



BRANDON T. NICHOLS
Director

JENNIE FERIA
Chief Deputy Director

**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

510 S. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602



Board of Supervisors

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June 10, 2025

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

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO EXTEND SOLE SOURCE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA GRANTMAKERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN HOME-BASED PLACEMENTS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests the Board's approval to extend the Funding Agreement with Southern California Grantmakers (SCG) from July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

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 extend the Funding Agreement with SCG for an eighteen-month period, from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026. The Maximum Funding Agreement Sum for the extension is \$257,500, financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to increase or decrease the Maximum Funding Agreement sum up to 10 percent, if such an amendment is necessary to meet a change in service demands and the necessary funding is available in the budget, provided that: a) approval from County Counsel is obtained prior to executing such amendment; and b) the Director of DCFS notifies the Board and the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in writing, within 10 business days after execution.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to the Funding Agreement for necessary changes to the terms and conditions, provided that: a) prior County Counsel approval is obtained; and b) the Director of DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO, in writing, within 10 business days after execution of such amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended actions will allow DCFS to continue to work with SCG to provide resources that assist in providing ongoing technical assistance, implementation support, project management, and evaluation services to successfully execute and sustain the Flexible Family Supports (FFS) Programs, avoiding the risk of delays and unmet State obligations.

This Funding Agreement is needed to ensure successful program execution and compliance with technical requirements and sustainability planning. The Funding Agreement extension will ensure the successful execution and sustainment of the FFS programs.

The funds will also allow for resources to be used to onboard experienced professionals, including journalist, and evaluation consultants to enhance program reporting and impact storytelling, as well as, bring expertise in strategic planning, advocacy, and evaluation, which has been immeasurable to DCFS.

The funds allocated through this Funding Agreement will be utilized to increase home-based family care and provide support to children and youth in foster care and caregivers.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal NORTH STAR 1 – Make investments that transform lives – Focus Area Goal D. Support Vulnerable Populations – Strategy ii. Child Safety and Family Well-Being; NORTH STAR 2 – Foster vibrant and resilient communities – Focus Area Goal F. Community Connections – Strategy iv. Support Efforts to Engage Children and Families; as well as DCFS' strong commitment and support to the well-being, permanency and long-term success of the children, youth and families of Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total projected cost for the 18-month extension will be \$257,500, effective July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On June 27, 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved a Board Motion authorizing the Director of DCFS to allocate funding to the Center for Strategic Partnerships through its fiscal agent, SCG, for consulting services.

The SCG funding agreement provides resources for critical support, including budget optimization, tracking systems, stakeholder updates, and State-mandated reporting. It also provides resources for ongoing technical assistance, implementation support, project management and evaluation services. The Funding Agreement extension will ensure the successful execution and sustainability of the FFS Programs, avoiding the risk of delays and unmet State obligations.

SCG allows the County to continue establishing collaborations and partnerships between DCFS, home-based organizations and other support services that will strengthen communities, support healthier families, and improve self-sufficiency.

County Counsel and the CEO have reviewed this Board Letter. County Counsel has approved this Funding Agreement as to form.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will increase home-based family care and provide support to children and youth in foster care and caregivers. The Funding Agreement extension allows SCG to continue establishing collaborations and partnerships between DCFS, home-based organizations and other support services that will strengthen communities, support healthier families, and improve self-sufficiency.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board send an adopted copy of the Board letter and attachment to the Department of Children and Family Services.

Respectfully submitted,



BRANDON T. NICHOLS

Director

BTN:JF:CMM:RWLTI:SS:TN:dj

Enclosures

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



AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE

CONTRACT NUMBER 23FSS

WITH

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GRANTMAKERS

FOR

HOME BASED FAMILY CARE

**AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GRANTMAKERS
CONTRACT NUMBER 23FSS**

This Amendment Number One ("Amendment") to the Funding Agreement ("Agreement") for Children and Youth in Home Base Placements is made and entered into by and between the County of Los Angeles ("COUNTY"), and Southern California Grantmakers ("CONTRACTOR"), on this 1st day of July, 2025.

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2023 the Board of Supervisors, via a Board Motion, authorized the Department of Children and Family Services to enter into Agreement with CONTRACTOR, for a contract term effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025, and CONTRACTOR has been providing consulting services; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Amendment is to extend the term of the funding agreement and add additional funds; and

WHEREAS, this Amendment is prepared pursuant to the provisions set forth in Section A, Approved Funding and Costs; and Section B, Agreement Term.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual consent herein contained, COUNTY and CONTRACTOR hereby agree to amend the Contract as follows:

1. Section A, Approved Funding and Costs, Subsection A.1.1 is added to read as follows:

Additional funds will be paid to SCG in two separate payments, for a total amount of \$257,500. An initial advance payment of \$128,750 will be paid within thirty (30) days of execution of this Amendment Number One. The first payment will cover the period from the effective date of the extended term, through Feb 28, 2026. SCG will provide semiannual reports on the progress of the FFS project. Reports will be submitted to DCFS by the 15th day of the next semi annual time period (October 15, 2025, Jan 15, 2026, April 15, 2026, July 15, 2026, October 15, 2026, and December 30, 2026). DCFS will advance the remaining balance on March 1, 2026.

