



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 29, 2011

Contact: Reginald Humphries, rhumphries@vcp-llc.com, 540-969-9410 (cell)

Visionary Awarded CDC IDIQ Contract and Task Orders

Fairfax, Virginia – Visionary Consulting Partners, LLC, a service-disabled veteran- and woman-owned small business, was selected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide services to support the activities conducted by the Office of the Director and Branches of the Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects (EHHE) in a three-year, 8(a) Sole Source Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract awarded September 23. The IDIQ contract has a maximum value of \$4 million over the period. Following the contract award, the first two task orders were issued September 28.

The EHHE Division conducts and disseminates findings of surveillance, epidemiologic research, and other scientific investigations of human exposure to environmental hazards, including radiation, man-made and naturally occurring physical, chemical, and biological (noninfectious) agents, and resultant and presumed health effects, including environmentally-related syndromes of unknown etiology; plans, develops, implements, and maintains tracking systems relating to exposure to environmental hazards, e.g., lead, radiation, weather phenomena, and natural hazards, and to resultant diseases or syndromes; and provides epidemiologic emergency response to natural and other environmental disasters. Its major funded programs include the National Asthma Control Program, Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, Radiation Studies Program and the Safe Water Program. In addition, the Division is responsible for designing and implementing a national Climate Change program and has the lead responsibility for conducting a number of studies for the levels of formaldehyde in FEMA temporary housing units as well as levels in school trailers.

The Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch (APRHB) of the National Center for Environmental Health leads CDC's fight against environmental-related respiratory illnesses, including asthma, and studies indoor and outdoor air pollution. CDC's asthma program focuses on three main activities: (1) tracking, (2) implementing scientifically proved interventions, and (3) establishing and maintaining partnerships. APRHB conducts rapid epidemiologic investigations in response to outbreaks that are believed to have environmental causes and responds to natural and technologic disasters. APRHB also conducts extended research studies to more accurately define the relation between human health and environmental exposures. When requested, APRHB provides technical assistance and expertise to state and local public health agencies.

President and Chief Executive Officer Eleanor Thornton, a service disabled veteran and nationally recognized community outreach, engagement and health education specialist, understands the importance of CDC's work. Thornton said, "Growing up and living with asthma, I know the impact of environmental conditions and hazards. Our community outreach work in post-Katrina New Orleans demonstrated our ability to work in difficult conditions, conduct research, collect valuable data and, most important, produce positive outcomes for the

residents following that disaster.” She added, “I’m very excited about Visionary’s first win as a prime contractor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention division of the US Department of Health and Human Services. The CDC is the nation’s premier public health agency. Their mission is similar to ours and we can add value to their efforts because of our synergies. We look forward to collaborating with CDC to create the information and tools necessary to ensure the health of the nation.”

#

Founded in 2008, Visionary Consulting Partners designs, implements and manages comprehensive, sustainable chronic disease, behavior intervention, and health education and promotion programs by engaging communities and leveraging health IT. We strive to improve the health status of communities and reduce health disparities. Our master certified health education specialist and certified project and health information management professionals have an impressive track record which includes work for the federal government, military, foundations and the private sector. From post-Katrina New Orleans to Ft. Hood following the shootings, we’ve answered the call of the nation during difficult and challenging times. Visionary is a verified service-disabled veteran- and woman-owned small business, and SBA certified as an 8(a) and Small Disadvantaged Business. Visionary is also a participant in the HHS Mentor-Protégé Program. CEO Eleanor Thornton, a master certified health education specialist and certified asthma educator, is a member of the HHS National Partnership for Action Region 3 Health Equity Council. Chief Operating Officer Mike Thornton, Sr., a retired Air Force chief information officer, certified health information management and project management professional, is a member of the Board of Governors of the National Military Family Association and a co-chair of the HIMSS Diversity Business Roundtable.