

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Family and Social Services

FESIA A. DAVENPORT  
Chief Executive Officer



**DATE:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023  
**TIME:** 1:30 PM

**THIS MEETING WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY AS PERMITTED UNDER THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' AUGUST 8, 2023, ORDER SUSPENDING THE APPLICATION OF BOARD POLICY 3.055 UNTIL MARCH 31, 2024.**

**TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING, PLEASE CALL AS FOLLOWS:**  
**Teleconference Call-In Number: (323) 776-6996/ Conference ID: 599 009 090#**  
**[MS Teams Meeting Link](#) (Ctrl + click to follow link)**

### AGENDA

Members of the Public may address any agenda item after all Informational Items are presented. Two (2) minutes are allowed for each item.

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Consent Item(s)** (Any Information Item is subject to discussion and/or presentation at the request of two or more Board offices):
  - a. **Department of Children and Family Services:** Request to Approve a New Contract for Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth as a Result of Invitation For Bids.
- III. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
  - a. **Military and Veterans Affairs:** Department Update.
- IV. **Public Comment**
- V. Standing item(s) and those continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting:  
-- No Items --
- VI. **Adjournment**

## BOARD LETTER/MEMO CLUSTER FACT SHEET

 Board Letter

 Board Memo

 Other

<b>CLUSTER AGENDA REVIEW DATE</b>	9/27/2023			
<b>BOARD MEETING DATE</b>	10/17/2023			
<b>SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AFFECTED</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <sup>th</sup>			
<b>DEPARTMENT(S)</b>	Department of Family and Children Services (DCFS)			
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract – Proceed with Tentatively Selected awardee			
<b>PROGRAM</b>	<p>There is a subset of children under DCFS care that have significant needs that may be best addressed with an increased level of supervision. These children often have a history of being unstable in placement, chronically assaultive to caregivers or other children, self-harming, exhibiting sexually inappropriate behaviors, destructive to property, prone to running away from placement, or some combination of these factors. To prevent placement disruption, secure placements for these children and to avoid overstay at Temporary Shelter Care Facilities (TSCF), DCFS entered into a contract for Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth and receives requests region-wide to provide staffing service assistance in the supervision of youth with severe behavioral issues.</p>			
<b>AUTHORIZES DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO DEPT</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<b>SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please explain why:			
<b>DEADLINES/ TIME CONSTRAINTS</b>	Targeted for 10/17/2023 Board agenda			
<b>COST &amp; FUNDING</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Total cost: \$13,500,000 for 4 yrs. &amp; 6 months</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Funding source: 100 percent 2011 State Realignment Funds</td> </tr> </table>		Total cost: \$13,500,000 for 4 yrs. & 6 months	Funding source: 100 percent 2011 State Realignment Funds
Total cost: \$13,500,000 for 4 yrs. & 6 months	Funding source: 100 percent 2011 State Realignment Funds			
	TERMS (if applicable): base/initial contract term: January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; extension option #1: July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; extension option #2: July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2028.			
	Explanation: Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract with Delta-T will be effective January 1, 2024, or date of execution, whichever is later through June 30, 2026, with two optional one-year extensions through June 30, 2028. The Maximum Annual Contract Amount for this Contract will be \$3,000,000. The total Maximum Contract Sum for this Contract will be \$13,500,000 if the two optional one-year extensions are exercised for a total of four (4) years and six (6) months.			
<b>PURPOSE OF REQUEST</b>	<p>Request Board approval - delegated authority for the Director of DCFS to execute a new Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract that has proven to be beneficial in providing support to caregivers, enabling youth with serious behavior and mental health challenges to remain in home-based settings.</p> <p>There has been an increase of referrals for youth entering and leaving hospitalizations and requiring 1:1 or 2:1 services for 24/7 coverage. Due to the closing of some STRTPs there are limited placement options, and there are youth with Probation histories not being accepted by Juvenile Detention Centers without this service in place. Additionally some placements are requiring 1:1 services as a condition of accepting the youth for placement.</p>			
<b>BACKGROUND (include internal/external issues that may exist)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High risk youth will experience fewer placement changes.</li> <li>2. The child/youth transitional shelters will have fewer children in their care.</li> <li>3. Fewer children will have first time STRTP home entries before their 13th birthdays.</li> <li>4. Reduce the possibility of youth harming themselves, others and damaging property.</li> </ol>			

