

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Family and Social Services

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer



DATE: Wednesday, January 5, 2022
TIME: 1:30 PM

THIS MEETING WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEES AS PERMITTED UNDER STATE LAW.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING, PLEASE CALL AS FOLLOWS:
Teleconference Call-In Number: (323) 776-6996/ Conference ID: 599 009 090#
[MS Teams Meeting Link](#) (Ctrl + click to follow link)

AGENDA

Members of the Public may address agenda item. Two (2) minutes are allowed for each item.

- I. Call to Order
- II. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
 - a. **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)/ Department of Mental Health/ Probation Department:** Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Monthly Update.
- III. **Informational Items:**
 - b. **DCFS:** Request to Approve an Amendment to The Current Sole Source Contract with RaiseAChild for Recruitment and Retention Services.
- IV. Items continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Adjournment



BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

Board of Supervisors
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Fifth District

January 18, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REQUEST TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT FOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION SERVICES (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests your Board's approval to amend the existing Recruitment and Retention Services Contract with RaisAChild (RAC), in order to add services for existing and potential resource parents for children and youth who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or questioning (LGBTQ+).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute an amendment substantially similar to Attachment A to Contract No 18-04-019 with RAC to produce and advertise inclusive recruitment campaign materials to recruit for LGBTQ+ and LGBTQ+ affirming communities to become resource parents while providing support services to the potential resource parents, and to increase the Maximum Contract Sum by \$210,000. The amendment is effective March 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023, and the initial term was effective May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2023. The revised Maximum Contract Sum will be \$310,000; \$210,000 financed by 100 percent net County cost funds and \$100,000 financed by 100 percent AB 2994.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

In May 2021, DCFS entered into a contract funded by the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) for RAC to launch a digital marketing campaign for recruitment and retention services for prospective resource parents. The amendment will allow DCFS to reach the LGBTQ+ community with inclusive and welcoming messages, and to provide supports to become a resource parent as part of the LGBTQ+ program. These services will consist of the development and advertisement of an LGBTQ+ focused recruitment campaign, in addition to recruiting LGBTQ+ and LGBTQ+ affirming communities, on becoming a resource parent. These potential resource parents will receive additional group support to have a better understanding of the process, and the needs and various challenges LGBTQ+ youth encounter daily. In addition, data collected will measure the success of recruitment and retention efforts. Surveys will help identify the concerns of the potential resource parents to allow DCFS to address each concern whether it be updating the process or enhancing its various programs. The expansion of the recruitment and retention services will address a myriad of concerns impacting LGBTQ+ children, youth, and young adults in care, and promote positive health, safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes in Los Angeles County. As DCFS is restructuring the multidisciplinary approach to include the needs of the LGBTQ+ youth, there is an immediate need to increase the number of LGBTQ+ resources and ally families to ensure that these youths have a safe and affirming placement with caregivers who embrace their intersecting identities of LGBTQ+ youth, and understands and prioritizes their specific and unique needs.

Lastly, these services will allow DCFS to achieve one of the deliverables as instructed by the Board in the motion, Tailoring Services and Programs for LGBTQ+ Foster Youth, dated June 22, 2021.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended services support the County's Strategic Plan Goal I. Make Investments That Transform Lives, Strategy I.1 Increase Our Focus on Prevention Initiatives, by redirecting federal funds to provide services to keep children safely with their families and out of foster care, and when foster care is needed allows federal reimbursement for care in family-based settings and certain residential treatment programs for children with emotional and behavioral disturbance requiring special treatment.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Maximum Contract Sum will be increased by \$210,000, financed by 100 percent net County cost funds, and the revised Maximum Contract Sum will be \$310,000, for the initial term ending April 30, 2023.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On January 9, 2018, the Board of Supervisors directed the departments of DCFS, Probation, Mental Health (DMH), Public Health (DPH), and Health Services (DHS) to report back on a broad range of issues affecting LGBTQ+ youth who engage with these departments. Each department was asked to report on existing services, programs and training, and any identifiable gaps in these areas: 1) specialized departmental units; 2) innovative casework/treatment models; 3) existing data and potential data collection efforts across departments; and 4) relevant recommendations.

On May 21, 2019, the Board directed DCFS to establish an Office of Equity (OOE), and in collaboration with DPH, DMH, DHS, Probation, and the Department of Public Social Services, to report back to the Board of Supervisors in 90 days on an overview of the proposed infrastructure and function of an established OOE. The 90-day report back overview included identification of existing programs, division manager, and resources necessary and a plan for the development of OOE.

