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June 20, 2011

TO: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **KOINONIA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY – A DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES CONTRACT SERVICE PROVIDER – CONTRACT COMPLIANCE REVIEW**

We have completed a review of Koinonia Foster Family Agency (Koinonia or Agency), a Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) contract service provider. The purpose of our review was to determine whether Koinonia was providing the services outlined in their Program Statement and their County contract.

DCFS contracts with Koinonia, a private, non-profit, community-based organization, to recruit, train and certify foster parents to supervise children DCFS places in foster care. Once the Agency places a child in a foster home, it is required to monitor the placement until the child is discharged from foster care. Koinonia oversees 65 certified foster homes in which 116 DCFS children were placed at the time of our review. Koinonia is located in the Second and Fifth Supervisorial Districts. DCFS paid Koinonia approximately $1.9 million during Fiscal Year 2009-10.

Results of Review

The foster children we interviewed indicated that they enjoyed living with their foster parents, and the foster parents indicated that the services they received from the Agency met their expectations. Koinonia also ensured that their social workers' caseloads did not exceed the maximum established by California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Title 22 regulations. In addition, the Agency ensured that their staff

had the required education and work experience, and provided ongoing training for staff working on the County contract. However, we noted that Koinonia did not always comply with all of the requirements of CDSS Title 22 regulations and their County contract. For example:

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed did not adequately secure its detergents. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report on Koinonia.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure hazardous materials are stored somewhere inaccessible to children where required.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed was a two-story home, and did not have an adequate means of escape in case of an emergency. After our review, the Agency provided documentation that the foster parents purchased a fire escape ladder to provide an adequate means of escape.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure that foster parents with two-story homes have emergency ladders.

- Three (30%) of the ten foster homes reviewed were not practicing emergency procedures with the children.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will monitor to ensure foster homes perform drills.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed had a hot tub with an unsecured pool cover. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent certification files reviewed did not include a current driver's license. At the time of our review, the license on file had been expired for four months. After our review, the Agency provided a copy of a current driver's license.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent certification files reviewed indicated the foster parent had a disability, qualifying the parent for Social Security Disability Insurance, but the disability was not addressed in the foster parent's pre-certification health evaluation. We notified the Agency and recommended that they obtain an evaluation that addresses the disability to ensure the parent can care for children.

After our review, the Agency indicated that they required the foster parent to provide a medical evaluation. However, Koinonia decertified the foster parent for other reasons before they received the evaluation results.

Koinonia's attached response indicates that they have a policy to assess foster parent applicants who are disabled, and will ensure future compliance through training and staff meetings.

- One (33%) of the three foster homes reviewed that had more than two children was not assessed by Koinonia to ensure the foster parents could care for more than two children. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent files reviewed had State criminal and Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) clearances, but was missing the required federal criminal clearance. In addition, two (13%) of the Agency's 15 social workers were missing the federal criminal clearances, and one (7%) social worker was missing the CACI clearance. After our review, the Agency provided documentation of the missing clearances.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- Two (11%) of the 18 Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) reviewed were not received or approved by the DCFS social workers as required.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- None of the 18 NSPs reviewed included the foster parents' signatures. As a result, the Agency did not document that their employees offered the foster parents the opportunity to participate in developing the NSPs.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure foster parents acknowledge their participation by signing the NSPs.

- One (6%) of the 18 NSPs reviewed did not have measurable, specific goals for the child. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- Six (33%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children's DCFS social workers were given monthly updates on the children's progress as required.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- Four (22%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children were visited by Koinonia's social workers weekly during the first three months of placement as required.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- Four (22%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children were visited twice a month by Koinonia's social workers after the first three months of placement.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- Two (11%) of the 18 children received initial dental examinations 11 days late. In addition, one (6%) of the 18 children received an annual dental examination six months late.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that they will ensure compliance through training and staff meetings.

- One (7%) of the 15 social workers did not have a current driver's license on file. At the time of our review, the license on file had been expired for two years. After our review, the Agency provided a current driver's license.

  Koinonia's attached response indicates that the employee was overlooked, and that they will ensure their social workers have current driver's licenses.

