



Interoffice Memorandum

October 23, 2023

To: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

 Carrie Mathes, CFCM, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, C.P.M., Manager II, Procurement Division

Contact: Angela Chestang, Manager, Citizens' Commission for Children Division
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SUBJECT: Approval for Contract Y23-2124, Provision of Community Services and Facility Use

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Contract Y23-2124, Provision of Community Services and Facility Use, with Youth Families and Communities United, in the total contract award amount of \$240,000 for a three-year term.

PURPOSE:

The contract will provide services for youth and their families through Lake Weston Neighborhood Center for Families (NCF). The Youth Families and Communities United Program (YFC) will engage youth and their families in programming aimed at promoting positive youth development and family engagement. The activities implemented are designed to reduce unsafe behaviors and increase positive parental and community cohesiveness which supports the Citizens' Safety Task Force initiative. Program services will be offered county wide apart from the after/out of school program which will target students in 32810 and surrounding communities. The term of this contract shall be upon execution through September 30, 2026.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in account number 0001-062-2556-8610.

APPROVALS:

The Citizens' Commission for Children Division approves this allocation of funding to be utilized for this contract.

REMARKS:

In accordance with the Code of Ordinances, Part 1, Chapter 17, Article III, Section 17-286 – Application and Exclusions, agreements between the Board and nonprofit organizations are excluded from competitive procurement requirements.

Youth Families and Communities United, Inc., formally, Family & Friends United, Inc., has over a 30-year history of providing mentoring programs, community events, after/out of school youth development programs, and other special projects throughout Orange County. Starting out as a grassroots movement to help empower youth and engage their families, YFC has reached several thousand individuals over the years.

In the early 2000's, the YFC United Program became a funded partner for the Orlo Vista Youth Development program where the agency partnered with the NCF and started a food pantry for the community which was maintained by the youth who participated in the program. Additionally, the agency worked with the senior citizens, assisted with holiday/special events and were available to help in other areas as needed.

Program strategies include, but are not limited to the following:

- **K-8 After/Out of School Programs**
Structured activities to promote enhanced life skills development, literacy, character education, STEM, drug and alcohol prevention, and the arts. Programming will target youth after school and during non-school hours. The specific focus will be on students enrolled at Lake Weston Elementary.
- **Family Engagement**
Families will engage in workshops, field trips, and at-home packets of activities during the school year and summer. These activities are designed to increase academic motivation, reduce behavioral problems, and improve the social-emotional development of children. Further, family engagement fosters school readiness skills, particularly in young children such as impulse control, attention, memory, and planning skills.
- **Middle and High School Youth Development Program**
YFC will provide opportunities for youth to learn and lead. Youth will be introduced to community service projects, leadership development, and life skills trainings.
- **Community Events and Activities**
YFC will facilitate a minimum of five community events from January through September 2024, including a Spring Fling, End of School Year Family Celebration, Community Family Reunion, Back to School Family Conference, and Family Day in September.