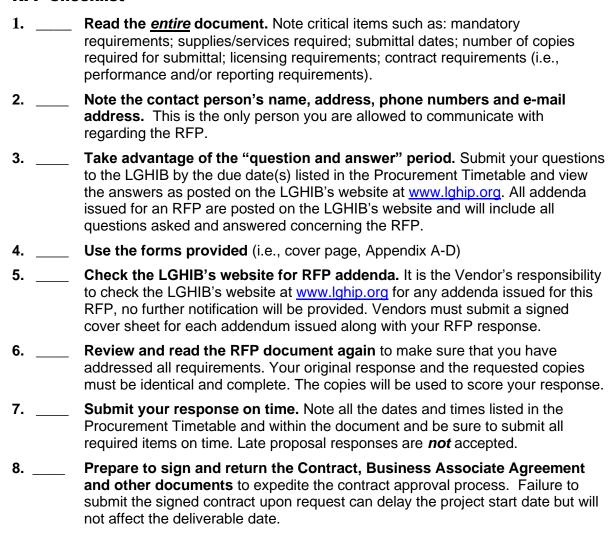
Experience and References: 30 points
Technical Proposal/Scope of Work 40 points
Price/Cost: 30 points

Total:

40 points 30 points 100 points

ii

RFP Checklist



This checklist is provided for assistance only and should not be submitted with Vendor's Response.

Table of Contents

Information Index	ii
RFP Checklist	iii
Section 1 General Information	5
Section 2 Vendors Information	8
Section 3 Scope of Work	9
Section 4 Contract Terms and Conditions	16
Section 5 Instructions to Vendors	25
Appendix A. Intent to Propose	29
Appendix B. Price Proposal	30
Appendix C. Proposal Certification	31
Appendix D. Contract and Attachments	32

Section 1 General Information

1.01 Introduction

The Local Government Health Insurance Board (LGHIB) requests proposals for the procurement of a Managed Security Service Provider Partner described herein.

The LGHIB is empowered by Title 11, Chapter 91A of the Code of Alabama (as amended) to provide health and dental benefits to employees and retirees of eligible local government units through the Local Government Health Insurance Plan (LGHIP). The program is overseen by a 9-member Board of Directors.

The active employee plan is self-insured with administrative services currently being provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama (BCBS) and pharmacy benefit services currently provided by Optum Rx. The LGHIB also offers a Medicare Advantage plan that is currently fully insured through United Healthcare.

BCBS also currently administers the LGHIB dental plan. In addition, Southland Benefit Solutions administers optional vision and dental plans.

For additional information go to the LGHIB website: www.lghip.org.

1.02 Purpose

The purpose of this request for proposal (RFP) is to solicit competitive proposals for a Managed Security Service Provider (MSSP) to complement the current LGHIB resources, aid the LGHIB in protecting its digital assets, digesting log information to enhance analysis & reporting, and alert technical stakeholders to potential intrusion attempts. The Scope of Work is described in further detail in Section 3 of the RFP.

1.03 Terminology

Throughout this RFP, the terms "State", "LGHIB" and "Board" shall refer to the Local Government Health Insurance Board.

Throughout this RFP, the terms "Respondent", "Vendor", or "Vendors" may be used interchangeably.

Throughout this RFP, the terms "LGHIP" and "Plan" shall refer to the Local Government Health Insurance Plan.

Other Contract Terms and Conditions are described in Section 4 of the RFP.

1.04 Procurement Timetable

The following timetable is anticipated:

RFP Issued
August 25, 2023
Intent to Propose
September 1, 2023
Last Date to Submit Written Questions
Proposal Deadline
September 22, 2023

Note: The Board reserves the right to adjust this schedule as it deems necessary.

1.05 Intent to Propose

Information on the LGHIB's current technical infrastructure will be provided only to Vendors that have submitted completed and signed an Intent to Propose form.

All Vendors intending to respond, must complete the Intent to Propose form, and email it directly to Chris Brodie at cbrodie@lghip.org, by September 1, 2023, at 5:00 PM Central Time.

It is the Vendor's sole responsibility to assure delivery by the designated deadline. The Intent to Propose form should indicate your organization's primary contact, direct telephone number, and e-mail address. The LGHIB infrastructure information will be provided via secure email to the email address provided.

1.06 Proposal Submission

The Vendors interested in submitting a proposal should follow the "Instructions to Vendors" in Section 5 of the RFP.

1.07 Proposal Evaluation

A. Initial Classification of Proposals as Responsive or Non-responsive

All proposals will initially be classified as either "responsive" or "non-responsive." Proposals may be found non-responsive at any time during the evaluation process or contract negotiation if any of the required information is not provided; or the proposal is not within the plans and specifications described and required in the RFP. If a proposal is found to be non-responsive, it will not be considered further.

Failure to provide the required information with the RFP response may disqualify the response from consideration for award in connection with this transaction. The LGHIB reserves the right to waive minor irregularities in an otherwise valid proposal. Minor irregularities are those that do not have a significant adverse effect on the overall project cost or performance.

B. Opportunity for Additional Information

The LGHIB reserves the right to contact any Vendors submitting a proposal for the purpose of clarifying issues in the Vendor's proposal. Vendors should clearly designate in their proposal a point-of-contact for questions or issues that arise in the LGHIB's review of a Vendor's proposal.

C. Scoring

Scoring shall be accomplished as follows:

Scoring Weights: The score will be based on a 100-point scale and will measure the degree to which each proposal meets the following criteria.

- Section I. Experience and References (30 points) Includes organizational and personnel qualifications, required credentials, operational site(s), experience with similar projects and service populations, references, etc.
- Section II. Technical Proposal/Scope of Work (40 points) Includes understanding of the duties, challenges, and methods and policies for conducting the tasks that are outlined in this RFP and capacity for meeting the objectives.

Section III. Cost Proposal – (30 points)

D. Determination of Successful Proposal

The LGHIB will review and evaluate the proposals as described in this RFP and may select a qualified Vendor(s). The LGHIB will award a contract, if any, to serve the best interests of the LGHIB and the State of Alabama.

1.08 Single Point of Contact

From the date this RFP is released until a Vendor(s) is selected and announced by the LGHIB, all communication must be directed to:

Chris Brodie
General Counsel
Local Government Health Insurance Board
P.O. Box 3049001
Montgomery, AL 36130-4901
475 Technacenter Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
(334) 851-6824
cbrodie@lghip.org

All documents and updates to the RFP including, but not limited to, the actual RFP, questions and answers, addenda, etc., will be posted to the LGHIB website at www.lghip.org.

Section 2 Vendors Information

2.01 Vendors Questionnaire

The LGHIB is soliciting responses from qualified vendors to provide the services described in this RFP.

- A. Provide a description of the Vendor's organization, including:
 - 1. Full name or corporate name, address of the headquarters office and the office to serve the LGHIB.
 - 2. Date established.
 - Ownership (public company, partnership, subsidiary, etc.). Include an organizational chart depicting the Vendor's organization in relation to any parent, subsidiary or related organization.
 - 4. Number of employees and resources.
 - 5. The percentages and types of services the Vendor provides.
 - 6. A list of similar projects the Vendor has completed within the last three years.
 - 7. A list of all government agencies for which the Vendor currently performs similar work or has performed similar work in the past.
 - 8. Names and resumes of Project Directors and Partners in regard to this contract.
 - A detailed breakdown of proposed staffing, including names, educational background, professional experience and certifications for all employees that may be assigned to this project.
 - 10. Evidence that the Vendor is financially stable and that it has the necessary infrastructure to complete this contract as described in the Vendor's proposal. The Vendor must provide audited financial statements for the last three years, or similar evidence of financial stability for the last three years.
 - 11. Details of any pertinent judgment, criminal conviction, investigation or litigation pending against the Vendor or any of its officers, directors, employees, agents or subcontractors of which

the Vendor has knowledge, or a statement that there are none. The LGHIB reserves the right to reject a proposal solely on the basis of this information.

- 12. Provide a statement of any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest of the Vendor or the Vendor's employees, who will or may provide services under the contract resulting from this RFP.
- B. The Vendor must have all necessary business licenses, registrations and professional certifications at the time of the contracting to be able to do business in Alabama. Alabama law provides that a foreign corporation (an out-of-state company/firm) may not transact business in the state of Alabama until it obtains a Certificate of Authority from the Secretary of State, Section 10-2B-15.01, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975. To obtain forms for a Certificate of Authority, contact the Secretary of State, Corporations Division, (334) 242-5324, www.sos.state.al.us. The Certificate of Authority or a letter/form showing application has been made for a Certificate of Authority must be submitted with the bid.
- C. Furnish three references for current projects of similar size and scope, including contact name, title, telephone number, and address. Performance references should also include contract type, size, and duration of services rendered.

