



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
19.		Favor	adriana A luquin	My name is Adriana Luquin, I am an Adoption Promotion Support Services, Support Group & Mentor working at Five Acres, support families in Permanency. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I am deeply troubled by the FFA insurance crisis that could negatively impact the nearly 1,600 children served by FFAs in L.A. County today. Furthermore, if the underlying insurability problems go unaddressed, I am concerned that non-profit human services organizations will not be able to continue to step up to serve communities. I respectfully ask that Los Angeles County continue to support and advocate for long-term solutions that will prevent the placement disruption and irrevocable loss of services for children and prevent the insurance crisis from spreading across systems.
			Alexander Dominguez	My name is Alexander Dominguez, and I am the Compliance Manager at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.
			Alfredo Zuany	I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.



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The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
19.		Favor	Amanda Wagenbach	<p>My name is Amanda Wagenbach, and I am the Program Director for Southern California for Koinonia Family Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County.</p> <p>Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high quality, experienced FFA's, resulting in disruption and trauma to nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFA's in LA County. FFA's work with some of the hardest to place youth, including those with behavioral challenges and complex medical needs. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
			Ana E Larios	<p>My name is Ana E. Larios, and I am an APSS clinician at Five Acres. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County.</p> <p>I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families</p>



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
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19.		Favor	Ariel Julian	<p>My name is Ariel Julian, and I am a Foster Care Social Worker and APSS Clinician at Five Acres. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I have felt this loss first-hand, as I have had to leave many of the families that I served and transition to a different role within my agency due to the insurance crisis and the resulting downsizing of the FFA within our agency. Our families rely on the support our FFA provides to navigate one of the most challenging times in their lives. Our children rely on the FFA to receive ongoing support and care as they experience one of the most traumatic transitions of their lives. The Department of Children and Family Services is already stretched so thin, and the workers are doing their best to support their families. But they simply cannot be with ALL of their families weekly. Being a former DCFS worker and now working with an FFA, I know just how invaluable it is to team with an FFA and to have the reassurance that our children and families are supported through these times. These families already experience enough trauma. FFAs are not only helpful, but they are also a necessity for quality care.</p> <p>I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
			Chanel Boutakidis	
			Cindy E Cole	<p>My name is Cindy Cole, I am a case manager for Five Acres. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crises. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours plays in serving children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without financial support in the short term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issue in the long term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high quality resulting in disruption and trauma of nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. Children will experience the disruption of a family they have found stability with, their schools, friends, and overall familiarity.</p> <p>I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for children and families.</p>

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19.		Favor	claudia c del viscovo	My name is Claudia DelViscovo, and I am the Adoption Supervisor at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families
			Cristian Palao	My name is Cristian O Palao, and I am the Finance Director at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.



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19.		Favor	Cruz Orona	<p>My name is Cruz Orona, and I serve as the Recruiting Counselor Supervisor at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I write in strong support of the motion introduced by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy in response to the Foster Family Agency (FFA) insurance crisis.</p> <p>We are deeply grateful for the Board's continued recognition of the vital role FFAs play in caring for children and families throughout Los Angeles County. At Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services, we are committed to sustaining our mission of providing safe, stable, and loving homes for vulnerable children. However, without immediate financial relief and a long-term solution to the growing insurance challenges, agencies like ours face an unsustainable future.</p> <p>Already, Los Angeles County has seen the loss of experienced, high quality FFAs closures that directly disrupt care and increase trauma for the nearly 1,600 children and families who rely on these services. Each closure not only weakens the child welfare system but also limits options for children who deserve stability, compassion, and the chance to thrive.</p> <p>This motion represents a critical step in ensuring that FFAs can continue to operate, protect children, and strengthen families. On behalf of our agency and the children we serve, I respectfully urge the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion and safeguard the continuum of care for thousands of children and families across our county.</p>
			Deena Spann	<p>I am grateful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisors in recognizing this urgent issue and urge adoption of this motion. Koinonia Foster Homes, Inc. stands ready to partner with the County and our fellow providers to ensure that every child in Los Angeles County has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home.</p>
			Deenise Villagran	<p>My name is Deenise, and I am a Resource Family Social Worker at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>

