



County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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October 31, 2022

To: Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Chair
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Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: 
Brandon T. Nichols
Director

THE ROAD AHEAD FAMILY SERVICES FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY CONTRACT COMPLIANCE REVIEW

REVIEW OF REPORT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Contracts Administration Division (CAD) conducted a virtual Contract Compliance Review of The Road Ahead Family Services Foster Family Agency (the Contractor) in March 2022. The Contractor has one office located in the Third Supervisorial District. This office provides services to the County of Los Angeles DCFS placed children, Probation foster youth, children placed by other counties and Non-Minor Dependents.

Key Outcomes

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|-----------------------------|
| NUMBER OF PRIORITY FINDINGS |
| PRIORITY 1 2 |
| PRIORITY 2 7 |
| PRIORITY 3 0 |

CAD conducted a virtual Contract Compliance Assessment review of the Contractor's compliance within the following applicable areas: General Contract Requirements; Resource Family Home (RFH) Requirements; Facility and Environment; Engagement and

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Teamwork; Needs and Services Plans; Permanency; Education and Independent Living Program Services; Health and Medical Needs; Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being; Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being; and Personnel Files.

The Contractor was in full compliance with 8 of 11 applicable areas of CAD's Contract Compliance Review: RFH Requirements; Engagement and Teamwork; Needs and Services Plans; Education and Independent Living Program Services; Health and Medical Needs; Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being; Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being; and Personnel Files.

For the purpose of this review, six DCFS placed children were selected for the sample. CAD reviewed the files of the six children, and virtually interviewed two to assess the level of care and services they received, four children (ages 1, 2, 3 and 4 years) were too young to be interviewed; the four children were virtually observed to be clean and well-groomed. An additional four discharged children files were also reviewed to assess the Contractor's compliance with permanency efforts.

CAD reviewed two RFH files and three staff files for compliance with Title 22 Regulations and County contract requirements. CAD also conducted telephonic interviews with staff and Resource Family Parents. To assess the quality of care and supervision provided to the placed children, DCFS also conducted virtual site visits at the Contractor's locations and RFHs.

CAD noted findings in the areas of:

Priority 1

- Facility and Environment
 - Medications were not properly stored and locked away.
 - Bedroom window was not equipped with an operable safety release device.

Priority 2

- General Contract Requirements
 - Special Incident Reports were not properly documented in the Needs and Services Plans.
- Permanency
 - Discharge summaries were not completed timely.

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On June 10, 2022, the Children Services Administrator teams from DCFS' CAD and the Out-of-Home Care Management Division held an exit conference with the Contractor's representatives.

The Contractor's representatives agreed with the review findings and recommendations, and were receptive to implementing systemic changes to improve the Contractor's compliance with regulatory standards.

The Contractor provided the attached approved Corrective Action Plan addressing the noted findings in this compliance report.

If you have any questions, your staff may contact me or Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 371-6052.

BTN:KDR
LTI:bm

Attachments

c: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Arlene Barrera, Auditor-Controller
Dr. Adolfo Gonzales, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Carla Franco, Executive Director, The Road Ahead Family Services
Kellee Coleman, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division
Monique Marshall-Turner, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division