including any related motions)	5. Reduce child/youth TSCF entries. 6. Reduce the use of STRTP placements for youth ages 0-12 years.
EQUITY INDEX OR LENS WAS UTILIZED	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please explain how:
SUPPORTS ONE OF THE NINE BOARD PRIORITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please state which one(s) and explain how:  1. Child Protection #1  At risk youth are manifesting trauma by harming themselves, others and/or property, there is an increase of referrals for youth entering and leaving hospitalizations and requiring 1:1 or 2:1 services for 24/7 coverage, STRTPs are closing and there are limited placement options, and there are youth with Probation histories not being accepted by Juvenile Detention Centers that are requiring this service. Some placements are requiring 1:1 services as a condition of accepting the youth for placement.
DEPARTMENTAL CONTACTS	<b>Name, Title, Phone # &amp; Email:</b> Lisa-Marie Kaye, CSA III Mobile Phone: 213-332-1359; kayeli@dcsf.lacounty.gov



BRANDON T. NICHOLS  
Director

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

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



Board of Supervisors  
HILDA L. SOLIS  
First District  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
Second District  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
Third District  
JANICE HAHN  
Fourth District  
KATHRYN BARGER  
Fifth District

October 17, 2023

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

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO APPROVE NEW BEHAVIORAL AIDE SERVICES FOR HIGH RISK  
YOUTH CONTRACT AS A RESULT OF INVITATION FOR BIDS  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) seeks delegated authority to execute a new Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract with Delta-T Group Los Angeles, Inc. (Delta-T).

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute a contract substantially similar to the attached Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract with Delta-T, effective January 1, 2024 or date of execution, whichever is later through June 30, 2026, with two optional one-year extensions through June 30, 2028. The Maximum Annual Contract Amount will be \$3,000,000. The total Maximum Contract Sum will be \$13,500,000, if the two optional one-year extensions are exercised for a total of four (4) years and six (6) months. This contract will be financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds and sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Final Adopted Budget.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract extension options, contingent upon: (a) applicable Federal, State and County contracting regulations are observed; (b) sufficient funding is available; (c) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

execution of such extension(s); and (d) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 10 business days of executing such extension(s).

3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to the Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract in alignment with any changes to the Behavioral Aide Services program to meet program needs or further extend the contract upon California Department of Social Services (CDSS) approval, contingent upon: (a) applicable Federal, State and County contracting regulations are observed; (b) sufficient funding is available; (c) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to execution of such amendments; and (d) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 10 business days of executing such amendments.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to increase or decrease the Maximum Annual Contract Amount up to a total of 40 percent per year during the term of the contract to accommodate any increase or decrease in services, contingent upon: (a) sufficient funding is available; (b) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to execution of such amendments; and (c) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 10 business days of executing such amendments.
5. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to execute amendments to the Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract in instances of acquisitions, mergers, or other changes in ownership, contingent upon: (a) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to execution of such amendments; and (b) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 10 business days of executing such amendments.
6. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or designee, to terminate the contract for default or convenience, contingent upon: (a) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to termination of the contract; and (b) the Director notifies the Board and CEO in writing within 10 business days of terminating any Contract.

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

A subset of children under DCFS' care have needs that exceed the ability of available foster parents, licensed residential facilities, their parents and mental health providers. These children may be unstable in placement, chronically assaultive to caregivers or other children, self-harming, have sexually inappropriate behaviors, destructive to property, prone to leave from placement, or some combination of these. Due to these behaviors, it is extremely difficult to secure and maintain placement for these children and they typically spend extended periods of time at the Temporary Shelter Care Facilities (TSCF). The children also engage in these behaviors while in Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) and Community Treatment Facilities

(CTFs), which creates an unsafe environment for other children and staff. To prevent placement disruption, secure new placements for these children and to avoid hospitalizations, these contracted services continue to be necessary in order to stabilize high-risk youth in the lowest level of care possible and assist resource parents in supervising children with severe behavioral and mental health challenges. This service has been provided on a case by case basis based on the children's need. Since initially utilizing this service, the need has continued to increase over the years and DCFS is requesting to continue contracting for this services.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF 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 for this contract will be \$3,000,000. The total Maximum Contract Sum for this contract will be \$13,500,000, if the two optional one-year extensions are exercised, for a total of four (4) years and six (6) month. This contract will be financed using 100 percent 2011 State Realignment funds and sufficient funding is included in the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Final Adopted Budget.

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

The Department has determined that the provisions of County Code Chapter 2.121 do not apply to this contract because the services are needed on a part-time or intermittent basis. Therefore, the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to this contract. The contract includes language stipulating the County has no obligation to pay for expenditures beyond the maximum contract amount. Further, contractor will not be asked to perform services that exceed the contract amount, scope of work or contract effective dates.