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19.		Favor	Douglas J Yost	<p>My name is Douglas Yost and I am the Chief Executive Officer at Florence Crittenton of Orange County (Crittenton). Crittenton is a nonprofit human services agency that provides foster care services in Los Angeles County. In collaboration with the Crittenton team, I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the Foster Family Agency (FFA) insurance crisis. I am deeply appreciative for the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role FFAs like Crittenton play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Crittenton is comprised of dedicated team members who are passionate about transforming our community by helping children and families in need and we are dedicated to finding a way to continue to support our community; however, we cannot be sustained without the appropriate access to financial support in the short-term and long-term resolution for the underlying insurability issues for FFAs.</p> <p>As I know the Board of Supervisors is well aware of, the FFA insurance crisis has created a significant impact to FFAs, including Crittenton. In one year, our insurance renewal increased by over 275%, with projections of further increases at our next renewal in November. We cannot remain financially sustainable without the proper financial support. Over the past year, several FFAs that provided critical supportive services to some of the most vulnerable children closed due to the insurance crisis and the system will continue to see more closures of high-quality FFA programs, resulting in the disruption and displacement of foster children which may create further trauma in their lives.</p> <p>Crittenton has received numerous calls from Resource Parents looking for a new FFA due to the closure of their FFA; however, discussing the transition from one FFA to another, several of the Resource Parents shared that they were going to stop being Resource Parents, which resulted in the children in their home being moved. Additionally, the uncertainty that many of the children shared related to not knowing if they would be able to stay with their current Resource Parent when learning that the FFA was closing is heart breaking, as their fears of abandonment and trauma histories were further impacted. Children in the foster care system deserve our full support and need the communities help to ensure stability in their placements to allow them to thrive.</p> <p>On behalf of everyone at Crittenton, I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to support our foster children to help them build a better future by approving this motion to help maintain a strong continuum of care for thousands of children and families. Thank you in advance for showing our foster children that we as a community deeply care about each of them.</p> <p>Respectfully, Douglas Yost Chief Executive Officer Florence Crittenton of Orange County, Inc.</p>
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19.		Favor	Elizabeth Oseguera	The California Alliance of Child and Family Services (CA Alliance) represents over 160 nonprofit community-based organizations, including Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) that serve foster youth and families. We strongly support Supervisors Barger and Horvath's motion to move forward county solutions and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. We deeply appreciate the Supervisors' recognition of the critical role FFAs play in serving the foster children and families in Los Angeles County. Please see our attached letter for more details.
			Elyse Mitchell	My name is Elyse Mitchell, and I am the Resource Family Administrator at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services (NALCS). I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.
			Fabiola Arcos	My name is Fabiola Arcos and I am the APSS DCFS administrative assistant for Five Acres. I also work support groups with adoption and foster families, so this cause is of high importance to me. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I am deeply troubled by the FFA insurance crisis that could negatively impact the nearly 1,600 children served by FFAs in L.A. County today. Furthermore, if the underlying insurability problems go unaddressed, I am concerned that non-profit human services organizations will not be able to continue to step up to serve communities. I respectfully ask that Los Angeles County continue to support and advocate for long-term solutions that will prevent the placement disruption and irrevocable loss of services for children and prevent the insurance crisis from spreading across systems.
			Giselle Barragan	My name is Giselle Barragan, and I am the Grants & Policy Analyst at Hillsides. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to

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financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County.

FFAs have a significant impact on the children and youth they serve. For example, in 2017, two sisters, ages 15 and 13, were placed in the system due to their caretaker's absence. The girls had no extended family, resulting in their placement with a resource family. During their placement, their birth mother chose to have limited contact with the girls, resulting in them having difficulty developing trusting relationships.

Their Foster Care Social Worker worked with them and provided support, guidance, and motivation, allowing her to develop a trusting relationship with them. Both girls enrolled in individual therapy and successfully graduated after meeting their goals. While in placement, they attended school regularly and did well academically. Both girls also developed a loving relationship with their resource mother during their placement.

At the age of 20, the oldest sister was attending community college and working part-time and moved out of her resource mother's home. Even after moving out, she maintained constant contact with her resource mother and younger sister, who was still living with their resource mother.

The younger sibling remained in the resource home and was highly motivated and intelligent, excelling in high school and her part-time job. However, at the beginning of her Senior year in high school, her boyfriend of 2 years broke up with her, resulting in her issues of abandonment resurfacing. She became severely depressed, causing her to miss classes, work, and isolate herself in her bedroom. The complex process caused her to be ineligible to graduate from high school and get fired from her job.

Her social worker worked closely with her, visiting her weekly or multiple times during the week when needed. Her social worker constantly communicated with the school counselor and personnel to advocate for this now 19 years old, non-minor dependent.

