



COUNTY of VENTURA

MELISSA LIVINGSTON
Director

January 24, 2023

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
855 Partridge Drive
Ventura, CA 93003
805-477-5100

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

JENNIE PITTMAN
Deputy Director
Administrative Services

MARISSA MACH
Deputy Director
Adult & Family Services

Subject: Approval of a Contract Modification with Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc., for the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children to Increase Funding by \$112,500, to an Amount Not to Exceed \$734,125, Effective February 1, 2023; and Authorization for the Human Services Agency Director, or Designee, to Sign the Contract Modification and Approve and Sign Additional Limited Contract Modifications.

DAVID SWANSON HOLLINGER
Deputy Director
Children & Family Services

ELAINE MARTINEZ
Deputy Director
Community Services

Recommendation:

1. Approve, and authorize the Human Services Agency (HSA) Director, or designee, to sign a contract modification with Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Inc., (CDR) for the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children (Bridge Program) to increase funding by \$112,500, to an amount not to exceed \$734,125, effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023 (Exhibit 1.)
2. Authorize the HSA Director, or designee, to approve and sign additional limited contract modifications to (a) decrease, or increase up to ten percent, the amount of the contract, (b) extend the time of performance up to six months, and (c) make budget modifications, corrections, clarifications and technical changes to the contract, when the changes are consistent with the original purpose of the contract, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Mandatory: | No |
| Source of Funding: | Federal/State |
| Funding Match Required: | No |
| Impact on other Departments: | None |

Summary of Revenue and Costs:

| | <u>FY 2022-23</u> | <u>FY 2023-24</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue: | | |
| Direct | \$112,500 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue | \$112,500 | \$0 |
| Costs: | | |
| Direct | \$112,500 | \$0 |
| Indirect | Minimal | \$0 |
| Total Costs | \$112,500 | \$0 |
| Net County Cost | \$0 | \$0 |

| FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget for Children and Family Services – BU 3413 | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Adopted Budget | Adjusted Budget | Projected Budget | Estimated Savings/(Deficit) |
| Appropriations | \$70,673,541 | \$72,619,961 | \$72,619,961 | \$0 |
| Revenue | \$49,376,000 | \$49,376,000 | \$49,376,000 | \$0 |
| Net Cost | \$21,297,541 | \$23,243,961 | \$23,243,961 | \$0 |

There is no net county cost associated with this contract change. The increase in expenditures is 100% covered by federal and state revenues. There are sufficient revenue and appropriations in the HSA Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023.

Discussion

The lack of access to child care for potential eligible families seeking to take in a foster child is one of the top barriers to placing young foster children with families. The goals of the Bridge Program are to increase the number of foster children successfully placed in home-based family care settings, increase placement stability, increase capacity of child care providers to meet the needs of foster children in their care, and maximize funding to support the child care needs of eligible families. The Bridge Program is comprised of three critical components: (1) Emergency Child Care Vouchers, which provide a payment or voucher to assist with child care costs (initially for up to 6 months, with possible extension for 12 months total under certain conditions) for children in the foster care system birth through age 12, and for youth with exceptional needs up to age 21; (2) Child Care Navigator to assist relative caregivers, eligible families or parenting youth in foster care to assess child care opportunities and provide consumer education based on the child’s age and needs; and (3) Trauma-Informed Care Training and Coaching to help child care providers learn practical strategies for working with children who have experienced trauma.

On June 7, 2022, your Board approved a contract with CDR for the Bridge Program in the amount of \$621,625 for the dates of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The additional \$112,500 we are requesting will increase the Emergency Child Care Voucher component of the program from \$450,000 to \$562,500, allowing the number of children receiving child care to increase by 25%. The child care voucher is intended to cover the cost of child care when

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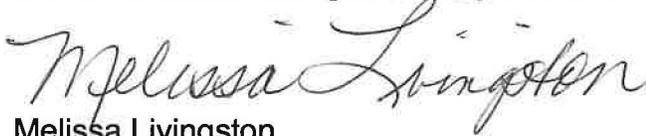
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work or school responsibilities preclude the family from being at home when the foster child is not in school or for periods when the family is required to participate, without the child, in activities associated with parenting a child that are beyond the scope of ordinary parental duties, including but not limited to, attendance at administrative or judicial reviews, case conferences, and family training.

We ask that your Board approve and authorize the HSA Director or her designee to sign the contract modification with CDR. We also ask that your Board delegate to the HSA Director or her designee the authority to approve and sign limited contract modifications as described in recommendation two, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact me at 805-477-5301, or David Swanson Hollinger, Deputy Director, Children & Family Services at 805-477-5448.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Livingston".

Melissa Livingston
Director

Attachment:

Exhibit 1 – Child Development Resources Bridge Program Contract Modification