The LGHIB reserves the right to use any information or additional references deemed necessary to establish the ability of the Vendor to perform the conditions of the contract.

Section 3 Scope of Work

The primary objective of this RFP is to seek proposals and select the appropriate solution that can manage LGHIB's computer security incidence response program from end to end on a 24x7x365 basis (i.e., 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year); either internally or via external entity or co-managed by both internal and external entities, without increasing the current head count of the information security professionals of the LGHIB.

Upon the award of this RFP, the LGHIB will work with the Vendor(s) to further develop the scope of the contract.

Vendors must describe, in detail, previous experience and planned approach for each requirement. The ability and experience to perform these services must be carefully documented, even if the Vendor has previously provided services to the LGHIB. Proposals will be evaluated based on the written information that is

presented in the response.

3.01 General Requirements

The goal of this effort is to implement a system where all LGHIB's cyber security layers are monitored for attacks or malicious activity and all cyber security events are addressed quickly and effectively by trained, responsible, accountable professionals.

- A. The Vendor must provide a detailed technical document and solution plan, providing LGHIB with a thorough and clearly defined plan for seamlessly, effectively and efficiently managing LGHIB's Security Operations. Proposal should include (but not limited to) services such as:
 - Co-managed Firewall/IPS/SIEM services
 - 2. Email Security Investigation of Phishing/Spoofing attacks based on reported events. Correlating and fine-tuning of the corporate Email gateway to prevent breaches.
 - 3. Incident response management End-to-End solution from detection and ending in reporting, for addressing and managing the aftermath of a security breach or attack. The goal is to handle the situation in a way that limits damage and reduces recovery time and costs.
 - 4. Zero-day breach detecting and response.
 - 5. Vulnerability assessment.
 - 6. Penetration Testing for internal network based on results from Vulnerability assessment.
 - 7. Help/recommendations with addressing discovered vulnerabilities. Provide resource(s) as and when required assisting with hands-on fixing/remediating vulnerabilities.
 - 8. Mobile device management (MDM) for LGHIB devices.
 - 9. Endpoint management for workstations, laptops and servers.
 - 10. Server protection which includes antivirus and drive encryption.
- B. The Vendor must provide documentation on best practices for a solution that helps the LGHIB team reduce the time spent on investigating and remediating computer security incidents, security monitoring, service requests related to security systems, ongoing configurations and the fine tuning of security systems by keeping them up-to date for the latest threats and vulnerabilities.
- C. The Vendor is expected to demonstrate their security and technical expertise by delivering Managed Security Services with minimum client's involvement.
- D. The Vendor must demonstrate their ability to provide universal interface for security event monitoring, threat analysis, KPI's, reporting and service requests.

- E. The Vendor shall provide Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for different types of events such as service requests, security incidents, systems' configuration, and incident reports.
- F. The Vendor should identify any LGHIB resources expected (i.e. staff, computer, equipment and office service) and the extent of such contribution both in the interim and on a continuous basis.

3.02 Specific Requirements

3.02.01 Basic Security Requirements

- 1. Vendor must ensure that all services provided to the LGHIB meet the following requirements:
 - a. Encryption of Private Data
 - i. Authentication credentials must be encrypted before they are communicated across any network.
 - ii. Private data belonging to the LGHIB must be encrypted before it is communicated across any network.
 - iii. Remote management of any critical system that requires sending data across a network not managed by the vendor or LGHIB must use an encryption VPN that traverses the third-party network.
 - iv. All VPN services must be configured to use Multi-Factor Authentication.
 - v. Any requirement for encryption mentioned in this RFP must be met by using a modern encryption algorithm approved in the current NIST standards in accordance with the HIPAA Security Rule. Vendor must take all necessary steps to be aware of when these standards are updated, and plan to update encryption algorithms across all infrastructure as necessary to remain compliant with this requirement.
 - b. Management Access to Critical Systems
 - Where feasible, devices should be managed using an outof-band management network that is firewall protected to only allow access to authorized staff.
 - ii. Where out-of-band management is not feasible, access controls should be used to only allow management access to authorized users coming from authorized networks.
- 2. Hardware/Software Security and Support
 - a. All hardware and software utilized by the vendor for the services provided to the LGHIB must not be used to beyond its published End of Support or End of Service date.

- The Vendor must receive security/vulnerability related notifications for all hardware and software used to provide services to the LGHIB
- c. The Vendor must implement any security related update and/or work around produced by its hardware or software in a reasonable amount of time if the update corrects an issue that could compromise the security of the LGHIB.

3.02.02 Security Monitoring

- Vendor must monitor security logs to detect malicious or abnormal events and raise the alerts for any suspicious events that may lead to a security breach in LGHIB environment. Monitoring must be done on a 24/7/365 basis. Vendor must provide the personnel for managing the security monitoring service.
- 2. Vendor must be able to monitor and analyze both internal and external attacks.
- 3. Vendor must monitor, detect, and coordinate with LGHIB and other stake holders for all security incidents.
- 4. Vendor shall monitor, detect, prevent, and appropriately respond against any known and unknown security threats, outliers, bot identification etc.
- Vendor shall perform weekly or monthly gap analysis of current levels of logs enabled in OS, databases, web servers, business applications and devices and entire IT infrastructure & recommend and implement remedial actions.
- 6. Vendor should add/delete/modify rules, reports and dashboards etc. on Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) based on LGHIB requirements and changing security threat landscape.
- 7. Vendor should provide a proactive solution for identified security gaps in different technologies used in LGHIB.
- 8. Vendor has to reduce the false positives on the security incidents/events. False positive rate of the incidents has to be less than 5%.

3.02.03 Incident Management

- 1. Vendor must provide immediate support to manage the identified issue and send alerts with details of mitigation steps to designed personnel within LGHIB and any identified service provider of the LGHIB.
- 2. Vendor shall perform digital forensic investigation as required by the LGHIB with complete replay of attack including the ingress and egress of payload. The investigation shall provide complete insight into threat vector and impact analysis with detailed recommended course of action.

- 3. Vendor shall provide senior cybersecurity personnel to support the LGHIB in managing the security incident.
- Vendor should maintain a knowledge base of alerts, incidents and mitigation steps and this knowledge base should be updated with evolving security events within and outside of LGHIB.
- 5. Vendor should create trends on reoccurring incidents and provide remedial actions/suggestions to the LGHIB Team.
- 6. Vendor shall assist the LGHIB and coordinate a response to the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) or any other governmental agency investigation.

3.02.04 Penetration Testing and Vulnerability Assessment

- Vendor shall conduct penetration tests on an agreed upon basis and integrate the results into the data collection process. These tests should be external and uncredentialed to mirror connectivity to LGHIB infrastructure from the internet.
- Vendor shall provide a standard security scanning tool to conduct monthly vulnerability assessments for all LGHIB environments. The Vendor shall provide a monthly consolidated report that includes the following information:
 - i. Number of devices scanned
 - ii. Number of vulnerabilities
 - iii. Root cause analysis
 - iv. Track remediation of all "critical" or "high" rated vulnerabilities
- 3. Vendor must track remediation efforts and present results based on monthly meeting with LGHIB personnel.

3.02.05 Data Collection

- 1. Vendor must develop, update, and maintain log baselines for all security related platforms at LGHIB that are required to be monitored.
- 2. Engineers should have the ability to integrate all type of log sources with SIEM.
- Evidence for any security incident must be maintained in a tamper proof manner and must be made available for legal and regulatory purpose, as required.

3.02.06 Reporting

- Vendor must provide on-demand and ad-hoc reporting abilities to view the collected data and provide analysis and suggest classification in a context relevant to compliance with NIST standards.
- 2. Vendor must also provide the following reports to the LGHIB:

- a. Weekly report listing all security incident tickets with the following detail:
 - i. Date of the period being reported
 - ii. List impacted systems
 - iii. Resolution
- b. Quarterly Intrusion Detection report with the following detail:
 - i. Date of the period being reported
 - ii. Summary of security violations and identified intrusion attempts
 - iii. List recommended remedies and solutions to be evaluated and potentially implemented.
- c. Vulnerability assessment reports as outlined in Section 3.02.04
- 3. All deliverables, including reports should undergo a quality assurance process and should have continuous improvements in the metrics displayed. Vendor team should define quality metrics, measurement frequency and reporting periodicity in consultation with LGHIB.
- 4. Project Lead should review reports, operating procedures, and administrative activities daily to identify quality issues.