2. Section B, AGREEMENT TERM, Subsection B.1 is added to read as follows:

B.1 The term of the funding agreement shall be extended for an eighteen-month period beginning July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, unless terminated earlier or extended, in whole or in part, as provided in this funding agreement.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS CONTRACT SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

**AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GRANTMAKERS
CONTRACT NUMBER 23FSS**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the COUNTY of Los Angeles has caused this Amendment to be subscribed on its behalf by the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services and the CONTRACTOR has caused this Amendment to be subscribed on its behalf by its duly authorized officer(s) as of the day, month and year first above written. The person(s) signing on behalf of the CONTRACTOR warrants under penalty of perjury that he or she is authorized to bind the CONTRACTOR in this Amendment. This Amendment may be executed in separate counterparts and may be delivered by electronic facsimile; each counterpart, when executed and delivered, shall constitute a duplicate original but all counterparts together shall constitute a single agreement.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACTOR

Southern California Grantmakers

By: _____
Brandon Nichols, Director
Department of Children and Family
Services

By: Chris Essel

Name: Chris Essel

Title: President & CEO

By: KMF

Name: Karen M Freeman

Title: Chief Operating Officer

95-2831058
Tax Identification Number

APPROVED AS TO FORM
BY THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL
Dawyn R. Harrison, Interim County Counsel

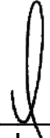
By: Beaudet
David Beaudet, Senior Deputy County Counsel

**AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GRANTMAKERS
CONTRACT NUMBER 23FSS**

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACTOR

By: 
Brandon Nichols, Director
Department of Children and Family
Services

Southern California Grantmakers

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Tax Identification Number

APPROVED AS TO FORM
BY THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL
Dawyn R. Harrison, Interim County Counsel

By: 
David Beaudet, Senior Deputy County Counsel

SOLE SOURCE CHECKLIST

Department Name: Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

☐

New Sole Source Contract

☒

Sole Source Amendment to Existing Contract

Date Existing Contract First Approved:

July 1, 2023

Check (✓)	JUSTIFICATION FOR SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS Identify applicable justification and provide documentation for each checked item.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Only one bona fide source (monopoly) for the service exists; performance and price competition are not available. A monopoly is an <i>"Exclusive control of the supply of any service in a given market. If more than one source in a given market exists, a monopoly does not exist."</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Compliance with applicable statutory and/or regulatory provisions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Compliance with State and/or federal programmatic requirements.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Services provided by other public or County-related entities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Services are needed to address an emergent or related time-sensitive need.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ The service provider(s) is required under the provisions of a grant or regulatory requirement.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	➤ Services are needed during the time period required to complete a solicitation for replacement services; provided services are needed for no more than 18 months from the expiration of an existing contract which has no available option periods.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Maintenance and support services are needed for an existing solution/system during the time to complete a solicitation for a new replacement solution/system; provided the services are needed for no more than 24 months from the expiration of an existing maintenance and support contract which has no available option periods.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ Maintenance service agreements exist on equipment which must be serviced by the original equipment manufacturer or an authorized service representative.
<input type="checkbox"/>	➤ It is more cost-effective to obtain services by exercising an option under an existing contract.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	➤ It is in the best economic interest of the County (e.g., significant costs and time to replace an existing system or infrastructure, administrative cost and time savings and excessive learning curve for a new service provider, etc.). In such cases, departments must demonstrate due diligence in qualifying the cost-savings or cost-avoidance associated with the best economic interest of the County.

Michael J. Martinez Digitally signed by Michael J. Martinez
Date: 2025.05.20 17:30:56 -07'00'

Chief Executive Office

Date

Sole Source Justification

Home Based Family Care Services

1. What is being requested?

This is a request to extend the current Home-Based Family Care Services contract with Southern California Grantmakers for FY 25-26, effective July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026. The extension is needed to align with the extension given by the State. This would not allow sufficient time for a new RFP/contract.

2. Total Cost:

The allocation for the eighteen-month extension is \$257,500. The Maximum Funding Agreement Amount for the entire period (July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026) is \$723,000, of which 100% is 2011 State Realignment Funds. Funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year budget.

3. Why is the service needed – how will it be used?

The SCG funding agreement provides resources for critical support, including budget optimization, tracking systems, stakeholder updates, and State-mandated reporting. It also provides resources for ongoing technical assistance, implementation support, project management and evaluation services. The Funding Agreement extension will ensure the successful execution and sustainability of the Flexible Family Support (FFS) Programs, avoiding the risk of delays and unmet State obligations. SCG allows the County to continue establishing collaborations and partnerships between DCFS, home-based organizations and other support services that will strengthen communities, support healthier families, and improve self-sufficiency.

4. Is this brand of product the only product the only one that meets the user's requirements?

NA

5. Have other products or vendor been considered?

No, because this is an extension since the state extended the FFS funds for an additional 16.5 million for 12 months. We want to continue with the vendor who worked on the original round 1 of FFS funding for fiscal years 23-25.

6. Will purchase of this product avoid other costs?

Yes, by extending the funding agreement, we can avoid the need for additional Children Services Administrators (CSA) that we would need to hire in order to provide the support that our consultants provide.

7. Is this service available from other providers?

This service may be available from other providers, but the service is only needed another twelve months, which would not allow for a new agreement.

8. Reasonableness of price. Does County obtain a percentage discount or special discount not available to the private sector?

N/A

9. What is the dollar value of the existing equipment?

N/A

10. Is this service the only one that meets the user's requirements?

Other providers may be able to adequately provide this service, but the service is only needed another twelve months, which would not allow for a new agreement.