On September 14, 2023, in accordance with Board Policy No. 5.120, Authority to Approve Increases to Board Approved Contract Amounts, the Department notified the Board of its intent to request delegated authority to increase the Maximum Annual Contract Amount for an amount greater than 40 percent.

The Chief Executive Office and County Counsel have reviewed the Board letter and the attached sample Contract. The new Contract has been approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On January 16, 2023, DCFS released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) solicitation for the Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract. DCFS notified vendors registered on the County's Webven and advertised the IFB in newspapers of general circulation. Additionally, an advertisement was posted on the County and DCFS websites. In response to the IFB, DCFS received Bids from three vendors as follows: Delta-T, Optimist Boys' Home and Ranch Inc. and Simple Solution Family Therapy Inc.

On April 25, 2023, DCFS completed the review of the documents submitted by each bidder. As a result, DCFS determined Delta-T to be the lowest priced, responsive responsible bidder and have met all minimum requirements as outlined in the IFB. On May 25, 2023, DCFS sent a tentative selection of Contract award letter to Delta-T and non-selection letters to Optimist Boys' Home and Ranch Inc. and Simple Solution Family Therapy Inc.

DCFS followed all applicable State and County procedures in conducting this solicitation.

### **CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE**

Delta-T performed sufficiently and has worked responsibly and timely with DCFS on the current contract deliverables.

The contractor will be monitored by the DCFS Bureau of Clinical Resources and Services, High Risk Services Division.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

Delta-T currently provides Behavioral Aide staff for one-to-one supervision services for DCFS children when approved by the 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 support services for the children has prevented placement disruptions, improved placement stability and has facilitated placements for many children.

Approval of the recommended actions will 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 will provide services where the children are located, for a specified number of hours, depending on the children needs. Therefore, these services will help prevent some placement disruptions, improve placement stability, facilitate placements for many children and help keep children safely with their parents.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
October 17, 2023  
Page 5

**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 the Department of Children and Family Services.

Respectfully submitted,



BRANDON T. NICHOLS  
Director

BTN:CMM:KDR  
LTI:EO:JS:dl

Attachment

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





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

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



BRANDON T. NICHOLS  
Director

Board of Supervisors  
HILDA L. SOLIS  
First District  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
Second District  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
Third District  
JANICE HAHN  
Fourth District  
KATHRYN BARGER  
Fifth District

September 14, 2023

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

From: Brandon T. Nichols  
Director

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO INCREASE A BOARD-APPROVED CONTRACT AMOUNT EXCEEDING 10 PERCENT**

In accordance with Board Policy 5.120, Authority to Approve Increases to Board Approved Contract Amounts, County departments must provide advance written notice and justification to the Board to approve percentage increases exceeding 10 percent of a Board approved contract.

In compliance with Board Policy 5.120, this is to notify the Board that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) intends to request delegated authority to approve percentage increases to the Maximum Annual Contract Amount by up to a total of 40 percent per year during the term of the new Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth Contract.

**BACKGROUND**

Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Youth currently provides one-to-one supervision for 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. By offering the Behavioral Aide Services for High-Risk Youth, the support services have prevented placement disruptions, improved placement stability and has facilitated placements for many children.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The children and youth who benefit from one-to-one Behavioral Aide Services often have a history of being unstable in placement, chronically assaultive to caregivers or other children, self-harming, have sexually inappropriate behaviors, destructive to

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

property, prone to running away from placement or a combination of these factors. Due to these behaviors, it is extremely difficult to secure and maintain placement for these children and they typically spend extended periods of time at Temporary Shelter Care Facilities (TSCF), Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) and Community Treatment Facilities (CTFs), which sometimes create an unsafe environment for other children and staff. There has been an increase of referrals for youth entering and leaving hospitalizations and requiring one-to-one services for 24/7 coverage.

DCFS is requesting delegated authority to approve percentage increase by up to a total of 40 percent per year during the term of the new Behavioral Aide Services for High Risk Services Contract. This will accommodate any increase in services and prevent placement disruptions.

### **NOTIFICATION TIMELINE**

Consistent with the procedures of Board Policy 5.120, DCFS is informing the Board of its intent to file a Board letter in the near future to request delegated authority to approve a percentage increase exceeding 10 percent.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 371-6052 or [marina@dcs.lacounty.gov](mailto:marina@dcs.lacounty.gov).

BTN:CMM:KDR  
LTI:EO:JS:dl

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