3.02.07 Project Team

- 1. The Security Operations Center (SOC) will be 24x7x365 environment and resources should be able to work in shifts and flexible working hours to support the operations.
- 2. Vendor team lead and project manager are responsible for managing the security monitoring team and ensuring satisfactory performance. Also, they would be responsible for day-to-day operations and handling technical and project escalations.
- 3. The Vendor Project Manager shall be expected to perform the following:
 - Coordination with the LGHIB Project Manager and the project team as necessary;
 - b) Development of the Project Management Plan and the Project Schedules.
 - c) Scheduling and facilitation of meetings, workshops, presentations, walkthroughs, etc.;
 - d) Facilitation of issue resolution;
 - e) Monitor project scope and budget;
 - f) Assist in finalizing the list of project deliverables;
 - g) Assist in establishing detailed specifications for each project deliverable; and

- h) Ensure that project deadlines are met, and the deliverables are accomplished with the highest quality possible;
- 4. It is strongly preferred that the Vendor Project Manager has experience working with implementing Managed Security Service Provider Services.

3.02.8 Knowledge Transfer and Training for LGHIB Team

- Team should send customized alerts advisories about the latest Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs) and latest threats getting exploited in the cyber world, to the LGHIB. Vendor should also provide the latest threat advisories to LGHIB daily.
- 2. Vendor shall transfer the knowledge to the LGHIB employees about day-to-day operations, system/backend level troubleshooting, creation of basic and advanced rules & analytical models, creation and customization of reports & queries etc.
- 3. Vendor should ensure continuous training and best practice updates to the LGHIB team.
- Vendor should provide an annual management briefing to LGHIB's senior management team on benefits, security risks and global threats facing public sector.

3.02.9 General Support

- 1. Vendor shall be responsible to develop and maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and create / update & maintain all playbooks with respect to day to day operations including, but not limited to, threat management, alert/incident management, reports & dashboards, forensics infrastructure maintenance, rules creation & fine tuning, install/upgrades, updates, asset Integration, Business Continuity data & configuration backup, restoration, archival, knowledge management, segregation of duties, change management, patch & version management, key performance indicators and key risk indicators to measure performance as per policies of the LGHIB.
- 2. Vendor should provide relevant support for external and internal security audits that LGHIB is subject to from time to time.
- 3. Vendor should support evaluation of new technologies or tools from time to time.
- 4. Vendor must participate and contribute in cyber security drills, tabletop exercises by the LGHIB, regulators or any third party.
- 5. Vendor must provide consulting services to the LGHIB as necessary, including but not limited to, the following tasks:
 - a. Network Security Configuration Assistance
 - b. Servers/Endpoints Configuration Assistance
 - c. Device Review/Configuration following security best practices

- i. Routers
- ii. Switches
- iii. Firewalls
- iv. Wireless controllers and Aps
- v. Other devices
- d. Network segmentation to improve security posture
- e. Patch management
- f. System hardening
- g. Centralized configuration management
- h. Standardization of OS and Applications

3.02.10 Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

- 1. The Vendor shall provide Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for different types of events such as service requests, security incidents, systems' configuration, and incident reports.
- Vendor will submit a detailed SLA compliance report on a quarterly basis.
 The SLA report will be discussed with appropriate personnel from LGHIB and any breach of SLA will lead to service penalties.
- Apart from SLA reviews, LGHIB may also conduct performance reviews at mutually agreed schedules, dates and locations and representatives from both LGHIB and Vendor (above lead) should attend such performance review meetings.
- 4. For any major or repeated failure of SLA or any deficiency in the service performance that causes or likely to cause significant impact to LGHIB's operation or reputation, LGHIB reserves the right to impose including cancellation of whole or part of the contract, irrespective of the any SLA penalty.

Section 4 Contract Terms and Conditions

The successful Vendor who is awarded the contract is expected to agree to the following contract terms and conditions.

4.01 General

This RFP and the Vendor's response thereto shall be incorporated into a contract by the execution of a formal agreement (Attachment A).

The contract shall include the following:

- 1. Executed contract:
- 2. RFP, attachments, and any amendments thereto; and
- 3. Vendor's response to the RFP.

4.02 Compliance with State and Federal Regulations

The Vendor shall perform all services under the contract in accordance with applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The LGHIB retains full operational and administrative authority and responsibility over the LGHIP, as the same may be amended from time to time.

4.03 Term of Contract

The initial contract term shall be for two years from the effective date specified in the contract. The LGHIB shall have three, one-year options to extend the contract. The Vendor's response will provide the basis for pricing for each year of the contract, including any extensions. The parties will agree to a not-to-exceed amount in the contract.

The Vendor acknowledges and understands that this contract is not effective until it has received all requisite state government approvals and the Vendor shall not begin performing work under this contract until notified to do so by the LGHIB. The Vendor is entitled to no compensation for work performed prior to the effective date of the contract. In addition, the Vendor shall not begin work on any particular project, and is not entitled to compensation for any work performed, prior to the parties entering into a Statement of Work (SOW) outlining the tasks necessary for each individual project.

4.04 Contract Amendments

No alteration or variation of the terms of the contract shall be valid unless made in writing and duly signed by the parties thereto. The contract may be amended by written agreement duly executed by the parties. Every such amendment shall specify the date its provisions shall be effective as agreed to by the parties.

The contract shall be deemed to include all applicable provisions of the LGHIP and all state and federal laws and regulations applicable to the LGHIP, as they may be amended. In the event of any substantial change in such Plan, laws, or regulations, that materially affect the operation of the LGHIB or the costs of administering the LGHIP, either party, after written notice and before performance of any related work, may apply in writing to the other for an equitable adjustment in compensation caused by such substantial change.

4.05 Indemnification by Vendor

Vendor will indemnify and hold the LGHIB, its agents, officers, employees, affiliates and subsidiaries harmless against claims, liability, and expenses (including LGHIB's attorneys fees and expenses) for damage to or loss of LGHIB property to the extent such claims and liabilities are due to any act of negligence, gross negligence, or willful misconduct of or default under this Agreement by Vendor. Vendor's obligations specified in this paragraph will be conditioned on the LGHIB

notifying Vendor promptly of the claim or threat thereof (whether or not litigation or other proceeding has been filed or served) and giving Vendors full and exclusive authority for, and information for and reasonable assistance with, the defense and settlement (subject to the LGHIB's reasonable approval) of such claim and any subsequent appeal.

4.06 Confidentiality

The Vendor shall treat all information, and in particular information relating to individuals that is obtained by or through its performance under the contract, as confidential information to the extent confidential treatment is provided under state and federal laws. The Vendor shall not use any information so obtained in any manner except as necessary for the proper discharge of its obligations and rights under this contract.

The Vendor shall ensure safeguards that restrict the use or disclosure of information concerning individuals to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Plan.

Pursuant to requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, the successful Vendor shall sign and comply with the terms of a Business Associate Agreement with the LGHIB (Attachment B).

4.07 Contract a Public Record

Upon the signing of the contract by all parties, the terms of the contract become available to the public pursuant to Alabama law. The Vendor agrees to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters, or other materials subject to the current Alabama law on disclosure. It is expressly understood that substantial evidence of the Vendor's refusal to comply with this provision shall constitute a material breach of contract.

4.08 Termination for Bankruptcy

The filing of a petition for voluntary or involuntary bankruptcy of a company or corporate reorganization pursuant to the Bankruptcy Act shall, at the option of the LGHIB, constitute default by the Vendor effective the date of such filing. The Vendor shall inform the LGHIB in writing of any such action(s) immediately upon occurrence by the most expeditious means possible. The LGHIB may, at its option, declare default and notify the Vendor in writing that performance under the contract is terminated and proceed to seek appropriate relief from the Vendor.

4.09 Termination for Default

The LGHIB may, by written notice, terminate performance under the contract, in whole or in part, for failure of the Vendor to perform any of the contract provisions. In the event the Vendor defaults in the performance of any of the Vendor's material

duties and obligations, written notice shall be given to the Vendors specifying default. The Vendor shall have 10 calendar days, or such additional time as agreed to in writing by the LGHIB, after the mailing of such notice to cure any default. In the event the Vendor does not cure a default within 10 calendar days, or such additional time allowed by the LGHIB, the LGHIB may, at its option, notify the Vendor in writing that performance under the contract is terminated and proceed to seek appropriate relief from the Vendor.

