



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

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



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BRANDON T. NICHOLS
Director

JENNIE FERIA
Chief Deputy Director

December 09, 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 APPROVE SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY
TREATMENT FACILITY SERVICES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), and the Probation Department (Probation) request your Board's approval to execute a Sole Source Contract with Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services (Vista Del Mar), and for DCFS and DMH to execute a Sole Source Contract with Star View Children and Family Services (Star View) for the provision of Community Treatment Facility (CTF) services, effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, with an option to extend for two additional one-year periods through December 31, 2030.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Directors of DCFS and DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to execute contracts in substantially similar form to Attachment A and Attachment B, for the provision of CTF services effective January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2028. The County will have the sole option to extend the term of the contracts for up to two one-year renewal options, through December 31, 2030. The Maximum Contract Sum for Vista Del Mar, including the two one-year options, will be \$5,189,400, financed using 21 percent State DMH funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds, 60 percent net County cost (NCC) and 10 percent Probation Intra-Funds Transfer funds. The Maximum Contract Sum for Star View, including the two one-year options, will be \$6,750,000, financed using 21 percent DMH State funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds and 70 percent NCC. DMH State funds for both contracts should not exceed \$500,000 annually.
2. Delegate authority to the Directors of DCFS, DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their

designees, to execute amendments to the contracts for changes to the scope of work as necessary to meet program needs, to change the terms and conditions in the contracts, and/or to increase or decrease the amounts of the contracts not to exceed 10 percent of the annual contract sums for changes in the volume of services, provided that: (a) such amendments are consistent with applicable federal, State, and County requirements, (b) prior approval of County Counsel is obtained, and (c) the Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) are notified within 10 days of executing such amendments.

3. Delegate authority to the Directors of DCFS, DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to terminate the Agreements described in Recommendation One in accordance with the termination provisions, including Termination for Convenience. The Directors of DCFS and DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, will notify the Board and CEO, in writing, of such termination action.

4. Delegate authority to the Directors of DCFS, DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to exercise the two one-year extension options by written notice or amendment provided that: a) sufficient funding is available; b) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to execution of such amendment(s); and c) the Director of DCFS and DMH, and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, notifies the Board and the CEO, in writing, within ten business days of after executing such amendment(s).

5. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or their designee, to extend contract by amendment or written notice for a period not to exceed six months beyond December 31, 2030, if such additional time is necessary to complete the negotiation of a new contract provided that: a) the cost of living adjustment is not included; b) sufficient funding is available for the extension; c) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to executing the extension; and d) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO, in writing, within ten business of written notification's execution.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The current CTF contracts will expire on December 31, 2025 and new contracts are required in order to continue the provision of CTF services. The recommended actions will enable the County to continue providing CTF services to seriously emotionally disturbed children who are placed in the care and custody of DCFS and Probation Child Welfare (PCW).

Vista Del Mar and Star View are the only facilities licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide CTF services in Los Angeles County. CTF services are needed for the placement of children and youth who require higher levels of service than those provided by Group Home Rate Classification Level (RCL 14) or Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) and are the only secure residential group setting available for children, outside of a psychiatric hospital. CTF residential facilities provide intensive mental health treatment services to children and youth in a setting with the capacity to provide secure containment. The CTF provides the safest, most-structured setting with the highest staff ratios for children and youth with the most severe psychiatric and behavioral problems who are often deemed dangerous to themselves and others. Only children and youth who volunteer or are under conservatorship may be placed in a CTF. Each child/youth in a CTF has a designated treatment team that collaborates with the child and family team to address the trauma and underlying needs of each child/youth. The treatment team discusses and formulates the behavior management and intervention plans to which each child/youth best responds.

Children/youth placed in CTFs have previously experienced psychiatric hospitalizations as the result of behaviors that have been deemed dangerous to themselves and others. Due to CTFs being the highest level of care, the State has indicated that the CTF rate is the same as the STRTP rate.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support North Star 1, Focus Area Goal A, Healthy Individuals & Families, Strategy iii, Behavioral, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Maximum Contract Sum for Vista Del Mar, including the two one-year options, is \$5,189,400, financed using 21 percent DMH State funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds, 60 percent NCC and 10 percent Probation Intra-Funds Transfer funds. The Maximum Contract Sum for Star View, including the two one-year options, is \$6,750,000, financed using 21 percent DMH State funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds and 70 percent NCC.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Vista Del Mar and Star View will continue to provide CTF placement services for DCFS, DMH, and PCW children and youth with severe psychiatric and behavioral problems. CTF services are geared towards the care and treatment of seriously emotionally disturbed children and youth, primarily through the dependency and juvenile court system. Star View and Vista Del Mar are the only two facilities licensed by CDSS to provide these specialized services in the State of California.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The DCFS requested approval from CDSS on February 27, 2025, for procurement by negotiation with Vista del Mar and Star View and approval for a five-year contract term. CDSS approved the request on March 27, 2025. Board policy 5.100, Sole Source Contracts and Amendments, requires a department to notify the Board be if it intends to negotiate a new sole source contract. On June 16, 2025, DCFS notified the Board of its intent to negotiate sole source contracts with Vista del Mar and Star View for CTF services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Vista Del Mar and Star View are the only facilities licensed by the CDSS to provide CTF services in Los Angeles County. Approval of these contracts will allow the contractors to continue providing intensive mental health treatment services to children and youth in a setting with the capacity to provide secure containment. The CTF provides the safest, most-structured setting with the highest staff ratios for children and youth with the most severe psychiatric and behavioral problems who are often deemed dangerous to themselves and others.

