



Interoffice Memorandum

December 9, 2022

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 Issues
Division
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SUBJECT: Approval of 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 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, Embrace Families Solutions, Inc., in the not-to-exceed amount of \$195,097.86. Request delegation of authority to the Procurement Division Manager or designee to execute such Federal Subrecipient Agreement on a form approved by the Orange County Attorney's Office and the Risk Management Division.

PURPOSE:

This subaward is 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.

This agreement will define the working relationship between Orange County, Florida and Embrace Families Solutions, Inc., the Federal Subrecipient for the performance period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

DISCUSSION:

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

The funding will allow for the expansion of services that improves family functioning and increases access to mental health services for youth in Orange County. The expansion of services improves family functioning, increased access to mental health services for youth, decreased Baker Acts, and shortened hospitalizations when a Baker Act occurs.

The program identifies young people (ages 9-16) 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. Through this project the Subrecipient will use the subaward to support caseloads of two family support navigators (approximately 16-20 families at any given time), specifically accepting referrals of families involved in the child welfare system. The secondary goal applicable to this expansion is to prevent the removal of children to out-of-home foster care where the child's mental and behavioral health needs are a primary reason for removal.