In a subsequent Board Motion dated September 24, 2019, the Board directed the above-mentioned County departments to create and implement training for prospective caregivers, caregivers and providers with DCFS and Probation on LGBTQ+ identity development, providing support, and knowledge of related resources in the community. Additionally, the departments were instructed to create and implement prevention and intervention services that minimize family rejection when such services are necessary.

Since the establishment of the OOE in March 2020, DCFS has been working on implementing the Board approved plan to expand services to the LGBTQ+ youth as identified in the Board Motion dated June 22, 2021, and has been regularly reporting back to the Board with progress reports.

The Board Letter was reviewed by County Counsel and CEO. County Counsel approved the Amendment (Attachment A), as to form. The Sole Source Checklist (Attachment B), has been approved by CEO.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On November 10, 2020, the Board approved a motion directing the Director of DCFS to enter into a Sole Source contract with RAC, for Recruitment and Retention Services, and the contract was executed on May 1, 2021.

On November 8, 2021, DCFS sent a Notice of Intent (Attachment C) to the Board of its intent to negotiate the amendment to add LGBTQ+ services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the current recommendations will allow the Department to expand services to underserved LGBTQ+ youth, to provide support to the implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act, and to deliver qualified child welfare services to the children of Los Angeles County without creating a delay.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of this request, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk send an adopted stamped copy of this Board letter to:

Department of Children and Family Services.
Contracts Administration Division
Attention: Leticia Torres-Ibarra, Division Manger
425 Shatto, Place, Room 400
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Respectfully submitted,



BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

BDC:CMM
KDR:LTI:CP

Attachments (3)

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

**BOARD LETTER/MEMO
CLUSTER FACT SHEET**

 Board Letter

 Board Memo

 Other

CLUSTER AGENDA REVIEW DATE	1/05/2022	
BOARD MEETING DATE	1/18/2022	
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AFFECTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th	
DEPARTMENT (S)	DCFS	
SUBJECT	Recruitment, Retention and Support for Resource Parents	
PROGRAM	Raise A Child Recruitment, Retention and Support	
AUTHORIZES DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO DEPT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please explain why: DCFS currently has a Sole Source Interagency Counsel on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) Contract with RaiseAChild (RAC) per Board Motion approved on 11/10/2020 effective 5/1/21-4/30/23 in the amount of \$100,000. The current contract is being amended to additional services for the LGBTQ+ population. Services are needed to address an emergent or related time-sensitive need. These specific recruitment will address the sensitive and critical issues affecting potential resource parents for LGBTQ+ youth per Board Motion approved on 6/22/21.	
DEADLINES/TIME CONSTRAINTS	Services need to be in place by 3/1/2022 to align other LGBTQ+ services under this project.	
COST & FUNDING	Total Cost: \$310,000	Funding Source: The current contract is funded with AB 2994 (100,000) funding. The additional funds (210,000) with Net County Cost.
	TERMS (if applicable): 3/01/2022-4/30/23 of the initial 5/1/21 to 4/30/23 term with two one-year renewal options.	
	Explanation: The 210,000 funding is part of 3.6 million funds DCFS received to complete the LGBTQ+ Project, which consists of multiple services.	
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	To amend the current contract to target special recruitment for the LGBTQ+ youth.	
BACKGROUND (include internal/external issues that may exist including any related motions)	The Board of Supervisors has expressed longstanding support for enhanced, specialized services for LGBTQ+ youth, with particular attention to those who are overseen by DCFS. On June 22, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion, Tailoring Services and Programs for	

	LGBTQ+ Foster Youth, instructing DCFS to implement programs that address service gaps for LGBTQ+ youth including a recruitment and retention program for resource families. DCFS currently has limited placement resources to provide affirming care for LGTBQ+ youth, who are among our most vulnerable children. This contract is critical to fulfilling this need.
EQUITY INDEX OR LENS WAS UTILIZED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain how: Recruitment & Retention Contract is part of the LGBTQ+ project focusing on recruiting resource families for the LGBTQ+ youth.
SUPPORTS ONE OF THE NINE BOARD PRIORITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please state which one(s) and explain how: Board Priority Number 1. Child Protection – The recruitment and retention services in this amendment is an expansion of the existing recruitment services with an exception focusing on services directly supporting LGBTQ+ youth. These services will expand the pool of caregivers who understand the various needs of LGBTQ+ youth. Without this expansion, DCFS would not be able to fully support and provide the basic safety services to these marginalized youths.
DEPARATMENTAL CONTACTS	Name, Title, Phone # & Email: Bedrae Davis, CSA III, (323) 720-3601, DavisB@dcsf.lacounty.gov Joseph Prusak, Division Chief, (626) 229-3794, prusaj@dcsf.lacounty.gov