

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
PINELLAS COUNTY AND THE
PINELLAS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR
JUVENILE CROSSOVER THERAPIST**

THIS AGREEMENT (Agreement), effective upon the date last entered below, by and between PINELLAS COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (hereinafter called the "COUNTY"), and Sara Mollo, Public Defender for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, an independent constitutional officer for Pinellas County (hereinafter called "PUBLIC DEFENDER").

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, the PUBLIC DEFENDER participates in a Juvenile Crossover Court program that serves Pinellas County Foster Care Children aging out of the Foster Care; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY desires to supplement the funding received by the PUBLIC DEFENDER to assist this vulnerable population,

WHEREAS, the best interests of the COUNTY and the PUBLIC DEFENDER are served by making efficient use of existing expertise and resources; and

WHEREAS, both the COUNTY and the PUBLIC DEFENDER have the authority to enter into an Interlocal Agreement pursuant to Section 163.01, Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter contained, it is agreed by and between the parties hereto as follows:

1. Scope of Services

The PUBLIC DEFENDER shall:

- a) Provide one (1) Masters Level Therapist to serve Foster Children aging out of the Foster Care System. (Exhibit 1 Attached).
- b) Provide services in a manner consistent with expenditures required for treatment for this vulnerable population. (Exhibit 1 attached).
- c) Inform the COUNTY in a timely manner of any circumstances or events which may reasonably jeopardize the ability to meet PUBLIC DEFENDER'S obligations under this Agreement.

2. Term of Agreement

The services of the PUBLIC DEFENDER shall commence October 1, 2021 and shall be completed no later than September 30, 2022.

3. Compensation

- a) The COUNTY shall deposit into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Public Defender, Sixth Judicial Circuit's state budget, the sum of **\$82,820.00** to be used to fund one (1) position listed in the budget narrative for this program. (Exhibit 1 Attached).
- b) The COUNTY and PUBLIC DEFENDER shall retain all records relating to this Interlocal Agreement for three (3) years after final payment is made. All records shall be subject to audit by the COUNTY.

4. Cancellation

- a) If the PUBLIC DEFENDER fails to fulfill or abide by any of the provisions of this Agreement, PUBLIC DEFENDER shall be considered in material breach of the Agreement. Where the COUNTY determines that a material breach can be corrected, PUBLIC DEFENDER shall be given thirty (30) days to cure said breach. If PUBLIC DEFENDER fails to cure, or if the breach is of the nature that the COUNTY has determined cannot be corrected, or that the harm caused cannot be undone, COUNTY may immediately terminate this Agreement, with cause, upon notice in writing to the PUBLIC DEFENDER.
- b) In the event the PUBLIC DEFENDER uses any funds provided by this Agreement for any purpose or program other than authorized under this Agreement, the PUBLIC DEFENDER shall repay such amount and, at the option of the COUNTY, be deemed to have waived the privilege of receiving additional funds under this Agreement.
- c) In the event sufficient budgeted funds are not available for a new fiscal period or are otherwise encumbered, the COUNTY shall notify the PUBLIC DEFENDER of such occurrence and the Agreement shall terminate on the last day of the then current fiscal period without penalty or expense to the COUNTY.

5. Indemnification

The COUNTY and PUBLIC DEFENDER are public bodies of the State of Florida, the parties agree to be fully responsible for their own acts of negligence, and their respective agents/employees' acts of negligence when acting within the scope of their employment, and agree to be liable for any damages proximately caused thereby; provided however, that the parties' liability is subject to the limitations imposed by 768.28, Fla. Stat. Nothing herein is intended to act as a waiver of sovereign immunity by either the COUNTY or PUBLIC DEFENDER. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by the COUNTY or PUBLIC DEFENDER to be sued by any third parties for any cause or matter arising out of or related to this Agreement.

6. Assignments

The PUBLIC DEFENDER shall not assign the responsibility of this Agreement to another party without prior written approval of the COUNTY. Any such approval by the COUNTY shall not be deemed to provide for the incurrence of any additional obligation by the COUNTY not stated in this AGREEMENT. All such assignments shall be subject to the conditions of this Agreement and to any subsequent conditions of approval that the COUNTY may require.

7. Renewal

The PUBLIC DEFENDER and the COUNTY reserve the right to renew this Interlocal Agreement for one-year terms as mutually agreed upon in writing by both parties.

8. Waiver

The waiver of either party of a breach or violation of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate as or be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach hereof.

9. Amendments

No amendments to this Agreement may be made without prior written approval of the PUBLIC DEFENDER and the COUNTY.

10. Governing law and Venue

The laws of the State of Florida shall govern this Agreement and venue shall be in Pinellas County, Florida.

<< Signatures on following page>>

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this instrument to be executed the day and year written below.

PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA by and through its Board of County Commissioners

By: _____
Dave Eggers, Chair

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: Michael A. Zas
Office of the County Attorney

Sara Mollo, Public Defender for the Sixth Judicial Circuit

By: Sara
Public Defender

Date: 7/2/21

**Juvenile Crossover Therapist
Exhibit 1
Personnel Budget Request FY 2021- 2022**

Personnel				
Therapist (Master Level) (1 FTE)	Yearly	\$ 45,898.12		\$ 45,898.12
	Monthly	\$ 3,824.84		
Salary				\$ 45,898.12
<u>Fringe</u>				
FICA 7.65%	Monthly	\$ 292.60		\$ 3,511.21
Workers Compensation 2.5%		\$ -		\$ -
Unemployment		\$ -		\$ -
Insurance-Health	Monthly	\$ 1,539.32		\$ 18,471.84
Life Insurance	Monthly	\$ 3.58		\$ 42.96
Retirement	Monthly	\$ 382.48		\$ 4,589.81
		10% of Eligible Salaries		
Fringe				\$ 26,615.82
Salary and Fringe				\$ 72,513.94

ITEM	Rate		Yearly Cost	GRAND TOTAL
General Office Supply	Monthly	\$ 55.00	\$ 660.00	
Postage	Monthly	\$ 40.00	\$ 480.00	
Laptop Computer	Direct	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00	
Printer	Direct	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	
Copies	0.15 per copy	9000	\$ 1,350.00	
Cell Phone	Monthly	\$ 66.20	\$ 794.40	
Mileage	Monthly	\$ 456.56	\$ 5,478.72	
	Total		\$ 10,313.12	\$ 82,827.06
For 1 FTE:	\$ 82,827.06			
Budget Round Down	\$ 82,820.00			

The Therapist will work with the participants at Ready for Life through individual therapy. For every \$1 invested in mental health the return is \$2 to \$10 savings in health costs, criminal and juvenile justice costs, educational costs, and lost productivity. Unfortunately, a majority of children in the foster care system have experienced some form of trauma and are at risk for emotional and behavioral problems.

^[1] Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2016, August 8). Retrieved March 2018, from SAMHSA: <http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention>

^[1] Beyerlein, Brittany A. and Ellin Bloch. "Need for Trauma-Informed Care within the Foster Care System: A Policy Issue." *Child Welfare*, vol. 93, no. 3, May 2014, pp. 7-21.