4.10 Termination for Unavailability of Funds

Performance by the LGHIB of any of its obligations under the contract is subject to and contingent upon the availability of monies lawfully applicable for such purposes. If the LGHIB, in its sole discretion, deems at any time during the term of the contract that monies lawfully applicable to this agreement shall not be available for the remainder of the term, the LGHIB shall promptly notify the Vendor to that effect, whereupon the obligations of the parties hereto shall end as of the date of the receipt of such notice and the contract shall at such time be cancelled without penalty to the LGHIB or the State of Alabama.

4.11 Termination for Convenience

The LGHIB may terminate performance of work under the Contract in whole or in part whenever, for any reason, the LGHIB, in its sole discretion determines that such termination is in the best interest of the State. In the event that the LGHIB elects to terminate the contract pursuant to this provision, it shall so notify the Vendor by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. The termination shall be effective as of the date specified in the notice. In such event, the Vendor will be entitled only to payment for all work satisfactorily completed and for reasonable, documented costs incurred in good faith for work in progress. The Vendor will not be entitled to payment for uncompleted work, or for anticipated profit, unabsorbed overhead, or any other costs.

4.12 Force Majeure

The parties shall be excused from performance hereunder for any period in which the parties are prevented from performing any services pursuant hereto in whole or in part as a result of an act of God, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, or court order; such nonperformance shall not be a ground for termination for default.

4.13 Nondiscriminatory Compliance

Vendor represents and warrants that it will comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations implementing the foregoing statutes with respect to nondiscrimination in employment.

4.14 Proration of Funds

In the event of proration of the funds from which payment under this contract is to be made, this contract will be subject to termination.

4.15 Employment of State Staff

The Vendor shall not knowingly engage on a full-time, part-time, or other basis during the period of the contract any professional or technical personnel, who are or have been in the employment of the LGHIB during the previous 24 months without the written consent of the LGHIB. Certain LGHIB employees may be subject to more stringent employment restrictions under the Alabama Code of Ethics, §36-25-1 et seq., Code of Alabama 1975.

4.16 Immigration Compliance

Vendor represents and warrants that it is in compliance with the provisions of the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act (Ala. Code § 31-13-1, et seq., (1975)) and must execute and submit a Certificate of Compliance, attached hereto as Attachment E. Pursuant to Ala. Code §31-13-9(k), by signing any resulting contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom.

4.17 Novation

In the event of a change in the corporate or company ownership of the Vendor, the LGHIB shall retain the right to continue the contract with the new owner or terminate the contract. The new corporate or company entity must agree to the terms of the original contract and any amendments thereto. During the interim between legal recognition of the new entity and LGHIB execution of the novation agreement, a valid contract shall continue to exist between the LGHIB and the original Vendor. When, to the LGHIB's satisfaction, sufficient evidence has been presented of the new owner's ability to perform under the terms of the contract, the LGHIB may approve the new owner and a novation agreement shall be executed.

4.18 Employment Basis

It is expressly understood and agreed that the LGHIB enters into this agreement with the Vendor and any subVendors as authorized under the provisions of this contract as an independent Vendor on a purchase of service basis and not on an employer-employee basis and not subject to the Alabama State Merit System law.

4.19 Alternative Dispute Resolution

In the event of any dispute between the parties, senior officials of both parties shall meet and engage in a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute. Should that effort fail and the dispute involves the payment of money, a party's sole remedy is the filing of a claim with the Board of Adjustment of the State of Alabama. For any and all other disputes arising under the terms of this contract which are not resolved by negotiation, the parties agree to utilize appropriate forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution including, but not limited to, mediation. Such dispute resolution shall occur in Montgomery, Alabama, utilizing where appropriate, mediators selected from the roster of mediators maintained by the Center for Dispute Resolution of the Alabama State Bar.

4.20 Choice of Law

The construction, interpretation, and enforcement of this contract shall be governed by the substantive contract law of the State of Alabama without regard to its conflict of law provisions. In the event any provision of this contract is unenforceable as a matter of law, the remaining provisions will remain in full force and effect.

4.21 Records Retention and Storage

The Vendor shall maintain financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to the LGHIB Program for a period of three years from the date of the final payment made by the LGHIB to the Vendor under the contract. However, if audit, litigation, or other legal action by or on behalf of the LGHIB has begun but is not completed at the end of the three-year period, or if audit findings, litigation, or other legal action have not been resolved at the end of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until resolution.

4.22 Inspection of Records

The Vendor agrees that representatives of the LGHIB and their authorized representatives shall have the right during business hours to inspect and copy the Vendor's books and records pertaining to contract performance and costs thereof. The Vendor shall cooperate fully with any such requests and shall furnish free of charge copies of all requested records. The Vendor may require that a receipt be given for any original record removed from the Vendor's premises.

4.23 Payment

For all services that have been accepted by the LGHIB, Vendor will submit an invoice to the LGHIB, Attn: Dustin Craik. If by hand delivery or courier, deliver to: 475 Technacenter Drive Montgomery, AL 36117. If by U.S. Mail, deliver to P.O. Box 304901, Montgomery, AL 36130-4901. Invoices that are received by the LGHIB which are otherwise received in non-conformance with all of the requirements of this RFP or the contract will be returned unpaid or will be held by the LGHIB until proper documentation is submitted. The statement should include

all of the following: A description of the services rendered, by date and amount, time summary indicating the appropriate hourly rate involved, detailed listing of expenses, and a remittance copy of the invoice. Payments are dependent upon successful completion and acceptance of described work and delivery of required documentation. All travel and out of pocket expenses must be pre-approved and related to work performed under the contract. Under no circumstances will the Vendor be compensated for off-duty hours while travelling. No payments to third parties will be made directly to any entity other than the approved firm.

4.24 Notices to Parties

Any notice to the LGHIB under the contract shall be sufficient when mailed to the Chief Executive Officer. Any notice to the Vendor shall be sufficient when mailed to the Vendor at the address given on the return receipt from this RFP or on the contract after signing. Notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested.

4.25 Disclosure Statement

The successful Vendor(s) shall be required to complete a financial disclosure statement (Attachment D) with the executed contract.

4.26 Not to Constitute a Debt of the State

Under no circumstances shall any commitments by the LGHIB constitute a debt of the State of Alabama as prohibited by Article XI, Section 213, Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended by Amendment 26. It is further agreed that if any provision of this contract shall contravene any statute or Constitutional provision or amendment, whether now in effect or which may, during the course of this Contract, be enacted, then that conflicting provision in the contract shall be deemed null and void. The Vendor's sole remedy for the settlement of any and all disputes arising under the terms of this agreement shall be limited to the filing of a claim against LGHIB with the Board of Adjustment for the State of Alabama.

4.27 Open Trade

In accordance with Act 2016-312, Vendor represents and warrants that it is not currently engaged in and will not engage in the boycott of a person or an entity based in or doing business with a jurisdiction with which this state can enjoy open trade.

4.28 Waivers

No covenant, condition, duty, obligation, or undertaking contained in or made a part of the contract shall be waived except by written agreement of the parties.

4.29 Workers Compensation

Vendor shall take out and maintain, during the life of this contract, Worker's Compensation Insurance for all of its employees under the contract or any subcontract thereof, if required by state law.

4.30 Insurance

- **4.30.1 Liability Insurance**. Vendor shall, at its sole cost and expense, obtain, and, during the term of this Contract, maintain, in full force and effect, the insurance coverage described in this Section. Vendor shall include LGHIB, its contractors, officers, board members, employees, and agents as additional insureds in Vendor's liability insurance policy obtained hereunder. If Vendor fails to buy and maintain the insurance coverage described in this Section, LGHIB may terminate this Contract. The minimum acceptable limits shall be as indicated below:
 - **4.30.1.1** Commercial General Liability covering the risks of bodily injury (including death), property damage and personal injury, including coverage for contractual liability, with a limit of not less than \$1 million per occurrence/\$2 million general aggregate;
 - **4.30.1.2** Professional Liability Errors and Omissions, with coverage of not less than \$1 million per claim/\$2 million annual aggregate; and
 - **4.30.1.3** Crime Coverage of not less than \$1 million single limit per occurrence and \$2 million in the aggregate, which shall at a minimum cover occurrences falling in the following categories: Computer Fraud; Forgery; Money and Securities; and Employee Dishonesty; and
 - **4.30.1.4** Cyber-security insurance, with coverage of not less than \$2 million per occurrence/\$2 million general aggregate, that includes but is not limited to coverage for first-party costs and third-party claims from: (i) failure to protect data, including unauthorized disclosure, use or access, (ii) security failure or privacy breach, (iii) failure to disclose such breaches as required by law, regulation or contract, (iv) notifications, public relations, credit monitoring, postage, advertising, and other services to assist in managing and mitigating a cyber- incident, (v) interruptions of business operations, (vi) network security failure, (vii) cyber- extortion, (viii) cyber-terrorism, (ix) communications and media liability (e.g., infringement of copyright, title, slogan, trademark, trade name, trade dress, service mark or service name in the policyholder's covered material), (x) EFT, computer, and electronic transmissions fraud and theft, and (xi) other cyber-liability and cyber-crime expenses.
- **4.30.2 Subcontractors.** Vendor shall include all Subcontractors as insured under all required insurance policies or shall furnish separate certificates of insurance and endorsements for each Subcontractor. Subcontractor(s) shall comply fully with all insurance requirements stated herein. Failure of Subcontractor(s) to

comply with insurance requirements does not limit Vendor's liability or responsibility.

