

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Family and Social Services

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer



DATE: Wednesday, February 24, 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM

DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF ALL COUNTY BUILDINGS, MEETING PARTICIPANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL NEED TO CALL IN TO PARTICIPATE:

Teleconference Call-In Number: (323) 776-6996/ Conference ID: 599 009 090#

AGENDA

Members of the Public may address agenda item. Three (3) minutes are allowed for each item.

- I. Call to Order
- II. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
 - a. **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)/ Department of Mental Health/ Probation:** Family Urgent Response System for Foster Caregivers and Children/Youth.
 - b. **DCFS:** Request to Approve a Contract Extension with Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles for Emergency Child Care Services- Bridge Program.
 - c. **DCFS:** Recommendation to Approve Amendment Two to the Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract with Delta-T Group Los Angeles.
 - d. **DCFS:** Request for Approval to Increase the Maximum Annual Contract Amount for Seven Family Preservation Services Contracts.
- III. Items continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.

IV. Public Comment

V. Adjournment



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

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

Board of Supervisors

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Fifth District

BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

GINGER PRYOR
Chief Deputy Director

March 9, 2021

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 A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH CHILD CARE
ALLIANCE OF LOS ANGELES (CCALA) FOR EMERGENCY CHILD CARE SERVICES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests your Board's approval to amend the Sole Source Contract with Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles (CCALA) for the provision and coordination of child care services as part of the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program beyond the original Contract term.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute an amendment substantially similar to Attachment A, to the Contract with CCALA. The amendment will extend the Contract for a term of two and one-half months as justified per Board Policy 5.100 in Attachment B, Sole Source Checklist. The term will be effective April 15, 2021, upon the Director's execution, and shall expire June 30, 2021. The contract sum for the term is \$3,332,104, financed by 96 percent State funding, \$3,206,629, and 4 percent net County cost (NCC), \$125,475. The Director will notify the Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in writing within 10 business days after execution.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The lack of access to child care is one of the top barriers to finding homes for young foster children, and is especially acute for relative caregivers who answer the call to

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take in a child at short notice. When children are removed from their parents due to abuse and neglect, they are in crisis and need a safe, loving family environment. For the young foster child, high-quality child care is also critical as they are most at-risk for developmental delays, poor academic outcomes, and social-emotional issues that can be mitigated or prevented through effective early care. The services provided by this contract allow access to child care for local resource families who work and request child care in order to accept new or the continued placements of young children. Assisting these resource families with child care will result in placement stability for the children and increased caregiver recruitment and retention.

Since the implementation of the State's Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children (Bridge Program) became effective January 1, 2018, DCFS elected to execute the Emergency Child Care Bridge Services (Bridge) contract within the last six months of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018, to utilize the allocated funds immediately, as the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) confirmed that the Program was on a fiscal cash-basis method, and reallocation of unspent funds to the following fiscal year was not an option. This action resulted in DCFS having to seek the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' approval to execute the Bridge Services contract with CCALA to assist DCFS with the management of the Program. CCALA is responsible for the administration, oversight, and operations of the services provided by its eight (8) Resource and Referral (R&R) agencies and three (3) Alternative Placement Program (APP) agency subcontractors in Los Angeles County. The local R&R and APP agencies provide services countywide for navigator services, trauma informed training, and child care services (voucher), which the R&R agencies then subcontract with the various child care providers. This Contract was executed and became effective April 15, 2018.

As a result, the current contract term does not align with the fiscal year by two and one-half months, impacting fiscal tracking of allocation, reallocation, and expenses as the County supplements for services are not authorized by the State's Bridge Program. CDSS approved DCFS' request to realign the Contract with the biennial opt-in period to ensure that all funds, programmatic requirements, tracking of funding allocations, reallocations, and expenses meet the Bridge Program (Senate Bill 89) requirements, to minimize errors to the contract's budget from the State Bridge and County funds.

Implementation of Strategic Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategy I.1, Increase Our Focus on Prevention Initiatives, Objective I.1.1, Promote Supportive Parenting: Increase the number of vulnerable children and families touched by the County referred to the community-based network of Prevention/Aftercare providers.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The contract sum for the term, April 15, 2021, through June 30, 2021, is \$3,332,104 for FY 2020-21, financed by 96 percent State funding, \$3,206,629, and 4 percent NCC, \$125,475. Sufficient funding is in the DCFS FY 2020-21 Adopted Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Senate Bill 89 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2017) established the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children, which aims to: (1) increase the number of foster children successfully placed in home-based family care; (2) increase capacity of child care programs to meet the needs of foster children; and, (3) maximize existing local, state and federal child care funding to support the child care needs of resource families. All County Letters (ACL) 17-109 requires participating counties to enter into an agreement with local R&R Agencies to provide a child care navigator for families receiving a monthly voucher.

The Bridge Program consists of three components: (1) time-limited monthly payments or vouchers for emergency child care services; (2) child care navigator services; and, (3) trauma-informed care training and coaching offered to participating emergency child care providers.