The social worker and resource mother attended all school meetings and fought for the school to give her a chance. In addition, during this time, the social worker spent time with this NMD and resource mother to provide psycho-education on her symptoms of depression. She highly encouraged the non-minor dependent to return to therapy. During this time, the social worker and resource mother never gave up on her.

With the social worker's support and the resource mother providing her a safe space and the encouragement she needed, this non-minor dependent received her high school diploma in July 2024. She has since successfully completed her therapy and returned to work at the restaurant where she was initially fired. She is attending community college, where she plans to receive



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	<p>her AA and transfer to a university.</p> <p>Without the consistent support from the Foster Family Agency social worker, the outcomes for both girls would be drastically different. Foster Family Agencies are pivotal in supporting the healing of every child under their care. For this reason, I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Graciela Berenfus	<p>My name is Graciela Berenfus, and I am a Resource Family Social Worker at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Heather Carrigan	<p>My name is Heather Carrigan and I'm the CEO of Allies for Every Child. I'm writing in strong support of the motion introduced by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the foster family agency (FFA) insurance crisis. Allies for Every Child has served youth in foster care for nearly 40 years, since our start as a foster care agency in 1987. Earlier this year, we merged with another Los Angeles-based FFA, Extraordinary Families, joining forces to unite our shared values of family reunification, keeping siblings together, supporting older youth in foster care, and finding permanency through adoptive homes when necessary. Thanks to Allies and Extraordinary Families' unique approach to recruiting foster parents and our ability to leverage our multidisciplinary expertise in early education, mental health, occupational therapy, nutrition, public health, etc., our FFA has a single-placement permanency rate of 93% compared to the County and State permanency rates of 33%.</p> <p>When Allies steps in to support a child, we carefully find a loving and committed foster or adoptive parent for them and our "village" of social workers, therapists, and educators all immediately become a part of that child's community. Simply put, we're able to support foster youth and families in ways that the County cannot. LA's foster care system is the largest in the country—the loss of even more FFAs would increase the unacceptable levels of instability and trauma faced by children and youth in this system and exacerbate the foster care to homelessness pipeline.</p> <p>We respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion that would ameliorate the FFA insurance crisis.</p>



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Irene Garcia	<p>My name is Irene Garcia and I am the Intensive Services Foster Care -Social worker(ISFC-SW0 at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Isabel Rodriguez	
Jackie Jakob	<p>My name is Jackie Jakob, and I am the Foster Care and Adoptions Director for Trinity Youth Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Jeff Farber	<p>My name is Jeff Farber and I am the Executive Director of Helpline Youth Counseling. Our organization provides youth and families, including those connected with FFAs, with behavioral health (mental health and substance use treatment), family counseling, leadership development, resource support, and economic opportunities. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I am deeply troubled by the FFA insurance crisis that could negatively impact the nearly 1,600 children served by FFAs in L.A. County today. Furthermore, if the underlying insurability problems go unaddressed, I am concerned that non-profit human services organizations will not be able to continue to step up to serve communities. I respectfully ask that Los Angeles County continue to support and advocate for long-term solutions that will prevent the placement disruption and irrevocable loss of services for children, and prevent the insurance crisis from spreading across systems.</p>
Jerry R Johnson	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors, Koinonia Family Services strongly supports the motion introduced by</p>



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	<p>Supervisors Barger and Horvath to allocate \$1 million in one-time funding for the L.A. County Foster Family Agency (FFA) Insurance Stipend Program. As one of California's largest nonprofit providers of foster care, adoption, wraparound, and family support services, we have seen firsthand how the insurance crisis is destabilizing FFAs at a time when children and youth most need safe and supportive homes. Rising insurance costs threaten the ability of FFAs to recruit and retain resource families, directly impacting placement stability and permanency outcomes for vulnerable youth.</p> <p>This motion is a critical step toward immediate relief for agencies like ours. However, it is equally important that long-term solutions continue to be pursued at both the state and local levels so that FFAs can sustain their essential role in serving children and families.</p> <p>We are grateful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisors in recognizing this urgent issue and urge adoption of this motion. Koinonia Family Services stands ready to partner with the County and our fellow providers to ensure that every child in Los Angeles County has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. I am based in Modesto California, but a move like this will help our entire agency.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Jerry Johnson Central California Program Director</p>
Jill Mattinson-Cruz	
Laura Richardson	<p>Koinonia Family Services strongly supports the motion introduced by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to allocate \$1 million in one-time funding for the L.A. County Foster Family Agency (FFA) Insurance Stipend Program. As one of California's largest nonprofit providers of foster care, adoption, wraparound, and family support services, we have seen firsthand how the insurance crisis is destabilizing FFAs at a time when children and youth most need safe and supportive homes. Rising insurance costs threaten the ability of FFAs to recruit and retain resource families, directly impacting placement stability and permanency outcomes for vulnerable youth.</p> <p>This motion is a critical step toward immediate relief for agencies like ours. However, it is equally important that long-term solutions continue to be pursued at both the state and local levels so that FFAs can sustain their essential role in serving children and families.</p> <p>We are grateful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisors in recognizing this urgent issue and urge adoption of this motion. Koinonia Family Services stands ready to partner with the County and our fellow providers to ensure that every child in Los Angeles County has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Laura Richardson Compliance Manager Koinonia Family Services</p>
Laura J De La Cruz	<p>This funding is vital for foster care agencies to continue to support and care for our most vulnerable children.</p>
MARIA MONTES DE	