Details of our review, along with recommendations for corrective action, are attached.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with Koinonia on January 21, 2011, and with DCFS. Koinonia management's response (Attachment I) indicates the actions the Agency has taken to address the issues noted in our report. DCFS' response (Attachment II) indicates they will monitor the Agency for compliance with our recommendations.

We thank Koinonia management for their cooperation and assistance during our review. Please call me if you have any questions or your staff may contact Don Chadwick at (213) 253-0301.

WLW:JLS:DC:AA

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Jackie Contreras, Ph.D., Interim Director, DCFS
Cary Nosler, Board of Directors President, Koinonia
Dave Wesson, Executive Director, Koinonia
Jean Chen, Community Care Licensing, CDSS
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

KOINONIA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE REVIEW
FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010

BACKGROUND

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) pays Koinonia Foster Family Agency (Koinonia or Agency) a monthly rate per child, per month established by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). Koinonia receives between $1,430 and $1,679 per child per month, based on the child's age, for a total of approximately $1.9 million during Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10.

PURPOSE/METHODOLOGY

The purpose of our review was to determine whether Koinonia was providing the services outlined in their Program Statement and their County contract. We reviewed the Agency's certified foster parent files, children's case files, and employee personnel files. We also interviewed Koinonia staff, visited ten certified foster homes and interviewed 11 foster parents and nine foster children.

To enable Koinonia to begin taking action immediately, we discussed the findings and recommendations from our review with Agency management while completing our review in August 2010.

BILLED SERVICES

Objective

Determine whether Koinonia provided program services in accordance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and their County contract.

Verification

As noted earlier, we visited ten of Koinonia's 65 certified foster homes in Los Angeles County, and interviewed 11 foster parents and nine children placed in the homes. In addition, we reviewed the case files for 18 foster parents and 18 foster children, and reviewed the Agency's monitoring activity.

Results

Koinonia did not always comply with CDSS Title 22 regulations and their County contract. Specifically:

Foster Home Visitation

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes did not secure detergents adequately. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report on Koinonia.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed was a two-story home, and did not have an adequate means of escape in case of an emergency. After our review, the Agency provided documentation that the foster parents purchased a fire escape ladder to provide an adequate means of escape.

- Three (30%) of the ten foster homes reviewed were not practicing emergency procedures with the children.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed did not have a thermometer in their first aid kit.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed had a hot tub with an unsecured pool cover. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

- One (10%) of the ten foster homes reviewed was not documenting the child's weekly allowance on an allowance log. However, the foster parent and child indicated the child was receiving her allowance.

Foster Parent Certification

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent certification files reviewed did not have a current driver's license. At the time of our review, the license on file had been expired for four months. After our review, the Agency provided a copy of a current driver's license.

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent certification files reviewed indicated the foster parent had a disability, qualifying the parent for Social Security Disability Insurance, but the disability was not addressed in the foster parent's pre-certification health evaluation. We notified the Agency and recommended that they obtain an evaluation that addressed the disability to ensure the parent can care for children. After our review, the Agency indicated that they required the foster parent to provide a medical evaluation. However, Koinonia decertified the foster parent for other reasons before they received the evaluation results.

- One (33%) of the three foster homes reviewed that had more than two children was not assessed by Koinonia to ensure the foster parents could care for more than two children. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

- One (6%) of the 18 foster parent certification files reviewed had State criminal and Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) clearances, but did not have documentation of a

federal criminal clearance. After our review, the Agency provided documentation of the missing clearance.

Needs and Services Plans

- Two (11%) of the 18 Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) reviewed were not received or approved by the DCFS social workers.

- None of the 18 NSPs reviewed included the foster parents' signatures. As a result, the Agency did not document that their employees had offered the foster parents the opportunity to participate in developing the NSPs.

- One (6%) of the 18 NSPs reviewed did not have measurable, specific goals for the child. This issue was also noted in our April 8, 2008 report.

Children's Case Files and Medical Services

- Six (33%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children's DCFS social workers received the required monthly updates on the children's progress.

- Four (22%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children or the DCFS social workers were informed of the Agency's policies and procedures.

