



**Interoffice Memorandum**

October 23, 2023

**TO:** Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
-AND-  
County Commissioners

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

**CONTACT:** Donna Wyche, Manager, Mental Health and Homelessness Division  
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**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment No. 1, Contract Y22-2416, Providing Funding for the Expansion of Services that Improves Family Functioning and Increases Access to Mental Health Services for Youth in Orange County

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approval of Amendment No. 1, Contract Y22-2416, Providing Funding for the Expansion of Services that Improves Family Functioning and Increases Access to Mental Health Services for Youth in Orange County, Federal Subrecipient Agreement between Orange County and Embrace Families Solutions, Inc., in the amount of \$150,000, for a revised not-to-exceed contract award amount of \$345,097.86.

**PROCUREMENT:**

This amendment will extend the contract subaward period of performance from January 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024, and add funding to meet projected needs based on the County's usage to date, to support improvement of family functioning and increase access to mental health services for youth in Orange County.

**FUNDING:**

Funding is available in account number 5896-019-8616-8610. Funding is provided through the American Rescue Plan Act.

**APPROVALS:**

The Mental Health and Homelessness Division concurs with this request.

**REMARKS:**

On January 10, 2023, the Board authorized award of Contract Y22-2416 to Embrace Families Solutions, Inc. for a contract amount not-to-exceed \$195,097.86. This subaward was issued from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (the "Recovery Fund") allocation received by the County on May 11, 2021. The funding allows for the expansion of services that improve family functioning, increased access to mental health services for youth, decreased Baker Acts, and shortened hospitalizations when a Baker Act occurs.

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The program identifies young people (ages 9 to 16) with multiple involuntary psychiatric hospitalizations occurring in the 12 months prior to referral, and-at time of discharge- uses an evidence-based assessment tool to guide the family in selecting therapeutic and related services that will support their child's stability, placing the appropriateness of the service ahead of insurance or payment abilities. Concurrently, each family is assigned a Family Support Navigator, an individual with lived experience as a caregiver of an individual with a mental health need, who provides peer support to the parents and ensures that they are able to navigate the mental health systems successfully. Family support navigators obtain their credential as a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist via the Florida Certification Board.

The primary goal of the Breakthrough program is to engage early with children experiencing mental health needs, thereby preventing a lifetime of pain. Participant level outcomes include health and well-being outcomes, reduced barriers to services, improved family functioning, and reduces hospitalizations.