

# INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

## County of Los Angeles



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UCLA Health System SCAN Team

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Director, Mental Health

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
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DEANNE TILTON DURFEE  
Executive Director

Dear Supervisors:

## **REQUEST TO APPROVE A SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT TO EXTEND A CONTRACT WITH THE JOE TORRE SAFE AT HOME FOUNDATION (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

The Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) requests the Board's approval of a sole source amendment to extend a contract with Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation for Margaret's Place sites at Venice High School and Washington Preparatory High School to allow sufficient time to complete a solicitation for a new contract.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Delegate authority to the Director of Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), or designee, to execute an amendment to extend its contract with Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation, substantially similar to Attachment I, effective April 9, 2026 through April 8, 2027, with an option for the County to extend for one more year. The Maximum Annual Contract amount is \$276,000, financed using 100 percent Assembly Bill 2994 funds. Funding is included in the DCFS' Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Final Adopted Budget and will be included in subsequent budget requests.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to exercise the option to extend the contract by written notice or amendment for an additional one-year term ending on April 8, 2028, provided that: a) sufficient funding is available; b) County Counsel approval is obtained; and c) DCFS notifies the Board and the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in writing, within ten (10) business days of the written notice execution.





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3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to amend the contract to increase or decrease the Maximum Annual Contract amount up to 10 percent when such change is necessitated by additional services, provided that: a) sufficient funding is available; b) County Counsel approval is obtained; and c) DCFS notifies the Board and CEO, in writing, within ten (10) business days after execution of such amendment.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to the contract for changes to the terms and conditions of the contract to meet program needs, provided that: a) prior County Counsel approval is granted; and b) the Director of DCFS, or designee, notifies the Board and the CEO, in writing, within ten (10) business days after execution of such amendment.
5. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to terminate the contract for convenience or contractor default, provided that: a) County Counsel approval is obtained; and b) DCFS notifies the Board and CEO, in writing, within ten (10) business days after the termination of the contract.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The recommended actions will allow the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation to continue providing clinical educational awareness, prevention and intervention services to address domestic and relationship violence and child abuse to students and educators.

The current contract will expire on April 8, 2026, and an extension is needed to complete a solicitation process for a new contract.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan. Strategy I, Make Investments That Transform Lives, and specifically Strategy I.1, Increase our Focus on Prevention Initiatives, as the program provides domestic and child abuse interventions, education and prevention. It is designed to minimize the risk that school-aged youth experience when exposed to violence.





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### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Maximum Annual Contract amount is \$276,000, financed using 100 percent Assembly Bill 2994 funds. Funding is included in DCFS' FY 2026-2027 Budget and will be included in subsequent years budget requests.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

ICAN selected The Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation's Margaret's Place Program to provide clinical counseling to students impacted by domestic and relationship violence as well as child abuse. The goal is to educate students, parents, school personnel, and surrounding community members about the long-lasting trauma that can result from exposure to abuse with an aim to end the cycle of violence. The Joe Torre Foundation entered into a contract with the DCFS to establish a Margaret's Place site at Venice High School in 2015 and extended the program to include George Washington Preparatory High School in 2017. The Margaret's Place school-based intervention/prevention model provides a safe space, counseling, crisis intervention, classroom psycho-educational curricula, peer leadership, awareness campaigns, and resources to youth in underserved communities exposed to or at high-risk of exposure to domestic violence, child abuse, relationship abuse, and related interpersonal violence.

County Counsel and the CEO have reviewed this Board letter. County Counsel has approved the amendment (Attachment I) as to form.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On July 30, 2025, DCFS released a Request for Information to gain familiarity with the current market and gather general information related to the provision of child abuse and domestic violence prevention and intervention school-based programs, which resulted in responses from potential interested vendors who indicated that they are providing similar services.

Therefore, ICAN requests the Board's approval to extend the current Joe Torre contract to provide sufficient time to initiate and complete a competitive solicitation.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

The Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation's Margaret's Place program has made a significant impact in the lives of young people helping them to overcome their fears and end the cycle of violence that so often continues through generations. As a result



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of the services provided, students state that they feel safer, find it easier to talk to someone instead of keeping things to themselves, feel more confident and are more hopeful about their future.

The program supports child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment activities to help protect the families and children of Los Angeles County and provides services to a target population that is at high-risk of being harmed by family violence. These services help to ameliorate the traumatic effects that school-aged children experience as a result of their exposure to child abuse, family violence, violence at school and in their communities.

**CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board send an adopted stamped copy of the adopted Board letter and attachments to the Department of Children and Family Services. and the County of Los Angeles Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deanne Tilton Durfee".

Deanne Tilton Durfee, Doc.hc  
Executive Director  
Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect

DTD:tg;ps:es

- c: Brandon T. Nichols, Director, DCFS  
District Attorney Nathan Hochman, ICAN Co-Chairperson  
Sheriff Robert Luna, ICAN Co-Chairperson





**AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE**

**CONTRACT NUMBER 21-0021**

**WITH**

**JOE TORRE SAFE AT HOME FOUNDATION FOR  
MARGARET'S PLACE SITES AT VENICE AND GEORGE WASHINGTON  
PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOLS**

**AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE  
JOE TORRE SAFE AT HOME FOUNDATION FOR  
MARGARET'S PLACE SITES AT VENICE AND GEORGE WASHINGTON  
HIGH SCHOOLS CONTRACT NUMBER 21-0021**

This Amendment Number Three (Amendment) to the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation for Margaret's Place Sites at Venice and George Washington High School Contract (Contract) between the County of Los Angeles (County), and Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation (Contractor), is made and entered into by and between the County of Los Angeles (County), and Los Angeles County Office of Education (Contractor), on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

**WHEREAS**, County and Contractor are parties to the Contract adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2021, and Contractor has been providing County services to provide services to students and parents about the long lasting trauma that can result from child abuse and domestic violence and to work toward ending the cycle of violence to the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this Amendment is to extend the contract term for one year effective April 9, 2026 through April 8, 2027; and

**WHEREAS**, this Amendment is prepared pursuant to the provisions set forth in Standard Terms and Conditions section 8.1, Amendments;

**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 4.0, Term of Contract, Subsections 4.1.4 and 4.1.5 are added to read as follows:**

4.1.4 The term of the contract shall be extended for one year, beginning April 9, 2026, through April 8, 2027, unless terminated earlier or extended, in whole or in part, as provided in this Contract.

4.1.5 County shall have the sole option to extend the contract, by written notice or amendment, to extend the contract for one year, beginning April 9, 2027, through April 8, 2028, as provided in this Contract.

**2. Standard Terms and Conditions, Section 5.0, Contract Sum, Subsections 5.1.5 and 5.1.6 are added to read as follows:**

5.1.5 The Maximum Annual Contract Sum for the contract period of April 9, 2026, to April 8, 2027, shall not exceed \$276,000.

5.1.6 The Maximum Annual Contract Sum for the contract period of April 9, 2027, to April 8, 2028, shall not exceed \$276,000.

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

**AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE  
JOE TORRE SAFE AT HOME FOUNDATION ESTABLISHMENT OF  
MARGARET'S PLACE SITES AT VENICE AND GEORGE WASHINGTON  
HIGH SCHOOLS CONTRACT NUMBER 21-0021**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Amendment Number Three to be subscribed on its behalf by the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Contractor has caused this Amendment Number Three 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 Contract warrant(s) under penalty of perjury that he or she is authorized to bind the Contractor in or to this Contract. 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

Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon T. Nichols, Director  
Department of Children and Family  
Services

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
David Beaudet, Senior Deputy County Counsel