

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Family and Social Services

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Executive Officer



DATE: Wednesday, May 5, 2021
TIME: 2:00 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. Two (2) minutes are allowed for each item.

I. NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION

CS-1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Anticipated Litigation
Government Code Section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)
Department of Public Social Services

II. Call to Order

III. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**

- a. **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)/ Probation Department:**
Request to Approve One-Year Extension for the Individualized Transition Skills Program Contracts.
- b. **DCFS:** Extended Foster Care Services Update.
- c. **DCFS:** Transition Age Youth Housing Update.

IV. **Informational Items:**

- a. **Department of Public Social Services:** Recommendation to Award the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Job Readiness Career Planning and Vocational Assessment Services Sole Source Contract to Los Angeles County Office of Education.

- V. Items continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Adjournment



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

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

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Director

GINGER PRYOR
Chief Deputy Director

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KATHRYN BARGER
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June 1, 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 TO APPROVE ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FOR THE INDIVIDUALIZED
TRANSITION SKILLS PROGRAM CONTRACTS
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) are requesting the Board's approval to amend the Individualized Transition Skills Program (ITSP) contracts with Children's Institute, Inc. (CII) and The Community College Foundation (TCCF) to extend the contracts for one year, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and up to six additional months through December 31, 2022, if necessary, to allow sufficient time to complete the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to execute amendments substantially similar to Attachment I to the Individualized Transition Skills Program contracts. The amendments will extend the contracts for one year, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The cost to extend these contracts will not exceed \$3,103,828, to be financed using 57 percent (\$1,769,182) Chafee Federal funds, and 43 percent (\$1,334,646) State funds. Sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recommended Budget.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to execute amendments to the contract for changes affecting the scope of work or to any terms and conditions included under this contract provided that: (a) such amendments are consistent with applicable Federal, State, and County requirements, (b)

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

prior approval of County Counsel is obtained, and (c) the Director of DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO within ten days of executing such amendment.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, to execute amendments with CII and TCCF to increase or decrease their maximum contract amount by no more than 10 percent per year of the original Maximum Annual Contract Sum during the term of the contract to accommodate increases or decreases in units of service provided: (a) the amendments do not include cost of living adjustment, (b) sufficient funding is available for increases, (c) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to executing the amendment, and (d) the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, notify the Board and the CEO in writing that an amendment has been executed within ten work days of the amendment's execution.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to extend the contract term by written notice for a period not to exceed six months beyond June 30, 2022, if such additional time is necessary to complete the negotiation or solicitation of a new contract. provided: (a) 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) the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer, or their designees, notify the Board and the CEO in writing within ten work days of the written notification's execution.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended actions will allow CII and TCCF to facilitate the continuation of the Independent Living Program (ILP) for Transition Age Youth (TAY) under the supervision of DCFS and Probation. The contracts provide life skill sessions in the homes and communities of DCFS and Probation TAY, ages 16 to 21, to ensure that enrolled TAY develop life skills to become self-sufficient adults. The ITSP goals are consistent with the requirements created to fulfill the Foster Care Independence Act (Chafee Act) and the eight Chafee Outcome Measures, which are: 1) Receiving a high school diploma; 2) Educational attainment; 3) Employment; 4) Avoidance of dependency; 5) Avoiding homelessness; 6) Avoiding pre-marital childbirth; 7) Avoiding incarceration; and 8) Avoiding high-risk behaviors. The contract extension is needed to complete the new solicitation process and to prevent a lapse in services.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal Number I.1 – Increase Our Focus on Prevention Initiatives. Implement evidence-based practices to increase our residents' self-sufficiency, prevent long-term reliance on the County's social safety net, and prevent involvement with the County's foster, juvenile justice, and adult justice systems.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Maximum Contract Sum for the one-year and up to six additional months' term of the contract is \$4,655,742. Annual contract sum of \$3,103,828 financed using 57 percent (\$1,769,182) Chafee Federal funds, and 43 percent (\$1,334,646) State revenue. The annual contract amount for CII is \$1,645,029 and the annual contract amount for TCCF is \$1,458,799. Sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recommended Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

ITSP was derived from the enacted Federal Legislation, Public Law 99-272 (1986) and Public Law 106-169 (December 14, 1999). The Public Laws require that an ILP for youth be implemented in the Child Welfare and Probation systems. These laws were titled the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, which stipulates proactive emancipation planning for TAY, from 16 years of age up to their 21st birthday. The legislation amended the Social Security Act, Title IV-E, Section 477 [42 U.S.C. 677], and became the legal authority that governs ILP services. Senate Bill 933 (August 8, 1998) also amended the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), Section 10609.3, which further strengthened and supported the deployment of ILP services within the designated public agencies.

In 1999, the Foster Care Independence Act adopted the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program, through which the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is designated to administer the ILP. The ILP offers, through ITSP, services that provide TAY with life-skills training, experience, and assistance to become productive and self-sufficient adults.

This contract complies with the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201).

On July 16, 2019, the Board adopted a motion to reduce the County's reliance on Prop A contracts. The July 16, 2019 motion instructed the CEO to report back on the following:

- Survey departments to develop a prioritized listing of potential classification that could be contracted in;
- Develop a 5-year phase-in plan for bringing those positions in-house, and
- Develop a multi-year funding strategy to address any incremental cost increases associated with bringing in previously contracted out positions.

Approval of this contract will enable DCFS and Probation to continue receiving ITSP services while the CEO's study is being conducted.

County Counsel and the CEO have reviewed this Board letter. County Counsel approved the amendment as to form.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

DCFS completed a Proposition A cost analysis comparing the prices quoted to estimated staffing costs of DCFS recruiting and hiring new staff with the same or similar duties required for ITSP services. This analysis confirmed it is more cost effective to contract for ITSP services.