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OCA	
Marisol Mayeshiro	<p>My name is Marisol, and I am the Social Worker at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
MYRON D QUON	<p>Testimony of Myron Dean Quon, Esq.</p> <p>Resource Parent and CEO, Pacific Asian Counseling Services (for identification only)</p> <p>Good afternoon Supervisors,</p> <p>My name is Myron Dean Quon. I am a resource parent, and my husband and I fostered—then adopted—our two boys. I also serve as the Chief Executive Officer of Pacific Asian Counseling Services, though I am here today speaking in my personal capacity as a foster parent who has directly experienced the foster care system.</p> <p>Although we did not work with a Foster Family Agency (FFA) ourselves, we know many other resource parents who did, and we have seen the difference it makes. In our case, we endured more than four years of incredibly difficult experiences with DCFS. During that time, our family was assigned more than a dozen different DCFS social workers. The turnover was constant, and with each new worker, we had to start from the beginning. These staff members were not consistently trained, and many were dismissive, manipulative, or even openly homophobic toward our family. Instead of centering the needs of our children, DCFS staff often treated them like case files to be processed quickly, rather than children with unique needs and vulnerabilities.</p> <p>The problems were not limited to bureaucracy or inefficiency—they had a direct and harmful impact on our children. For example, one social worker attempted to question our special needs child about sexual behavior, despite the fact that he could not comprehend those questions. This was clearly a "check-the-box" exercise, done to satisfy paperwork requirements rather than to support our child. It disregarded the risk of trauma and showed no understanding of his developmental needs.</p> <p>We also experienced repeated failures in supervised visits with biological</p>



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

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parents. The visits were poorly monitored, unsafe, and did little to support our children's well-being or family stability. At one point, DCFS staff actively tried to pressure us into making legal decisions that were not right for our family. Specifically, they tried to push us into adopting both boys or accepting guardianship for both, rather than respecting our older son's wishes to maintain his legal connection to his biological parents. It was only because the Children's Law Center stepped in, providing an independent social worker, that we were able to stop DCFS from misrepresenting the situation and prevent them from forcing an outcome that was not in our children's best interests.

These experiences left us shaken, but we also know we are not alone. Many families have faced similar obstacles when navigating DCFS without the support of an FFA. By contrast, our fellow resource parents who worked through FFAs consistently report far more positive experiences. FFAs are staffed by experts who understand both the foster care system and the unique needs of children and families. They provide stability, continuity, and accountability, ensuring that children are not reduced to paperwork and that resource parents are not left to battle bureaucracy on their own. In many cases, FFAs are the only safeguard against the types of failures we experienced with DCFS.

That is why the current insurance crisis threatening the operation of FFAs is so alarming. If FFAs are forced to close or scale back services, children will be left entirely at the mercy of a system that is already overburdened and, too often, harmful. Families like mine, who are willing to open their homes and hearts to children, will face greater stress, less support, and fewer protections against bureaucratic misconduct. And most importantly, children—who already endure so much instability—will suffer needlessly.

For all these reasons, I respectfully urge the Board to take action by supporting the proposed \$1 million stipend to help FFAs cover the steep increases in insurance premiums. This immediate relief is necessary to ensure that FFAs can continue their vital work without disruption.

Beyond this emergency support, I also encourage the Board to continue advocating for broader county and state-level solutions to stabilize and protect FFAs for the long term.