- **4.30.3 Premiums.** Premiums on all insurance policies shall be paid by Vendor or its Subcontractors. Such liability insurance policies provided for LGHIB pursuant to this Section shall expressly provide therein that LGHIB be named as additional insured, and that it shall not be revoked by the insurer until 30 days' Notice of intended revocation thereof shall have first been given to LGHIB by such insurer.
- **4.30.4 Expiration or Cancellation.** If the scheduled expiration date of the liability insurance is earlier than the expiration date of the time of performance under this Contract, Vendor, upon renewal of the policy shall promptly provide to LGHIB an updated liability certificate of insurance. Vendor's insurance policies shall not be canceled, limited in scope, or non-renewed in scope of coverage without the LGHIB's written consent. Vendor shall provide prompt Notice to LGHIB if any of the insurance policies will be cancelled, limited in scope, or not be renewed upon expiration to the extent affecting Vendor's compliance with the requirements hereunder. Written notification shall be sent to the LGHIB CEO, and Vendor shall have replacement insurance policy(ies) in place that satisfy the requirements set forth in this Section.
- **4.30.5 General**. Vendor shall maintain insurance acceptable to LGHIB in full force and effect throughout the term of the Contract. By requiring insurance, the LGHIB does not represent that the coverage and limits specified will be adequate to protect the Vendor. Such coverage and limits shall not be construed to limit Vendor's liability hereunder, to fulfill the indemnification provisions and requirements of this contract, or to relieve the Vendor from liability in excess of the required coverage and limits and shall not limit the indemnities and reimbursements granted to the LGHIB in this Contract.
- **4.30.6 Subrogation**. Vendor agrees to waive all rights of subrogation against LGHIB, its contractors, officers, board members, employees, and agents, for losses arising from services performed by Vendor under this Contract.
- **4.30.7 Extended Coverage**. For Professional Liability Errors and Omissions coverage, Vendor shall continue such coverage for at least five years beyond the expiration or termination of this Contract. The Retroactive Date must be shown and must be before the Effective Date or the beginning of work on the Contract, whichever is earlier. If coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims made policy form with a Retroactive Date prior to the Effective Date, Vendor must purchase "extended reporting" coverage for a minimum of five years after expiration or termination of the Contract, whichever is earlier.

4.31 Requirement to keep LGHIB data within the United States: The transmission, transportation or storage of LGHIB data outside the United States, or access to LGHIB from outside the United States, is prohibited except on prior written authorization by the LGHIB.

Section 5 Instructions to Vendors

5.01 RFP Documentation

All documents and updates to the RFP including, but not limited to, the actual RFP, questions and answers, addenda, etc., will be posted to the LGHIB website at www.lghip.org.

5.02 Restrictions on Communication with Staff

From the issue date of this RFP until the selection is announced, the Vendors are not allowed to communicate concerning this RFP with any LGHIB member or employee except the Single Point of Contact identified in this RFP or as provided by existing work agreements. For violation of this provision, the LGHIB reserves the right to reject the proposal of the violator.

5.03 Acceptance of Standard Terms and Conditions

Vendor must submit a statement stating that the Vendor understands and will comply with the terms and conditions as set out in this RFP. Additions or exceptions to the standard terms and conditions are not allowed.

5.04 RFP Amendments

The LGHIB reserves the right to amend the RFP prior to the date the proposals are due to be submitted. Amendments will be posted on the LGHIB website.

5.05 Submitting Questions

Vendors with questions regarding clarification or interpretation of any section within this RFP must submit them to the LGHIB Point of Contact via email by the deadline in the Procurement Timetable in this RFP. All questions and answers will be posted on the LGHIB website.

5.06 Proposal Submission

Proposals must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to "RFP – LGHIB- 2023-02".

All proposals must be submitted by September 22, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. Central Time. Proposals received after the 5:00 P.M. deadline will be rejected. Please note that individual exceptions to the deadline will not be made; if the Vendor relies on "overnight" delivery, this should be taken into consideration.

5.07 Vendor's Signature

The proposal must be accompanied by the RFP Cover Sheet signed in ink by an individual authorized to legally bind the Vendor. The Vendor's signature on a proposal in response to this RFP guarantees that the offer has been established without collusion and without effort to preclude the State from obtaining the best possible supply or service. Proof of authority of the person signing the RFP response must be furnished upon request.

5.08 Copies Required

The Vendor must submit copies of the proposal as follows:

- One hard copy of the Vendor's response to this RFP including a Price Proposal; and
- two electronic (PDF format) copies of the proposal:
 - o one complete version of the Vendor's response; and
 - one version that redacts any information asserted as confidential or proprietary. (See Section 5.15 for additional information)

5.09 Late Proposals

Regardless of cause, late proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the Vendor's sole responsibility to assure delivery to the LGHIB by the designated deadline.

5.10 Proposal Offer and Withdrawal

A proposal may not be modified, withdrawn or canceled by the Vendor for a 180day period following the deadline for proposal submission as defined in the Procurement Timetable and the Vendor so agrees in submitting the proposal.

Prior to the proposal due date, a submitted proposal may be withdrawn by submitting to the LGHIB a written request for withdrawal which is signed by the Vendor.

5.11 Cost of Preparing Proposal

Cost for developing the proposal is solely the responsibility of the Vendor. The LGHIB will not provide reimbursement for such cost.

5.12 Right of Negotiation

Discussions, negotiations and requests for additional information regarding price and other matters may be conducted with a Vendor who submits a proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award, but a proposal may be accepted without such discussions. The Board reserves the right to further clarify and/or negotiate on any matter submitted.

5.13 Order of Precedence

In the event of inconsistencies or contradictions between language contained in the RFP and a Vendor's response, the language contained in the RFP will prevail. Should the LGHIB issue addenda to the original RFP, then said addenda, being more recently issued, would prevail against both the original RFP and the Vendor's proposal in the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity, or conflict.

5.14 State's Rights Reserved

While the LGHIB has every intention to award a contract as a result of this RFP, issuance of the RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the LGHIB to award and execute a contract. Upon a determination such actions would be in its best interest, the LGHIB, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to:

- Cancel or terminate this RFP;
- Reject any or all of the proposals submitted in response to this RFP;
- Change its decision with respect to the selection and to select another proposal;
- Waive any minor irregularity in an otherwise valid proposal which would not jeopardize the overall program and to award a contract on the basis of such a waiver (minor irregularities are those which will not have a significant adverse effect on overall project cost or performance);
- Negotiate with any Vendor whose proposal is within the competitive range with respect to technical plan and cost;
- Adopt to its use all, or any part, of a Vendor's proposal and to use any idea or all ideas presented in a proposal;
- Amend the RFP (amendments to the RFP will be made by written addendum issued by the LGHIB and will be posted on the LGHIB website);
- Select multiple Vendors;
- Release a new RFP for the same or revised services:
- Not award any contract.

5.15 Disclosure of Proposal Contents

Proposals and supporting documents are kept confidential until the evaluation process is complete and a contract has been awarded. Vendors should be aware that any information in a proposal may be subject to disclosure and/or reproduction under Alabama law.

The Vendor should mark or otherwise designate any material that it feels is proprietary or otherwise confidential and state any legal authority as to why that material should not be subject to public disclosure under Alabama open records law. Designation as

proprietary or confidential may not protect materials included within the proposal from disclosure, if required by law. Information contained in the Financial Proposal may not be marked confidential. The LGHIB assumes no liability for the disclosure of information not identified by the Vendor as confidential. If the Vendor identifies its entire proposal as confidential, the LGHIB may deem the proposal as non-compliant and may reject it.