DCFS consulted with Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 721 regarding the projected employee relations implications. SEIU notified DCFS that they had no objection to the issuance of the ITSP RFP.

This contract complied with the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201).

The Department has determined that a Cost-of-Living Adjustment provision was not required for this contract.

The Auditor-Controller previously reviewed the Proposition A Cost Analysis and concurred the contracts are cost effective.

On December 10, 2013, the Board approved DCFS' and Probation's recommendation to award ITSP contracts to CII and TCCF. The contracts were solicited through a RFP. DCFS has requested approval from CDSS for an eighteen-month extension to the ITSP contracts.

DCFS released a RFP on April 15, 2021, and the solicitation process is in progress.

The contract extensions will not be executed without approval from CDSS.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of the recommended action will enable DCFS and Probation to continue providing self-sufficiency assistance to transition aged youth.

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 attachment to:

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

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
June 1, 2021
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Respectfully submitted,



BOBBY D. CAGLE
Director

BDC:KR
LTI:TN

Attachment

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



ADOLFO GONZALES
Chief Probation Officer



ANTONIA JIMÉNEZ
Director

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH ■ CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91746
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KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

May XX, 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 AWARD THE GREATER AVENUES FOR INDEPENDENCE
JOB READINESS CAREER PLANNING AND VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT
SERVICES SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
(ALL DISTRICTS – 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) seeks approval of a new one-year Sole Source contract with two additional option years with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to provide Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Job Readiness and Career Planning (JRCP) and Vocational Assessment (VA) services to the County’s GAIN, Refugee Employment Program (REP), and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) participants. These services assist participants in overcoming employment barriers through goal setting, building self-esteem, and providing job search and placement activities which enable participants to obtain gainful employment. They also provide VA services to GAIN, REP, and GROW participants and provide learning disability evaluation and diagnosis services to GAIN and REP participants. Should this contract be adopted, VA services may be extended to the CalFresh Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS, or designee, to prepare and execute a Sole Source contract, in substantially similar form as Enclosure I, with LACOE for a one-year period effective from July 1, 2021 or upon execution by the Director of DPSS or designee, whichever is later, through June 30, 2022, with two one-year options to

renew at a maximum annual contract amount of \$28,203,575 to provide JRCP and VA services. Funding for this contract is included in the DPSS' Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Proposed Budget and funding for future years will be included in DPSS' annual budget requests.

2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS, or designee, to extend the Contracts for up to two (2) additional one-year periods. The approval of County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to executing such amendment, and the Director of DPSS or designee will notify the Board within ten (10) business days after execution.
3. 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 of condition in this 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 the 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 of DPSS shall notify the Board within ten (10) business days of executing such amendments.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this contract will allow DPSS to continue to provide State-mandated JRCP services to its GAIN and REP participants. These services provide GAIN and REP participants with the tools, skills, information, and resources to enable them to overcome barriers and find work. These services assist individuals in moving from welfare dependency to self-sufficiency.

Approval of this contract will also allow DPSS to continue to provide VA services to GAIN, REP, and GROW participants and learning disability evaluations and diagnosis services to GAIN and California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) REP participants through LACOE and its subcontractors. These services include vocational career assessment services for participants in the GAIN, REP, and GROW programs that assist them in the development of a customized career plan to help them achieve their goals. The learning disability evaluation and diagnosis services to GAIN and CalWORKs REP participants consist of screening, evaluating, reporting, and diagnosis of learning disabilities as a potential barrier to employment.

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: Deliver comprehensive and seamless services to those seeking assistance from the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The maximum contract amount for the one-year period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 is \$28,203,575. The GAIN and the REP CalWORKs portions of the contract are fully funded with CalWORKs Single Allocation funds. The REP non-CalWORKs portion is fully funded by federal Refugee Support Services funds. The costs of the GROW Program will be partially offset by CalFresh Employment and Training program (CFET) funds and has an associated Net County Cost of 50 percent.

FY 2021-22 funding is included in the Department's Proposed Budget. Funding for future years 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 (10) day written notice, should termination be in the County's best interest. The agreement also contains a provision which limits the County's obligation if funding is not appropriated by the State or by the Board of Supervisors.

The Contractor is in compliance with the Jury Service Program.

The Living Wage Ordinance does not apply because the recommended contract is a non-Prop A contract.

County Counsel has reviewed this Board letter. The sample contract has been approved as to form by County Counsel. The proposed Contractor is in compliance with all Board, CEO, and County Counsel requirements.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The recommended contract was procured in accordance with Section 23-650.1.14 of the California Department of Social Services Operations Manual which allows procurement by negotiation with public education agencies. LACOE is a public agency.

Additionally, this contract is considered a sole source contract under Board Policy 5.100, Sole Source Contracts and the Sole Source Checklist (Enclosure II) has been completed. DPSS provided notification to the Board of its intent to negotiate this contract on August 13, 2020.

CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE

The monitoring for the current contract is performed on a quarterly basis. The expected performance outcome is that participants receive the tools, skills, useful information, and resources to enable them to overcome barriers and find work through their own efforts.

It is also expected that participants receive an assessment for career guidance and needed training.

In FY 2019-2020, LACOE met their contract performance measure by achieving a 54 percent employment placement rate for full-time and part-time jobs attained by participants in Job Club. LACOE has consistently met their VA performance measures and has not received any contract discrepancy reports during monitoring reviews.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended action will allow the continuation of State-mandated JRCP services in Los Angeles County for GAIN and REP participants and VA for learning disability evaluation and diagnosis services to WtW participants in GAIN, GROW, and REP programs. 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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Antonia Jiménez
Director

AJ:rf

Enclosures (2)

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