CONCLUSION

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

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

12/9/2025

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Respectfully submitted,



BRANDON T. NICHOLS

Director



GUILLERMO VIERA ROSA

Chief Probation Officer

BTN:JF:CMM:RW:LTISS:tn

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Probation Department
Department of Mental Health



LISA H. WONG, Psy.D.

Director

SOLE SOURCE CHECKLIST

Department Name: _____

- New Sole Source Contract
- Sole Source Amendment to Existing Contract

Date Existing Contract First Approved: _____

Check (✓)	JUSTIFICATION FOR SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS Identify applicable justification and provide documentation for each checked item.
	➤ 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>
	➤ Compliance with applicable statutory and/or regulatory provisions.
	➤ Compliance with State and/or federal programmatic requirements.
	➤ Services provided by other public or County-related entities.
	➤ Services are needed to address an emergent or related time-sensitive need.
	➤ The service provider(s) is required under the provisions of a grant or regulatory requirement.
	➤ Services are needed during the time period required to complete a solicitation for replacement services; provided services are needed for no more than 12 months from the expiration of an existing contract which has no available option periods.
	➤ 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.
	➤ Maintenance service agreements exist on equipment which must be serviced by the original equipment manufacturer or an authorized service representative.
	➤ It is more cost-effective to obtain services by exercising an option under an existing contract.
	➤ 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.

Chief Executive Office

Date

Sole Source Justification

1. What is being requested?

We are requesting approval to execute new Community Treatment Facility (CTF) contracts with Star View Children and Family Services (Star View) and Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services (Vista Del Mar). New contracts are needed to continue providing CTF services.

The proposed contract terms are from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2028, with two one-year options to extend through December 31, 2030.

2. Why is the product (service) needed – how will it be used?

Both facilities have very safe and structured settings with the highest staff-to-child ratio for youth with the most severe psychiatric and behavioral problems. Only youth who volunteer or are under conservatorship could be placed in a CTF. These youth have often experienced psychiatric hospitalizations as the result of behaviors that have been deemed dangerous to themselves and others. These acute behaviors have typically increased in frequency and intensity. Star View is a facility that has the capacity to provide secure and locked containment for youth with very high needs.

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

Yes. These two CTFs are the only two certified by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing Department (CCLD) in the County of Los Angeles. Star View is one of the two residential group settings available outside of a psychiatric hospital for seriously emotionally disturbed children/youth.

4. Have other products or vendors been considered?

No. Currently in Los Angeles County, there are no other programs that deliver such a robust set of services in a locked facility for high-risk youth.

5. Will purchase of this product avoid other costs?

Yes, participants or recipients receive treatment and supportive services that can reduce the number of hospitalizations, constant placement disruptions, and the cost to the County. This approach is also consistent with the Department's outcome goals of well-being and safety, and enhancing the opportunity for self-sufficiency.

6. Is this service available from other providers?

Only these two facilities are licensed by CDSS to provide CTF services in Los Angeles County. CTF services are needed for the placement of children and youth who require a higher level of services than those provided by the Group Home Rate Classification Level (RCL 14) or the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) and are the only secure residential group setting available for children, outside of a psychiatric hospital.

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

The County does not obtain a percentage discount or a discount not available to the private sector.

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

NA



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DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

June 26, 2025

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Janice Hahn

From: 
Brandon T. Nichols
Director

NOTICE OF INTENT TO NEGOTIATE SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS WITH STAR VIEW CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES, INC. AND VISTA DEL MAR CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY TREATMENT FACILITY SERVICES

In compliance with Board Policy 5.100, Sole Source Contracts, this is to notify the Board that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) intends to commence negotiations with Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services (Vista Del Mar) and Star View Children and Family Services (Star View) to provide Community Treatment Facility (CTF) services.

The anticipated contract term for the new contracts with Vista Del Mar and Star View will be for three years, starting on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, with an option to extend the term of the contracts for two additional one-year terms. The Maximum Contract Amount for Vista Del Mar will be \$5,189,400, financed using 21 percent Department of Mental Health (DMH) State funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds, 60 percent net County cost (NCC) and 10 percent Probation Intra-Funds Transfer funds. The Maximum Contract Amount for Star View will be \$6,750,000, financed using 21 percent DMH State funds, nine percent 2011 State Realignment funds and 70 percent NCC.

A CTF is certified by the California Department of Health Care Services and licensed by the California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Department. A CTF is the only residential group setting available outside of a psychiatric hospital for seriously emotionally disturbed children/youth. As a facility that has the capacity to provide secure and locked containment, CTF provides one of the safest, most structured

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Each Supervisor

June 26, 2025

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settings with the highest staff-to-child ratios for youth with the most severe psychiatric and behavioral problems. Only youth who volunteer or are under conservatorship can be placed in a CTF. These youth have often experienced psychiatric hospitalizations as the result of behaviors that have been deemed dangerous to themselves and others. These acute behaviors have typically increased in frequency and intensity.

If you have any questions, you may contact me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 371-6052, or via email at marina@dcs.lacounty.gov.

BTN:JF:CMM:RW

LTI:SS:TN:sb

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