- Four (22%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children were visited by Koinonia's social workers weekly during the first three months of placement as required.

- Four (22%) of the 18 case files reviewed did not have documentation that the children were visited by Koinonia's social workers twice a month after the first three months of placement as required.

- Twelve (66%) of the 18 case files did not have a clothing inventory for the children. Our visits indicated that the children had adequate clothing, but there was no inventory in the children's case files.

- Two (11%) of the 18 children received initial dental examinations 11 days late, and one (6%) of the 18 children received an annual dental examination six months late.

Recommendations

Koinonia management ensure:

1. **Staff adequately monitor foster homes to ensure they comply with CDSS Title 22 regulations and the County contract.**

2. Foster parents adequately secure detergents that could pose a safety hazard to children.

3. Foster homes have an adequate means of escape from two-story homes in case of emergency, and are practicing emergency procedures with the children.

4. Foster homes include a thermometer in their first aid kits.

5. Foster homes secure all pools and other bodies of water.

6. Foster homes document children's weekly allowances on an allowance log.

7. Foster parent certification files have current driver's licenses and required criminal clearances.

8. Any foster parent disabilities are addressed in the foster parent's pre-certification health evaluation.

9. Assessments are completed for homes where more than two children are placed.

10. NSPs are approved and received by the DCFS social workers.

11. Foster parents are offered the opportunity to participate in developing the NSPs.

12. NSPs include measurable, specific goals for each child.

13. DCFS social workers are updated monthly regarding the children's progress.

14. Children and the DCFS social workers receive a comprehensive overview of the Agency's policies and procedures.

15. Children are visited by Agency social workers weekly during their first three months of placement, and twice a month after the first three months of placement.

16. Children's case files have a clothing inventory to document that the children have adequate clothing.

17. Children's dental examinations are conducted timely.

CLIENT VERIFICATION

Objective

Determine whether the foster parents and children received the services that Koinonia billed to DCFS.

Verification

We interviewed 11 foster parents and nine children placed in Koinonia's certified foster homes to confirm the services the Agency billed to DCFS.

Results

The foster children indicated they enjoyed living with their foster parents, and the foster parents indicated that the services they received from Koinonia met their expectations.

Recommendation

None.

STAFFING/CASELOAD LEVELS

Objective

Verify that Koinonia social workers' caseloads did not exceed 15 placements, and that supervising social workers did not supervise more than six social workers as required by CDSS Title 22 regulations and the County contract.

Verification

We interviewed Koinonia's administrator, and reviewed caseload statistics and payroll records for the Agency's social workers and supervising social workers.

Results

Koinonia's 15 social workers carried an average caseload of eight cases, and the Agency's supervising social workers supervised five social workers.

Recommendation

None.

STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Objective

Determine whether Koinonia's staff had the education and work experience required by CDSS Title 22 regulations and the County contract. In addition, determine whether the Agency conducted criminal clearances before hiring staff, and provided ongoing training to staff.

Verification

We interviewed Koinonia's administrator, and reviewed each staff member's personnel file for documentation to confirm their education and work experience, hiring clearances and ongoing training.

Results

Koinonia's administrator, supervising social workers and social workers had the required education and work experience. However, we noted the following:

- Two (13%) of the 15 social workers had State criminal and CACI clearances, but did not have federal criminal clearances. In addition, one (7%) social worker had federal and State criminal clearances, but did not have a CACI clearance. After our review, the Agency provided documentation of the missing clearances.

- One (7%) of the 15 social workers did not have a current driver's license on file. At the time of our review, the license on file had been expired for two years. After our review, the Agency provided a copy of a current driver's license.

Recommendations

Koinonia management ensure:

18. Employee files contain all criminal and CACI clearances.

19. All social workers have current driver's licenses on file.

PRIOR YEAR FOLLOW-UP

Objective

Determine the status of the recommendations from the 2008 Auditor-Controller monitoring review.

Verification

We determined whether the recommendations from our FY 2006-07 monitoring review had been implemented. The report was issued on April 8, 2008.

Results

The prior monitoring report on Koinonia had 13 recommendations. The Agency has fully implemented six recommendations and partially implemented two recommendations. However, five of the issues noted in our current review, related to monitoring foster homes, securing pools, storing knives safely, maintaining foster parent files, and completing foster home assessments, were also noted in our 2008 report.