DCFS submitted a Board Notification of Intent on October 30, 2020, in compliance with County of Los Angeles Code 5.100 (Sole Source Contracting Policy). DCFS needs child care placement options to expedite placements of young children in foster care while also maintaining children within their community of origin.

On November 17, 2020, DCFS received approval (Attachment C) from CDSS to extend the Sole Source Contract with CCALA beyond the original contract term.

The Department evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply. County employees cannot effectively perform these services because they require the development and utilization of resources that are not available in the County system.

County Counsel and the CEO have reviewed this Board Letter and Sole Source Checklist (Attachment B). County Counsel approved the amendment as to form (Attachment A).

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On October 30, 2020, DCFS notified the Board that it intended to extend this Sole Source Contract with CCALA for two and one-half months (Attachment D). The new

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Sole Source is anticipated to begin Contract negotiations January 2021 and execute the Contract by July 1, 2021.

On November 17, 2020, DCFS received approval from CDSS to extend the Sole Source Contract with CCALA. This vendor is uniquely qualified to comprehensively provide services specified in the Bridge Program and is in compliance with all Board, CEO, and County Counsel requirements.

Approval has been obtained by County Counsel and the CEO.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)


If the recommended actions are not approved, the County will not be able to align the current contract with the State's Bridge biennial opt-in period, impacting programmatic requirements, fiscal tracking of funding allocations, reallocations, and expense requirements of Senate Bill 89. This alignment will allow the County to close out the contract should funding expire without County having to supplement the expenditures.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of this request, please instruct the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board to send an adopted stamped copy of this Board letter to:

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

Respectfully submitted,



BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

BDC:GP:CMM
KDR:LTI:vf

Attachments

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



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

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BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

GINGER PRYOR
Chief Deputy Director

March 9, 2021

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

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TWO TO THE BEHAVIORAL AIDE
SERVICES FOR HIGH RISK YOUTH CONTRACT WITH
DELTA-T GROUP LOS ANGELES, INC.
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) seeks delegated authority to execute Amendment Two to Contract Number 18-0046 with Delta-T Group Los Angeles, Inc. (Delta-T) to increase the Maximum Annual Contract Amount by greater than ten percent to accommodate an increase in the utilization of services.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute an Amendment substantially similar to the attached Amendment to Contract Number 18-0046 with Delta-T to increase the Maximum Annual Contract Amount by \$400,000, from \$1,700,000 to \$2,100,000 for the Contract term effective May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021. This contract is financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds. Sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Adopted Budget.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

A subset of children under DCFS care have significant needs that have been exacerbated by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The prolonged health crisis and the required mandatory social distancing restrictions has caused an added strain to this fragile population that must be addressed with an increased level of supervision. The highest percentage of usage of the one-to-one contracted services based on newly

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approved referrals in the past six months was 38% for children placed at Community Treatment Facilities/Short Term Residential Treatment Programs (CTFs/STRTPs) and 28% for children placed in non-kinship resource family agencies (RFAs). In regards to hospitalized children, usage is typically low, but in October 2020, the number of new referrals increased by 44% when compared to the total number of referrals documented in that category for the past five months. Children are strongly affected by the unfortunate repercussions (loss of and reduction in contact with others) of adhering to the safety measures put in place by the government to slow down the spread of COVID-19. This subset of children requires additional support to stabilize their mental health and remain physically healthy.

DCFS is requesting an increase of \$400,000 to the \$1,700,000 annual allocation for a total budget of \$2,100,000 to prevent a drastic curtailment of much needed services due to COVID-19 when children must receive education through distance learning instead of having access to one-to-one services from the school district. Additionally, there are limited outside recreational activities available to youth, which has resulted in a significant amount of time in the home and placing an additional responsibility on the caregiver in managing behavior challenges. We have closely monitored the spending trends of this contract and upon close review of the last six months of provided services, the average monthly expenditures total \$160,328.33, which is approximately \$20,000 over the contractor's monthly budget. Due to the spike in new COVID-19 cases of exposures, citizen fatigue, government enforced curfews, the need for services has increased.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended actions are consistent with the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal No. 1, Make Investments That Transform Lives: Strategy 2, Deliver comprehensive and seamless services to those seeking assistance from the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Maximum Annual Contract Amount will be increased by \$400,000 from \$1,700,000 to \$2,100,000 for the Contract term effective May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021. This contract is financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds. Sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Adopted Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On April 9, 2019, the Board approved a contract with Delta-T to perform Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth.

On March 31, 2020, under delegated authority, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) approved the Board letter for Amendment One effective May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020, to increase the Maximum Annual Contract Amount by greater than ten percent to accommodate an increase in the utilization of services.

On January 13, 2021, in accordance with Board Policy No. 5.120, the Department notified the Board of its intent to request delegated authority to execute an amendment to increase Maximum Annual Contract Amount for an amount greater than ten percent.

The CEO and County Counsel have reviewed the Board letter and the amendment has been approved as to form by County Counsel.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Contracting Process is not required for this action.

CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE

The contractor met performance standards as outlined in the current Contract. The one-on-one services are renewed every 30 days and performance monitoring is evaluated by regional staff on a monthly basis who collaborate with the caregiver and team to evaluate if the services have been beneficial and there is a continued need prior to submitting a renewal of services.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Delta-T currently provides Behavioral Aide Services for one-on-one supervision to DCFS children when approved by a DCFS Deputy Director. These services are obtained for children who are difficult to place as an assurance to caregivers that they will not be without help or support from DCFS. Offering the Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth, the support services for the children has prevented placement disruptions, improved placement stability and has facilitated placements for many children.

The recommended actions will continue to provide a valuable tool for children who are unstable in placement, chronically assaultive to caregivers or other children, self-harming and destructive to property. This contract provides services where the children are located, for a specified number of hours, depending on the children's needs. Therefore, these services help prevent some placement disruptions, improve placement stability, facilitate placements for many children and help keep children safely with their caregivers during the pandemic. In addition, the contract also increases the use of program and performance monitoring to ensure the quality of the work performed.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
March 9, 2021
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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 Board letter and attachments to the Department of Children and Family Services:

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bobby D. Cagle", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

BDC:GP:CMM
KDR:LTI:EO:js

Attachment

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



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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Director

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Chief Deputy Director

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Fifth District

March 9, 2021

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

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM ANNUAL CONTRACT
AMOUNT FOR SEVEN FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES CONTRACTS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests your Board's approval to increase the maximum annual contract amount for seven Family Preservation (FP) contracts.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to increase the maximum annual contract amount for seven FP contracts for a total of \$216,788, effective upon execution of the contract amendments through June 30, 2021, substantially similar to Attachment A. The total increase is from reallocated Time Limited Family Reunification (TLFR) funds, financed by 100 percent Federal funding. Sufficient funding for these contract increases are included in the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Adopted Budget.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute FP contract amendments to incorporate changes as mandated by Federal, State, or County, provided funding is available. Approval of County Counsel will be obtained prior to the execution of such amendments, and DCFS will notify the Board in writing, within 10 business days of execution of the amendments.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to exercise the County's

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option to extend the FP contracts by written notice. Approval of County Counsel will be obtained prior to executing of such amendments, and DCFS will notify the Board in writing, within 10 business days of execution of the amendments.

4. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to prepare and extend amendments with FP providers to increase or decrease their maximum annual contract amounts by no more than 10 percent per year of their original Maximum Annual Contract Sum during the term of each of the contracts to accommodate increases or decreases to the units of services, provided: (a) the amendments do not include cost of living adjustments; (b) sufficient funding is available for increases; (c) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to executing the amendments; and (d) DCFS notifies the Board in writing, within 10 business days of execution of the amendments.
5. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to terminate FP contracts for contractor default. DCFS will notify the Board in writing, within 10 business days of execution of the amendments.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The FP program provides services, resources and support for DCFS and Probation families experiencing family functioning challenges which may contribute to child abuse, neglect or exploitation.

The funding increase will be used to provide additional units of service to mitigate extensive waitlists for FP services throughout the County.

Implementation of Los Angeles County's Strategic Plan Goals

These contracts are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal 1: Make Investments That Transform Lives, by increasing focus on prevention initiatives; enhancing delivery of comprehensive interventions, and reforming service delivery within the justice systems. This goal promotes supportive parenting by increasing the number of vulnerable children and families touched by the County referred to the community based network of Prevention/Aftercare providers.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total amount of this increase is \$216,788, financed using 100 percent of funds reallocated from the DCFS TLFR program, which is financed by 100 percent Federal funding. Sufficient funding for this increase is included in the Department's FY 2020-21 Adopted Budget. Please refer to Attachment B for detailed funding information.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The DCFS TLFR program under the Promoting Safe and Stable Families was projected to sunset on June 30, 2020. However, on May 27, 2020 the California Department of Social Services Office of Child Abuse Prevention granted approval of the Quality Improvement Plan, which included the request to reallocate TLFR funding to existing FP contracted providers.

The additional funding for six Wateridge and one Glendora Regional Office Service Areas contracts is \$216,788, which is above the DCFS Director's delegated authority to increase or decrease the annual maximum contract amount by no more than 10 percent. Thus, the Board's approval is required.

On September 29, 2020, the Board approved a previous funding increase for seven FP contracts in the Wateridge Regional Office Service Area that was above 10 percent of their maximum annual contract amounts. However, subsequently, those particular amendments were classified as sole source amendments, as required by revised Board Policy 5.100, Sole Source Contracts.

As such, in compliance with the revised Board Policy 5.100, Sole Source Contracts, DCFS notified the Board on February 17, 2021 of its intent to increase funding for seven FP contracts in the Wateridge and Glendora Regional Office Service Areas by more than 10 percent of the contract amount.

Attachment A, Amendment, has been approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The recommended actions will allow for continued FP services to be provided and mitigate extensive waitlists in the Wateridge and Glendora Regional Office Service Areas and throughout the County.

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 Board letter and attachments to the Department of Children and Family Services.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
March 9, 2021
Page 4

Respectfully submitted,

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BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

BDC:GP:CMM:KDR
LTI:AO:MB:ml

Attachments (2)

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