

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 2**

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS (RFSQ)  
AND AWARD CONTRACTS FROM THE RFSQ FOR TWO PROGRAMS:  
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM PLUS FOR NON-MINOR  
DEPENDENTS AND FOSTER FAMILY AGENCIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Child and Family Well-Being Department (CFWB) strives to improve outcomes for youth entering adulthood from the foster care system through many initiatives including the Transitional Housing Program (THP) and Foster Family Agency (FFA) placements. THP is comprised of both the THP-Plus and the THP-Plus for Non-Minor Dependents (THPP-NMD). In 2008, through contracts with nonprofit entities, Child Welfare Services, now known as CFWB, implemented the THP-Plus program and expanded services in 2014 to include THPP-NMD to improve outcomes for youth entering adulthood from the foster care system and avoid homelessness. THPP-NMD services include providing safe homes, assistance in developing the skills needed for transitioning to independent living, and supportive services based on the NMD's needs and services plan as developed by the provider. The current contract for THPP-NMD housing is set to expire on December 31, 2023.

Additionally, CFWB partners with FFAs to recruit, approve, and train resource parents in addition to providing support, services, and oversight for foster care placements in their resource family homes. On November 9, 2010 (8) the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Contracting to issue Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for FFA providers and to award contracts as needed. Over the last decade, that authority has provided for the continued partnership with eight FFAs providing foster care services throughout San Diego County for dependent and probation youth. FFAs provide services to the youth and resource parents under the supervision of their agency to include extra social worker visits and supports as well as connections to services and resources. The current contracts with the eight FFA providers are set to expire on December 31, 2023.

Today's actions authorize RFSQs for the THPP-NMD and FFA programs and authorize awarding contracts from the RFSQs. Today's items support the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically for those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically disadvantaged and demonstrates an ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by enhancing the coordination of upstream prevention strategies and services between community resources and the child welfare system to ensure youth receive services and supports to secure and maintain a safe environment. In addition, this item supports the Framework for Ending Homelessness's strategic domain of Root Cause and Upstream Prevention by increasing equitable access to safe and affordable housing for current and former foster youth while maximizing racially equitable community outcomes and preventing youth homelessness.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to issue a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for the Transitional Housing Program Plus - Non-Minor Dependent within San Diego County and re-release the RFSQ as needed, and upon successful negotiations and determination of fair and reasonable price, consistent with State Foster Care Rates Bureau requirements, award contracts as needed for a term of one year with four option years and up to an additional six months if needed, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes in services and funding, subject to approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.
2. In accordance with Section 401, Article XXIII of County Administrative Code, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing to issue a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for Foster Family Agencies within San Diego County and re-release the RFSQ as needed, and upon successful negotiations and determination of fair and reasonable price, consistent with State Foster Care Rates Bureau requirements, award contracts as needed for a term of one year with four option years and up to an additional six months if needed, and to amend the contracts as needed to reflect changes in services and funding, subject to approval of the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Child and Family Well-Being Department (CFWB) Transitional Housing Program (THP), inclusive of THP-Plus and THP-Plus Non-Minor Dependents (THPP-NMD), provides up to 36 cumulative months of subsidized housing for current and former foster youth ages 18-25 years (up to age 24 in prior fiscal years). The goal of THP is for participants and subgroups within, to include Black, Indigenous, People of Color, native Spanish speakers, and LGBTQ+ youth, to secure safe and stable housing by program graduation and make progress towards life goals, including educational attainment or employment achievement, physical and mental well-being, and connections to community. The ethnicity breakdown for youth served under the THPP-NMD in Fiscal Year 2021-22 includes:

- 30.9% African American
- 1.5% Asian
- 21% Caucasian
- 36.8% Hispanic
- .7% Native American
- 4.4% Other Ethnicities/Unknown
- 4.8% Bi or Multi-Racial

To maximize racially equitable community outcomes, CFWB partners with nonprofit entities to provide housing opportunities and services in the six County service regions to ensure youth in underserved communities, communities of color, and communities with increased barriers to housing have greater opportunities and access to safe and affordable housing. CFWB relies on the community offering their homes to foster youth when relatives or non-related extended family members are not available. As of May 2023, there were 2,607 children and youth with an open case with CFWB, Office of Child Safety, of whom 1,852 reside in out-of-home placements. Among children in out-of-home placements, 162 children and youth reside in Foster Family Agency (FFA) homes. CFWB continues to engage with

programs, FFA's, resource parents, youth, and providers to collect data and evaluate service outcomes to ensure the array of THP and foster care services and resources promote positive outcomes for youth transitioning to adulthood as well as help children and youth of all ages maintain safe and stable housing.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed action to renew contracts to serve youth in foster care and former foster youth will further the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access by expanding the availability of safe and stable housing for foster youth of all ages. Investments in concrete supports, such as resource homes and housing, reduces trauma and hardships on children and youth and contributes to efforts to support foster youth until they can safely and stably transition to permanency and/or independence. The Transitional Housing Program Plus - Non-Minor Dependents action will provide the supports needed for transitional age youth to build resilience, independence, and long-term skills which will lead to a reduction in youth homelessness and recurrence of generational maltreatment, and associated costs. When youth have assistance in meeting their basic needs, they can focus on self-healing and growth towards goals that support themselves and improve and sustain the health and well-being of youth (formerly) in foster care. The Foster Family Agency action will promote stability and permanency for children and youth. When children and youth have a safe and stable home to be placed in that can meet their needs for care and supervision, as well as any treatment needs, they can be successful in school, in development, and can transition into permanency, reducing the need for reliance on the foster care system.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **Recommendation #1: Authorization to Issue a Request for Statement of Qualifications for the Transitional Housing Program Plus - Non-Minor Dependents**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue of \$6,310,000 in FY 2023-24 and estimated costs and revenue of \$6,310,000 in FY 2024-25. The funding source is Social Services Administrative Revenue and Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

#### **Recommendation #2: Authorization to Issue a Request for Statement of Qualifications for Foster Family Agencies**

Funds for this request are included in the FY 2023-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue of \$8,000,000 in FY 2023-24 and estimated costs and revenue of \$8,000,000 in FY 2024-25. The funding source is Social Services Administrative Revenue and Realignment. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Desmond

ABSENT: (District 4 Seat Vacant)

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
by Andrew Potter