FFAs are not simply another part of the foster care system—they are often the difference between children receiving care that is truly centered on their well-being versus being lost in bureaucracy. The stakes are measured in the safety, stability, and futures of real children, like my sons, who deserve nothing less than a system that places their needs first.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to the children and families of Los Angeles County.

Naomi Andrews

On behalf of the Association of Community Human Service Agencies (ACHSA), whose membership includes 87 non-profit organizations serving



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individuals and communities throughout Los Angeles County, I am writing in strong support of this motion. Thank you, Supervisor Barger and Supervisor Horvath, for your bold follow through to implement solutions and continue state level advocacy to address the Foster Family Agency insurance crisis, and thank you to the entire Board of Supervisors for your commitment and track record of supporting children and families.

Foster Family Agencies are a critical component of the continuum of care for children in the child welfare system. In addition to recruiting, training, and approving resource parents, FFAs provide 24/7 support to resource families. They make sure that children are safe in resource family homes and partner with birth and resource families, children, and DCFS to navigate complex service systems. FFAs facilitate reunification, including supporting family visitation and birth parent-resource parent relationships, and, as dually licensed adoption agencies, achieve permanency for children who cannot reunify. DCFS is simply not equipped to support their approved resource parents in this same holistic way.

Over the past year, the L.A. County system of care has lost high-quality experienced FFAs and stands to lose an increasingly larger number of FFAs, and its diverse array of FFA options, in the absence of solutions to the insurance crisis. Alternate insurance options for FFAs have emerged but these options are significantly more expensive. Our FFAs are dedicated to finding a way to continue serving children and families, but they cannot be sustained without access to alternate insurance and financial support in the short-term, and the resolution of the serious underlying insurability issues at the heart of this crisis in the long-term. Looking into the future, it is important to understand that these underlying insurability problems must be addressed and/or the state rates must be adjusted to account for increased insurance costs in order to maintain FFAs and other community-based programs for children and families.

ACHSA expresses gratitude to the Board of Supervisors for your continued attention to this problem. We are firmly committed to supporting further efforts and advocacy that must take place to maintain the full continuum of care in L.A. County.

Norma A Duque

My name is [NAME], and I am the [TITLE] at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of



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	children and families.
Ofelia Medina	My name is Ofelia Medina, and I am the Director of Operations at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.
Paulina Saravia	My name is Paulina Saravia, and I am the Intensive Services Foster Care Social Worker at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.
Roxanna Y Borjon	Many of the FFA's were affected with this change and the stipend can help with some of the high costs insurances are charging FFA's.
Stephanie Rios	
Susan Sandoval	My name is Susan Sandoval, and I am the Program Development Manager at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.



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Tania Leon	<p>My name is Tania Leon, and I am a recruiting counselor at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Tony Williams	<p>My name is Tony Williams, and I am the CFO at Haynes Family of Programs & David and Margaret Youth and Family Serv. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement County support and State level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. Our organization is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we need financial support in the short and long term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues. Over the past year, we have lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs agencies that provide needed services to children and families in L.A. County.</p>
Veronica Vasquez	<p>My name is Veronica Vasquez, and I am the Mental Health Head of Service at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
Wendy W Wang	<p>Honorable Supervisors, Sycamores is writing to urge your support for the Board motion before you, co-authored by Supervisors Barger and Horvath. In the last approximately two years, you have taken prior actions responding to the unprecedented insurance crisis facing Foster Family Agencies (FFAs). Since its establishment over 120 years ago, Sycamores has remained committed to serving youth and caregivers who are in the foster care system or on the verge of entering the foster care system. Late last summer/early fall, the Nonprofit Insurance Alliance of California (NIAC) issued a notice of non-renewal coverage for Sycamores' FFA. Afterwards, Sycamores scrambled to analyze options offered by alternative</p>

				<p>insurance carriers; however, the other insurance premiums were exorbitant and unsustainable given the insufficient FFA reimbursement rate. Finally, with great sadness, Sycamores made the difficult decision to close its FFA. This experience and core belief that the full continuum of care, including Foster Family Agency services, should be available to youth and caregivers compels Sycamores to write and ask for your vote to advance this Board motion.</p> <p>Although the enacted state budget included one-time funds for FFAs, the passage of this Board motion (which would allocate \$1 million to assist LA County's FFAs) is an important signal to other counties to prioritize their respective FFAs. Lastly, Sycamores wants to underscore that CA's Department of Social Services must facilitate ongoing conversations with insurance carriers, FFAs, counties' child welfare departments, and other stakeholders to identify a long-term solution to sustain the important work of Foster Family Agencies; without any long-term solution, the well-being of thousands of foster youth and caregivers statewide will be at risk.</p>
			Yolanda M Valdez	<p>My name is Yolanda Valdez, and I am the Resource Family Coordinator at Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state-level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis. I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County. Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term. Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County. I respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.</p>
		Item Total	43	
Grand Total			43	