Recommendation

20. Koinonia management implement the outstanding recommendations from the 2008 monitoring report.

KOINONIA
FAMILY SERVICES
Bringing Hope To a New Generation

January 20, 2011

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

Subject: Koinonia Family Services Contract Review – A Department of Children and Family Services Provider

Dear Supervisors:

The following letter is being written to address recommendations listed in the foster family agency audit report. The responses to the auditor's recommendations have now been implemented.

We would once again like to thank the County of Los Angeles for making it a priority to monitor and evaluate our program. Koinonia's mission is to provide the highest quality treatment foster care program available for children, youth and their families whose special needs can be met through services delivered, supervised and supported by professional agency staff. It was once again a pleasure to interact with auditor Cassandra Youngblood. Cassandra was respectful, courteous and helpful to our staff and parents. Her approach was one of consulting and giving honest feedback on our program and staff. Overall the process was positive, informative and helpful to Koinonia Family Services, Inc.

Koinonia's response to comments and recommendations as outlined in the audit report:

1. **Auditor Recommendation:** Staff adequately monitors foster homes to ensure they comply with the County contract and CDSS Title 22 regulations.
   Koinonia's Response: As stated in the previous recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, Koinonia has developed monitoring tools for staff to ensure that foster homes are in compliance with regulations and county contract requirements. With new management and new social workers, Koinonia will continue to follow up with

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both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

2. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster parents adequately secure cleaning solutions and other items that could pose a safety hazard to children.
Koinonia's Response: With the passage of the new laws and regulations this should not be an issue in the future. Regulation §9387.2 (b) states that "Disinfectants and cleaning solutions shall be stored where inaccessible to a "child," except as follows: Before allowing a "child" to have access to or use disinfectants and cleaning solutions, the care giver shall ensure that a "child" knows how to handle and use these products. In allowing a "child" to have access to and use items specified in subsections (b)(1) through (3), the caregiver shall ensure that the safety of a "child" and others in the home is maintained." Koinonia will document that the "child" knows how to handle and use these products. This is to give the home and the child some sense of normalcy.

3. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster homes have an adequate means of escape from the second story of the home in case of emergency and are practicing emergency procedures with the children.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia will add "a second story home must have a ladder as a means of escape" to our Home Safety Review (HSR) for parents to comply with. This has never been the expectation of Community Care Licensing and has never been a finding in all the years Koinonia has been certifying homes for foster care. Koinonia has highly suggested that homes have a ladder in second story homes and Orange County has made this a specific item in their contract with agencies. Although this recommendation makes perfect sense, LA County may want to be more specific about their expectations regarding this item in the next contract signing. As to the documentation of clients and families practicing emergency disaster drills, Koinonia does have a tool to inquire every month of the family if they have completed the required drill. The drill is to be completed upon the placement of a new client or every six months. The Koinonia worker will document that the drill was performed and not just instructed on.

4. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster homes include a thermometer in their first aid kits.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that foster homes have thermometers in their first aid kits, Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

5. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster homes secure all pools and other bodies of water.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that foster homes have fences around pools and locks on hot tubs, Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

6. **Auditor Recommendation:** foster homes document children's weekly allowances on an allowance log.
   Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that foster parents are giving the children weekly allowances. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

7. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster parent certification files have a current driver's license and the required criminal clearances.
   Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that foster parents have criminal clearances before certification and items that come up for renewal are tracked for due dates so that they will remain current. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

8. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster parents disabilities are addressed in the foster parent's pre-certification health evaluation.
   Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a policy to identify applicants who are on SSI. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

9. **Auditor Recommendation:** Assessments are completed for homes where more than two children are placed.
   Koinonia's Response: Koinonia did develop a monitoring tool for staff to address placements of more than two to a home after the last audit. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

10. **Auditor Recommendation:** NSPs are approved and received by the DCFS social workers.
    Koinonia's Response: Koinonia social workers will do a better in documenting NSPs were sent to DCFS social workers for their approval. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

11. **Auditor Recommendation:** Foster parents are offered the opportunity to participate in developing the NSPs.
    Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have the foster parents and clients participate in developing the NSPs. We have historically done this on a monthly basis through our document called "Monthly Treatment Plan" that is a NCR document with both staff and parents signatures and the client's signature if they are able to participate. This information ends up on the Quarterly NSPs sent to the county social worker for their approval. This has not been a problem in past audits with both Out of Home

Care Monitoring Unit and Community Care Licensing. Koinonia does recognize that the LA County auditor would like to have the signatures on the NSPs sent to the county social worker. Koinonia will follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with this expectation.

