

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Family and Social Services

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer



DATE: Wednesday, March 3, 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/ Department of Mental Health/ Probation:** Continuum of Care Reform Update.
- II. Informational Items:
 - a. **Department of Public Social Services:** Request to Extend Contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education to Provide General Relief Opportunities for Work Program Support Services
- 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



ANTONIA JIMÉNEZ
Director

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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April 13, 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:

**RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND CONTRACT WITH
LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE
GENERAL RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK PROGRAM SUPPORT SERVICES
(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) seeks approval to extend the current contract for six (6) months with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to provide General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Program Support Services to the County's General Relief (GR) participants in seeking and obtaining employment. The current contract expires on June 30, 2021.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS, or designee, to prepare and execute an amendment, in substantially similar form as Enclosure I to extend the GROW Program Support contract, with LACOE, for a six-month period effective July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The maximum amount of the extension is \$1,249,755 and will be partially offset by CalFresh Employment and Training (CFET) funds.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS, or designee, to prepare and execute amendments to the contract for: a) instances which affect the scope of work, term, contract sum, payment terms, or any other term or condition in the contract; b) additions and/or changes required by the Board or Chief Executive Officer (CEO); c) changes to be in compliance with applicable county, state, and federal regulations; or d) increases or decreases of no more than ten (10) percent of the original contract amount based on contractor's performance, community needs, and funding availability. The approval of County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to

executing such amendments. The Director shall notify the Board within ten (10) business days of executing such amendments.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The GROW program offers employment and training services to employable and volunteer unemployable GR participants and is designed to help them obtain jobs and achieve self-sufficiency. Approval of this contract will allow the county to continue providing vital GROW Program Support Services such as specialized courses, recruitments throughout the county, and technical support and training for DPSS and other contractors. Some courses provided through the GROW Program to GR participants include Coordinating Access and Resources for Employment (CARE) Career Opportunity Resource and Employment (CORE), Security Officer Training and Office Occupations, High School Equivalencies, and other Specialized Short-Term training components.

On June 3, 2020, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) approved the extension of the current contract for six (6) months. The six-month extension would allow the GROW Program Support and the GROW Job Services contracts, the latter being approved by the Board on October 15, 2019, to align and expire on December 31, 2021.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal 1, Make Investments that Transform Lives, Strategy I.2: Deliver comprehensive and seamless services to those seeking assistance from the county.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost of the contract for the six-month period from July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 is \$1,249,755. The total maximum contract amount for the three and one half (3 ½) year period from July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2021, is \$8,825,405. The cost of the contract is partially offset by CFET and has an associated Net County Cost of 50 percent.

Funding has been included in the department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Adopted Budget. Funding for future FYs will be included in the department's annual budget requests.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The contract provides for termination by the county upon ten-days' written notice, should termination be in the county's best interest. The contract also contains a provision which limits the county's obligation if funding is not appropriated by the state or the Board of Supervisors.

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The extension of this contract will not result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and will be in full compliance with federal, state, and county regulations. LACOE is in compliance with all Board, Chief Executive Office, and County Counsel requirements.

County Counsel has reviewed this Board Letter and has approved the amendment as to form.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

LACOE is a local government agency. CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 23-650.1.14 allows for procurement by negotiation with public agencies.

MPP Section 23-621.1.11 limits contracts with public entities to three-year terms. MPP Section 23-621.1.15 allows the standard term limit to be exceeded with CDSS's approval. DPSS received CDSS's approval to extend this contract on June 4, 2020.

In compliance with Board Policy 5.055, Sole Source Contracts, Enclosure II has been completed.

Contract Performance

Performance is measured by the percentage of Los Angeles County GROW participants who obtain employment.

The monitoring for the current contract is performed on a semi-annual basis. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, LACOE had met or exceeded the minimum placement rate for most GROW Program Support Service components. Due to the pandemic and the state's "Safer-at-Home" mandate, referrals of new participants and in-person training sessions were suspended, resulting in lower participation, completion and placement rates for FY 2019-20. However, the GROW Program reopened in January 2021 and began offering services to customers virtually and via telephone. Customers who are able to participate virtually or by telephone will be referred to LACOE's specialized job training classes.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended action will permit uninterrupted provision of employment services to GROW participants. The recommended action will not infringe on the role of the county in relationship to its residents, and the county's ability to respond to an emergency will not be impaired. There is no change in risk exposure to the county.

CONCLUSION

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Upon Board approval, the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted stamped Board Letter to DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,

Antonia Jiménez
Director

AJ:rf

Enclosures (3)

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