Upon receipt of a request for an unredacted copy, the LGHIB agrees to provide prompt written notice to the Vendor of the request and provide reasonable time prior to such disclosure for the Vendor to appropriately protect against or limit the disclosure to the minimum amount of Confidential Information required to satisfy such obligation.

Vendor agrees to intervene in and defend any lawsuit brought against the LGHIB for its refusal to provide Vendor's alleged confidential and/or proprietary information to a requesting party. The LGHIB shall provide Vendor written notice of any such lawsuit within 10 days of receipt of service by the LGHIB. Vendor shall intervene within 30 days of notice or will be deemed to have waived any and all claim that information contained in the proposal is confidential and/or proprietary and any and all claims against the LGHIB for disclosure of Vendor's alleged confidential and/or proprietary information.

Appendix A. Intent to Propose

Submit your Intent to cbrodie@lghip.org no later than 5:00 pm CST by September 1, 2023

I have reviewed the specifications AND requirements of this Request for Proposal; and,

Our company intends to submit a proposal that complies with all requirements, terms, conditions, tasks and schedules.

I further acknowledge that I will receive confidential information from the LGHIB as a result of submitting this form and I agree to not disclose this information to any person or entity outside of our company unless the person or entity is a subcontractor of our company.

Proposing Company	-
Signature	-
Primary Contact Name and Title	
Date	-
Primary Contact Email Address	-
Primary Contact Telephone Numl	- oer

Appendix B. Price Proposal

Vendors should propose a firm and fixed price for all of the services detailed in this RFP. Proposal should specify any additional costs for equipment and/or licenses required in order to fulfill the services detailed in this RFP.

Vendors should also provide hourly rates for additional services requested by the LGHIB associated with this project. Hourly rates shall include all administrative costs.

Employee Classification	Hourly Rate

Appendix C. Proposal Certification

State of Alabama Local Government Health Insurance Board

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL REQUIRED SIGNATURE BLOCKS ARE COMPLETE. FAILURE TO SIGN THIS FORM WILL RENDER YOUR PROPOSAL INVALID.

Proposal

We propose to furnish and deliver the deliverables and services named in the attached RFP proposal. It is understood and agreed that this proposal shall be valid and held open for a period of 180 days from proposal due date.

It is understood and agreed that this proposal constitutes an offer, which when accepted in writing by the Local Government Health Insurance Board, and subject to the terms and conditions of such acceptance, will constitute a valid and binding contract between the undersigned and the Local Government Health Insurance Board.

It is understood and agreed that we have read the RFP and that this proposal is made in accordance with the provisions of such specifications. By our written signature on this proposal, we guarantee and certify that all items included in this proposal meet or exceed any and all such State specifications. We further agree, if awarded a contract, to deliver services accordance with the terms and conditions of the RFP.

PROPOSAL SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION (Vendor must sign and return with proposal)

I certify that this proposal is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a proposal for the same services and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. I understand collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage award. I agree to abide by all conditions of the proposal and certify that I am authorized to sign this proposal for the Vendor.

Authorized Signature	_
Title	_
Date	

Appendix D. Contract and Attachments

The following documents must be signed AFTER contract award.

Attachment A	Sample Contract
Attachment B	Business Associate Agreement
Attachment C	Immigration Status
Attachment D	Disclosure Statement
Attachment E	Beason-Hammon Certificate of Compliance
Attachment F	Memorandum Regarding Reporting Requirements to Ethics Commission

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD AND (Contractor's name here)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, the of the State of Alabama, and, Contra	hat the Local Government Health Insurance Board, an Agency actor, agree as follows:
	ed under the Request for Proposal (RFP) Number, dated ments thereof and Contractor's response thereto.
Contractor shall be compensated for performan RFP and the price provided on the RFP Financial	ce under this contract in accordance with the provisions of the ial Proposal in an amount not to exceed
Contractor and the Local Government Health Is	nsurance Board agree that the initial term of the contract isto
This contract specifically incorporates by refere Contractor's response.	ence the RFP, any attachments and amendments thereto, and
agreement, that they will not violate federal into continue to employ an unauthorized alien within	this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the migration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or in the state of Alabama. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages
	epresents and warrants that it is not currently engaged in and will not ased in or doing business with a jurisdiction with which this state can
CONTRACTOR	LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD
	This contract has been reviewed for and is approved as to content.
Contractor's name here	David C. Hilyer Chief Executive Officer
Date signed	Date signed
Printed Name Tax ID:	This contract has been reviewed for legal form and complies with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the State of Alabama governing these matters.
	Legal Counsel

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD AND

This Agreement as made and entered into thisTH day of, 20, by and between the Local Government Health Insurance Board (475 Technacenter Drive, Montgomery, Alabama 36117), on behalf of the State Employees' Insurance Plan, hereinafter collectively designated as "Covered Entities", andhereinafter designated as "Business Associate". WHEREAS, Covered Entities and Business Associate desire and are committed to complying with all relevant federal and state law with respect to the confidentiality and security of Protected Health Information (PHI), including, but not limited to, the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, and accompanying regulations, as amended from time to time (HIPAA) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH), and any regulations promulgated thereunder. NOW, THEREFORE, for valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to establish a business associate relationship under 45 CFR §164, the parties hereby agree as follows:
I. Definitions
a. "Business Associate" shall have the same meaning as the term "business associate" at 45 CFR 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean
b."Breach" shall have the same meaning as the term "breach" set out in 45 CFR 164.402.
c. "CFR" means the Code of Federal Regulations. A reference to a CFR section means that section as amended from time to time; provided that if future amendments change the designation of a section referred to herein, or transfer a substantive regulatory provision referred to herein to a different section, the section references herein shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

- d. "Compliance Date(s)" shall mean the date(s) established by the Secretary or the United States Congress as the effective date(s) of applicability and enforceability of the Privacy Rule, Security Rule and HITECH Standards.
- e. "Designated Record Set" shall have the same meaning as the term "designated record set" in 45 CFR §164.501 and shall include a group of records that is: (i) the enrollment, payment, claims adjudication and case or medical management record

- systems maintained by or for Covered Entities or (2) used, in whole or in part, by or for Covered Entities to make decisions about Individuals.
- f. "Electronic Protected Health Information" (EPHI) shall have the same meaning as the term "electronic protected health information" in 45 CFR §160.103, limited to the information received from, or created on behalf of, Covered Entities by Business Associate.
- g. "HITECH Standards" shall mean the privacy, security and security breach notification provisions applicable to a Business Associate under Subtitle D of the Health Information Technology for Education and Clinical Health Act, which is Title XIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and any regulations promulgated thereunder.
- h. "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR §160.103, and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR §164.502(g).
- i. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR parts 160 and 164, subparts A and E.
- j. "Protected Health Information" (PHI) shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in 45 CFR §160.103, limited to the information received from, or created on behalf of, Covered Entities by Business Associate.
- k. "Required by Law" shall have the same meaning as the term "required by law" in 45 CFR §164.103.
- I. "Security Incident" shall have the same meanings as the term "security incident" in 45 CFR §164.304.
- m. "Security Rule" shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR parts 160 and 164, subparts A and C.

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, shall have the same meaning as those terms in the Privacy Rule, Security Rule and HITECH Standards.

II. Obligations of Business Associate

a. Business Associate agrees not to use or disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Agreement or as Required by Law. Business Associate will take reasonable efforts to limit requests for, use and disclosure of PHI to the minimum

- necessary to accomplish the intended request, use or disclosure and comply with 45 CFR 164.502(b) and 514(d).
- b. Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the PHI other than as provided for by this Agreement. Business Associate shall implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards (including written policies and procedures) that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of ePHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the Covered Entities as required by the Security Rule.
- c. Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entities any use or disclosure of PHI, other than as provided for by this Agreement, promptly after Business Associate has actual knowledge of such use or disclosure, and to report promptly to the Covered Entities all Security Incidents of which it becomes aware as determined by Business Associate except that, for purposes of this Security Incident reporting requirement, the term "Security Incident" shall not include unsuccessful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system of which it becomes aware as determined by Business Associate. Following the discovery of a breach of unsecured PHI, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entities of such breach without unreasonable delay, and in no event later than thirty (30) calendar days after such discovery. The notification will include the identification of each individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, accessed, acquired or disclosed during the breach. A breach shall be treated as discovered as of the first day on which such breach is known or reasonably should have been known to Business Associate. Any notices required to be delivered by Covered Entities hereunder shall be at the expense of the Business Associate.
- d.Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of this agreement or applicable regulations.
- e.Business Associate agrees to ensure access to ePHI is limited to workforce members who require such access because of their role or function.
- f. Business Associate agrees to implement safeguards to prevent its workforce members who are not authorized to have access to such ePHI from obtaining access and to otherwise ensure compliance by its workforce with the Security Rule.