12. **Auditor Recommendation:** NSPs include goals that are measurable and specific to the child.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

13. **Auditor Recommendation:** DCFS social workers are updated monthly regarding the children's progress.
Koinonia's Response: Due to a new supervisor and staff working with LA County clients this expectation was not met. Koinonia has added this to their Master Chart tracking system. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

14. **Auditor Recommendation:** Children and the DCFS social workers receive a comprehensive overview of the Agency's policies and procedures.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that the child or the child's authorized representative should sign an acknowledgement of the receipt of written Agency's policies and procedures. Koinonia will do a better job of documenting the county social worker's lack of response to the requests. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

15. **Auditor Recommendation:** Children are visited by Agency social workers weekly during their first three months of placement and semi-monthly after the first three months of placement.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that children are visited by the Agency social worker weekly during their first three months of placements and simi-monthly after the first three months of placement. Due to a change over in staff it was not completed in a timely manner as required. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

16. **Auditor Recommendation:** Children's case files have a clothing inventory to document that the children have adequate clothing.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia has added this to our monitoring tool.

17. **Auditor Recommendation:** Children's dental examinations are conducted timely.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for staff to ensure that children are seen for dental examinations. Due to a change over in staff it was not completed in a timely manner as required. Koinonia will continue to follow up with

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both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

18. **Auditor Recommendation:** Employee files contain all criminal and CAI clearances.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for management to ensure that employee files contain all criminal and CAI clearances. Koinonia's policy is to have all criminal clearances are submitted to our HR Department before employment begins. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

19. **Auditor Recommendation:** Social workers have a current drivers' license on file.
Koinonia's Response: Koinonia does have a monitoring tool for management to ensure that social workers have a current driver's license on file. This particular social worker was out on maternity leave that was extended until she was able to return. Our system did not allow for this extended time and was overlooked when she returned. This has since been corrected.

20. **Auditor Recommendation:** Koinonia management implements the outstanding recommendations from the prior monitoring report.
Koinonia's Response: The six previous recommendations from prior monitoring review were addressed in the above responses. Numbers 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 12. Koinonia will continue to follow up with both management and staff to assure compliance with CDSS Title 22 regulations and LA County Contract requirements through on-going training and staff meetings.

Again, thank you for taking the time to come out and evaluate our current program. Your audit had provided us with valuable feedback. Please call me if you have any additional questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Dave Wesson, MA
Associate Executive Director, Southern California Region

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County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, CA 90020

ANTONIA JIMÉNEZ
Acting Director

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

April 4, 2011

TO: Aggie Alonso, Chief Accountant-Auditor
Countywide Contract Monitoring Division

FROM: Elizabeth A. Howard, Section Head
Out-of-Home Care Management Division
Foster Family Agency/Group Home Performance Management

DCFS RESPONSE TO THE AUDITOR CONTROLLER'S CONTRACT REVIEW OF KOINONIA FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY

The Auditor Controller's (A-C) Contract Review of Koinonia Foster Family Agency was conducted in July/August 2010. The Out-of-Home Care Management Division (OHCMD) received the Auditor-Controller's January 27, 2011 final draft report of the contract compliance review on January 27, 2011.

Although the report notes several programmatic issues, there were no egregious findings which rose to the level of a referral to the Child Protection Hotline. It is noted that Koinonia submitted a Corrective Action Plan, dated January 20, 2011 addressing each of the A-C's recommendations.

The OHCMD will assess for full implementation of the A-C's recommendations within during our next moniroting review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (626) 569-6804.

KR:EAH