



MEMORANDUM

TO: Purchasing Department, Dustin Guinta, Procurement Analyst Assistant

FROM: Human Services Justice Coordination, Kellie Pettye, Justice Programs Analyst

SUBJECT: Non-competitive procurement justification for Child-Parent Psychotherapy providers

DATE: May 6, 2020

The Human Services Justice Coordination department in partnership with the Sixth Judicial Circuit Courts of Florida were awarded a 3-year, \$1-million grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The grant known as the Opioid Affected Youth Initiative (OAYI) is focused on improving and expanding needed services for dependent youth involved in the Early Childhood Court (ECC) and Family Dependency Treatment Courts (FDTC) in Pinellas County.

Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) services was recognized as a significant need that is not currently offered by the primary treatment provider and lead child-welfare agency, Eckerd Connects. Therefore, University of South Florida-St. Petersburg's Family Study Center (USF) and Adoption Related Services of Pinellas (ARS), were identified to provide these CPP services to the youth participants of the OAYI grant. USF has been involved with the ECC since its inception in 2015 and ARS have been involved with the courts for over two years. Both agencies have provided CPP services to a limited number of children in these respective courts and with the OAYI grant funds, CPP services can be expanded to reach all children that need this service. Furthermore, USF and ARS are members of the Steering committee and are very familiar with the specific mission, goals and structure of the family treatment court system in Pinellas County.

The dependency case system provides that children reach permanency within one year of removal, thus the timely access of needed resources and services is crucial to the success of affected families. Since the OAYI grant is only for 3-years, it is critical to be able to access expanded CPP slots beginning in the first quarter of the project launch. Therefore, a request for non-competitive purchasing was made on behalf of USF and ARS for the OAYI grant based on need of the service and the established partnership in place between the Sixth Judicial Circuit Courts.

Thank you.