- g. Within fifteen (15) business days of receiving a request from Covered Entities, Business Associate agrees to implement restrictions on use or disclosure of PHI agreed to by the Covered Entities on behalf of an Individual in accordance with 45 CFR164.522(a).
- h. Within fifteen (15) business days of receiving a request from Covered Entities, Business Associate agrees to honor requests for alternative communications agreed to by Covered Entities on behalf of an individual in accordance with 45 CFR164.522(b).
- i. In accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), if applicable, Business Associate agrees to ensure that any subcontractors that create, receive, maintain, or transmit protected health information on behalf of the Business Associate agree to the same restrictions, conditions, and requirements that apply to the Business Associate with respect to such information, including agreeing in writing to implement the same reasonable and appropriate safeguards that apply to Business Associate to protect the Covered Entities' ePHI.
- j. If Business Associate maintains PHI in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate agrees to make available to Covered Entities, within a reasonable time, such information as Covered Entities may require to fulfill Covered Entities' obligations to respond to a request for access to PHI as provided under 45 CFR §164.524 or to respond to a request to amend PHI as required under 45 CFR §164.526. Business Associate shall refer to Covered Entities all such requests that Business Associate may receive from Individuals. If Covered Entities request Business Associate to amend PHI in Business Associate's possession in order to comply with 45 CFR §164.526, Business Associate shall effectuate such amendments no later than the date they are required to be made by 45 CFR §164.526; provided that if Business Associate receives such a request from Covered Entities less than ten (10) business days prior to such date, Business Associate will effectuate such amendments as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- k. If applicable, Business Associate agrees to provide to Covered Entities, within a reasonable time, such information necessary to permit Covered Entities to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures as provided under 45 CFR §164.528. Business Associate shall refer to Covered Entities all such requests which Business Associate may receive from individuals.
- I. Upon reasonable notice, Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI available to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, or an officer or employee of that

Department to whom relevant authority has been delegated, at Covered Entities' expense in a reasonable time and manner, for purposes of the Secretary determining Covered Entities' compliance with the Privacy Rule.

m. Notwithstanding any other provision in this agreement, Business Associate hereby acknowledges and agrees that to the extent it is functioning as a Business Associate of Covered Entities, Business Associate will comply with the HITECH Business Associate provisions and with the obligations of a Business Associate as prescribed by HIPAA and the HITECH Act. Business Associate and the Covered Entities further agree that the provisions of HIPAA and the HITECH Act that apply to Business Associates, and that are required to be incorporated by reference in a Business Associate Agreement, are incorporated into this agreement between Business Associate and Covered Entities as if set forth in this agreement in their entirety.

III. Permitted uses and disclosures by Business Associate

Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may:

- a.Use or disclose PHI on behalf of the Covered Entities, if such use or disclosure of PHI would not violate the Privacy Rule, including the minimum necessary standard, if done by the Covered Entities.
- b.Use or disclose PHI to perform the services outlined in any and all services agreements, or other contracts, entered into between Covered Entities and Business Associate.
- c. Use PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to fulfill any present or future legal responsibilities of Business Associate.
- d. Disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate, or to fulfill any present or future legal responsibilities of Business Associate, provided that such disclosure is either required by law or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from any person to whom PHI is disclosed that such person will: (i) keep such information confidential, (ii) use or further disclose such information only for the purpose for which it was disclosed to such person or as required by law, and (iii) notify Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.
- e.Use PHI to provide data aggregation services relating to the health care operations of the Covered Entities, as provided in 45 CFR §164.501.

- f. To create de-identified data, provided that the Business Associate de-identifies the information in accordance with the Privacy Rule. De-identified information does not constitute PHI and is not subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- g. Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with 45 CFR 164.502(j)(1).

IV. Obligations of Covered Entities

- a.Covered Entities shall notify Business Associate of any facts or circumstances that affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI. Such facts and circumstances include, but are not limited to: (i) any limitation or change in Covered Entities' notice of privacy practices, (ii) any changes in, or withdrawal of, an authorization provided to Covered Entities by an Individual pursuant to 45 CFR §164.508; and (iii) any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entities has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR §164.522.
- b.Covered Entities warrant that they will not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule or is not otherwise authorized or permitted under this Agreement.
- c. Covered Entities acknowledge and agree that the Privacy Rules allow the Covered Entities to permit Business Associate to disclose or provide access to PHI, other than Summary Health Information, to the Plan Sponsor only after the Plan documents have been amended to provide for the permitted and required uses and disclosures of PHI and to require the Plan Sponsor to provide a certification to the Plan that certain required provisions have been incorporated into the Plan documents before the Plan may disclose, either directly or through a Business Associate, any PHI to the Plan Sponsor.
- d.Covered Entities agree that they will have entered into Business Associate

 Agreements with any third parties to whom Covered Entities direct and authorize

 Business Associate to disclose PHI.

V. Effective date: termination

- a. The effective date of this agreement shall be the date this agreement is signed by the parties.
- b. This agreement shall terminate on the date Business Associate ceases to be obligated to perform the functions, activities, and services described in Article III Sections A and B.

- c. Upon Covered Entities' knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate of this Agreement, Covered Entities shall notify Business Associate of such breach and Business Associate shall have thirty (30) days to cure such breach. In the event Business Associate does not cure the breach, or cure is infeasible, Covered Entities shall have the right to immediately terminate this Agreement and any underlying services agreement. If cure of the material breach is infeasible, Covered Entities shall report the violation to the Secretary.
- d. Upon termination of this agreement, Business Associate will return to Covered Entities, or if return is not feasible, destroy, any and all PHI that it created or received on behalf of Covered Entities and retain no copies thereof. If the return or destruction of the PHI is determined by Business Associate not to be feasible, or if Business Associate is required by law to retain such information or copies thereof, Business Associate will maintain the PHI for the period of time required under applicable law, or in accordance with Business Associate's internal record retention schedule as in effect from time to time, whichever is longer, after which time Business Associate shall return or destroy the PHI.
- e.Business Associate's obligations under Sections II and III above shall survive the termination of this agreement with respect to any PHI so long as it remains in the possession of Business Associate.

VI. Other provisions

- a. The parties acknowledge that the foregoing provisions are designed to comply with the mandates of the Privacy and Security Rules and the HITECH Standards. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for compliance with the requirements of the HIPAA Rules and any other applicable law. If the parties are unable to reach agreement regarding an amendment within thirty (30 days) of the date that Business Associate receives any written objection from Covered Entities, either party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. Any other amendment to the Agreement unrelated to compliance with applicable law and regulations shall be effective only upon execution of a written agreement between the parties.
- b. Except as it relates to the use, security and disclosure of PHI and electronic transactions, this agreement is not intended to change the terms and conditions, or the rights and obligations, of the parties under any other services agreement between them.

- c. Business Associate agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Covered Entities, their affiliates and directors, officers, employees, agents or assigns from and against any and all actions, causes of action, claims, suits and demands whatsoever, and from all damages, liabilities, costs, charges, debts, fines, government investigations, proceedings, and expenses whatsoever (including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses related to any litigation or other defense of any claims), which may be asserted, or for which it may now or hereafter become subject, arising in connection with (i) any misrepresentation, breach of warranty or non-fulfillment of any undertaking on its part under this agreement; and (ii) any claims, demands, awards, judgments, actions, and proceedings made by any person or organization arising out of, or in any way connected with, Business Associate's performance under this agreement.
- d.Nothing express or implied in this agreement is intended to confer, nor shall anything herein confer, upon any person other than Covered Entities, Business Associate, and their respective successors or assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations, or liabilities whatsoever.
- e. Any ambiguity in this agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits the Covered Entities to comply with the Privacy and Security Rules and the HITECH Standards.
- f. If any provision of this Agreement is held illegal, invalid, prohibited or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that provision shall be limited or eliminated in that jurisdiction to the minimum extent necessary so that this agreement shall otherwise remain in full force and effect and enforceable.
- g. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Alabama to the extent not preempted by the privacy or security or other applicable federal law.
- h. This Agreement replaces and supersedes in its (their) entirety any prior Business Associate Agreement(s) between the parties.