\$1 million in one-time funding for the L.A. County Foster Family Agency (FFA) Insurance Stipend Program

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Koinonia Family Services strongly supports the motion introduced by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to allocate \$1 million in one-time funding for the L.A. County Foster Family Agency (FFA) Insurance Stipend Program.

As one of California's largest nonprofit providers of foster care, adoption, wraparound, and family support services, we have seen firsthand how the insurance crisis is destabilizing FFAs at a time when children and youth most need safe and supportive homes. Rising insurance costs threaten the ability of FFAs to recruit and retain resource families, directly impacting placement stability and permanency outcomes for vulnerable youth.

This motion is a critical step toward immediate relief for agencies like ours. However, it is equally important that long-term solutions continue to be pursued at both the state and local levels so that FFAs can sustain their essential role in serving children and families.

We are grateful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisors in recognizing this urgent issue and urge adoption of this motion. Koinonia Family Services stands ready to partner with the County and our fellow providers to ensure that every child in Los Angeles County has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Richardson
Compliance Manager
Koinonia Family Services

Eggleston Youth Centers, Inc.
Healing. Hope. Resiliency.

256 West Badillo Street, Covina, CA 91723

(626) 480-8107 (office) (626) 480-7688 (fax)

Stephanie Rios
Compliance Officer
Eggleston Youth Centers, Inc.

256 W. Badillo Ave.
Covina, CA 91723
626-480-8107

August 29th, 2025

Hello,

My name is Stephanie Rios, and I am with Eggleston Youth Centers, Inc. I strongly support the motion by Supervisors Barger and Horvath to implement county support and state level advocacy related to the FFA insurance crisis.

I deeply appreciate the Supervisors' continued recognition of the critical role Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) like ours play in serving the children and families of Los Angeles County.

Our FFA is dedicated to finding a way to continue operating, but we cannot be sustained without access to financial support in the short-term and the resolution of the underlying insurability issues in the long-term.

Over the past year, the system has lost and will continue to lose high-quality experienced FFAs, resulting in disruption and trauma to the nearly 1,600 children and families served by FFAs in L.A. County.

The loss of FFAs would have a strong negative impact to the system. Most importantly, youth will have no place to go. We kindly ask the Board of Supervisors to approve this motion in order to maintain a robust continuum of care for thousands of children and families.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rios

Stephanie Rios
Administrative Assistant

Testimony of Myron Dean Quon, Esq.

Resource Parent and CEO, Pacific Asian Counseling Services (for identification only)

Good afternoon Supervisors,

My name is Myron Dean Quon. I am a resource parent, and my husband and I fostered—then adopted—our two boys. I also serve as the Chief Executive Officer of Pacific Asian Counseling Services, though I am here today speaking in my personal capacity as a foster parent who has directly experienced the foster care system.

Although we did not work with a Foster Family Agency (FFA) ourselves, we know many other resource parents who did, and we have seen the difference it makes. In our case, we endured more than four years of incredibly difficult experiences with DCFS. During that time, our family was assigned more than a dozen different DCFS social workers. The turnover was constant, and with each new worker, we had to start from the beginning. These staff members were not consistently trained, and many were dismissive, manipulative, or even openly homophobic toward our family. Instead of centering the needs of our children, DCFS staff often treated them like case files to be processed quickly, rather than children with unique needs and vulnerabilities.

The problems were not limited to bureaucracy or inefficiency—they had a direct and harmful impact on our children. For example, one social worker attempted to question our special needs child about sexual behavior, despite the fact that he could not comprehend those questions. This was clearly a “check-the-box” exercise, done to satisfy paperwork requirements rather than to support our child. It disregarded the risk of trauma and showed no understanding of his developmental needs.

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For all these reasons, I respectfully urge the Board to take action by supporting the proposed **\$1 million stipend** to help FFAs cover the steep increases in insurance premiums. This immediate relief is necessary to ensure that FFAs can continue their vital work without disruption. Beyond this emergency support, I also encourage the Board to continue advocating for broader county and state-level solutions to stabilize and protect FFAs for the long term.

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