In witness whereof, this agreement has been signed and delivered as of the date first set forth above.

Local Government Health Insurance Board	
By: David C. Hilyer	By:
As its: Chief Executive Officer ATTACHMENT B	As its:

IMMIGRATION STATUS

I hereby attest that all workers on this project are either citizens of the United States or a in a proper and legal immigration status that authorizes them to be employed for pay witl the United States.	
Signature of Vendors	
Witness	



State of Alabama Disclosure Statement

(Required by Act 2001-955)

ADDRESS		
CITY, STATE, ZIP		TELEPHONE NUMBER
STATE AGENCY/DEPARTMENT THAT WILL RECEIVE GOOD	DS, SERVICES, OR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR GRANT AWARD	
Local Government Health Insurance Boar		
201 S. Union Street Suite 200 CITY, STATE, ZIP		TELEPHONE NUMBER
Montgomery, Alabama 36104		(334) 263-8326
This form is provided with: Contract Proposal F	Request for Proposal Invitation to Bid	Grant Proposal
Have you or any of your partners, divising goods to any State Agency/Department in	ons, or any related business units previously p the current or last fiscal year?	performed work or provided
Yes No		
If yes, identify below the State Agency/De provided, and the amount received for the	partment that received the goods or services, th provision of such goods or services.	e type(s) of goods or services previously
STATE AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	TYPE OF GOODS/SERVICES	AMOUNT RECEIVED
Have you or any of your partners, division Agency/Department in the current or last f	s, or any related business units previously appliciscal year?	ed and received any grants from any State
Yes No		
If yes, identify the State Agency/Departme	ent that awarded the grant, the date such grant w	as awarded, and the amount of the grant.
STATE AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	DATE GRANT AWARDED	AMOUNT OF GRANT
or any of your employees have a fam	es) of all public officials/public employees with w ily relationship and who may directly personally i ment/Agency for which the public officials/public	benefit financially from the proposed
or any of your employees have a fam transaction. Identify the State Depart	ly relationship and who may directly personally	benefit financially from the proposed
or any of your employees have a fam transaction. Identify the State Depart necessary.)	ily relationship and who may directly personally i ment/Agency for which the public officials/public	benefit financially from the proposed employees work. (Attach additional sheets if
or any of your employees have a fam transaction. Identify the State Depart necessary.)	ily relationship and who may directly personally i ment/Agency for which the public officials/public	benefit financially from the proposed employees work. (Attach additional sheets if
or any of your employees have a fam transaction. Identify the State Depart necessary.)	ily relationship and who may directly personally i ment/Agency for which the public officials/public	benefit financially from the proposed employees work. (Attach additional sheets if

IAME OF AMILY MEMBER	ADDRESS	NAME OF PUBLIC OFFICIAL/ PUBLIC EMPLOYEE	STATE DEPARTMENT/ AGENCY WHERE EMPLOYED
officials, public empl		for two above, describe in detail below the directly members as the result of the contract, proposecessary.)	
	ic employee as the resu	al benefits to be gained by any public official, po ult of the contract, proposal, request for proposal	
	(s) and address(es) of a o bid, or grant proposal:	Ill paid consultants and/or lobbyists utilized to o	obtain the contract, proposal, request for
	bid, or grant proposal		obtain the contract, proposal, request for
roposal, invitation t	bid, or grant proposal		obtain the contract, proposal, request for
roposal, invitation t	bid, or grant proposal		obtain the contract, proposal, request for
proposal, invitation t	bid, or grant proposal		obtain the contract, proposal, request for
Proposal, invitation to the part consultant of PAID CONS	o bid, or grant proposal: micesyst certify under oath an of my knowledge. I fu		or attached to this form are true and bercent (10%) of the amount of the
Proposal, invitation to the part consultant of PAID CONS	o bid, or grant proposal: micesyst certify under oath an of my knowledge. I fu	ADDRESS d penalty of perjury that all statements on or ther understand that a civil penalty of ten p	or attached to this form are true and bercent (10%) of the amount of the

ATTACHMENT D

State of)	
County o	f)
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE BEASON-HAMMON ALABAMA TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN PROTECTION ACT (ACT 2011-535, as amended by Act 2012-491)	
DATE:_	
RE Contract/Grant/Incentive (describe by number or subject): by and between (Contractor/Grantee) and the State Employees' Insurance Board (State Agency or Department or other Public Entity)	
The undersigned hereby certifies to the State of Alabama as follows:	
1.	The undersigned holds the position ofwith the Contractor/Grantee named above, and is
	authorized to provide representations set out in this Certificate as the official and binding act of that entity, and has knowledge
	of the provisions of THE BEASON-HAMMON ALABAMA TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN PROTECTION ACT (ACT 2011-
	535 of the Alabama Legislature, as amended by Act 2012-491) which is described herein as "the Act".
2.	Using the following definitions from Section 3 of the Act, select and initial either (a) or (b), below, to describe the
	Contractor/Grantee's business structure.
	BUSINESS ENTITY. Any person or group of persons employing one or more persons performing or engaging in any activity, enterprise, profession, or occupation for gain, benefit, advantage, or livelihood, whether for profit or not for profit. "Business entity" shall include, but not be limited to the following: a. Self-employed individuals, business entities filing articles of incorporation, partnerships, limited partnerships,
	limited liability companies, foreign corporations, foreign limited partnerships, foreign limited liability companies authorized to transact business in this state, business trusts, and any business entity that registers with the Secretary of State.
	b. Any business entity that possesses a business license, permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization issued by the state, any business entity that is exempt by law from obtaining such a business license, and any business entity that is operating unlawfully without a business license.
	EMPLOYER. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership, joint stock association, agent, manager, representative, foreman, or other person having control or custody of any employment, place of employment, or of any employee, including any person or entity employing any person for hire within the State of Alabama, including a public employer. This term shall not include the occupant of a household contracting with another person to perform casual domestic labor within the household.
	(a) The Contractor/Grantee is a business entity or employer as those terms are defined in Section 3 of the Act.
	(b) The Contractor/Grantee is not a business entity or employer as those terms are defined in Section 3 of the Act.
3.	As of the date of this Certificate, Contractor/Grantee does not knowingly employ an unauthorized alien within the State of
	Alabama and hereafter it will not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within
	the State of Alabama;
4.	Contractor/Grantee is enrolled in E-Verify unless it is not eligible to enroll because of the rules of that program or other factors
	beyond its control.
Certified this day of 20	
	Name of Contractor/Grantee/Recipient
	Ву:
	Бу
	Its
The above Certification was signed in my presence by the person whose name appears above, on	
this	day of 20
	WITNESS:
	
	Print Name of Witness



LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD

PO Box 304900 • Montgomery, AL 36130-4900 201 South Union Street, Suite 200 • Montgomery, AL 36104 Phone: 334-263-8300 • Fax: 334-263-8711 www.lghip.org Michael Gillespie Chairman

David C. Hilyer CEO

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Reporting to Ethics Commission by Persons Related to LGHIB Employees

Section 36-25-16(b) of the Code of Alabama (1975) provides that anyone who enters into a contract with a state agency for the sale of goods or services exceeding \$7,500 shall report to the State Ethics Commission the names of any adult child, parent, spouse, brother or sister employed by the agency.

Please review your situation for applicability of this statute. The address of the Alabama Ethics Commission is:

100 North Union Street RSA Union Building Montgomery, Alabama 36104

A copy of the statute is reproduced below for your information.

Section 36-25-16. Reports by persons who are related to public officials or public employees and who represent persons before regulatory body or contract with state.

- (a) When any citizen of the state or business with which he or she is associated represents for a fee any person before a regulatory body of the Executive Branch, he or she shall report to the commission the name of any adult child, parent, spouse, brother, or sister who is a public official or a public employee of that regulatory body of the Executive Branch.
- (b) When any citizen of the state or business with which the person is associated enters into a contract for the sale of goods or services to the State of Alabama or any of its agencies or any county or municipality and any of their respective agencies in amounts exceeding seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500), he or she shall report to the commission the names of any adult child, parent, spouse, brother, or sister who is a public official or public employee of the agency or department with whom the contract is made.
- (c) This section shall not apply to any contract for the sale of goods or services awarded through a process of public notice and competitive bidding.
- (d) Each regulatory body of the Executive Branch, or any agency of the State of Alabama shall be responsible for notifying citizens affected by this chapter of the requirements of this section.

(Acts 1973, No. 1056, p. 1699, §15; Acts 1975, No. 130, p. 603, §1; Acts 1995, No. 95-194, p. 269, §1.)