



County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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December 5, 2024

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
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Supervisor Janice Hahn

From: *Angela Parks-Pyles for*
Brandon T. Nichols
Director

ALLIES FOR EVERY CHILD FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY CONTRACT COMPLIANCE REVIEW

REVIEW OF REPORT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Contract Compliance Division (CCD) conducted a virtual Contract Compliance Review of Allies for Every Child, Foster Family Agency (the Contractor) in May 2024. The Contractor has one office located in Los Angeles County. The office provides services to the County of Los Angeles DCFS and Probation placed children, youth and Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) and children, youth and NMDs placed by other counties.

Key Outcomes

NUMBER OF PRIORITY FINDINGS
PRIORITY 1 1
PRIORITY 2 2
PRIORITY 3 0

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

CCD 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 Teamwork; Needs and Services Plans; Permanency and Transition Services; Education and Independent Living Plan 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 9 of 11 applicable areas of CCD's Contract Compliance Review: General Contract Requirements; RFH Requirements; Engagement and Teamwork; Needs and Services Plans; Permanency and Transition Services; Education and Independent Living Plan Services; Personal Rights and Social/Emotional Well-Being; Personal Needs/Survival and Economic Well-Being; and Personnel Files.

For the purpose of this review, four DCFS placed children were selected for the sample. The CCD reviewed the files of the four selected children and virtually interviewed two children to assess the level of care and services they received; two children (ages 8 months and 5 years) were too young to be interviewed and were virtually observed to be clean and well-groomed. An additional three discharged children files were also reviewed to assess the Contractor's compliance with permanency efforts.

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

The CCD noted findings in the areas of:

Priority 1

- Facility and Environment (1 Finding)
 - One RFH did not have an all-purpose fire extinguisher available in the home.

Priority 2

- Facility and Environment (1 Finding)
 - One RFH did not have a first aid kit available in the home.

- Health and Medical Needs (1 Finding)
 - One child did not have an initial dental examination completed on time.

On August 21, 2024, the Children Services Administrator teams from DCFS' CCD 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:CMM
RW:DF:sl

Attachments

c: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Oscar Valdez, Auditor-Controller
Guillermo Viera Rosa, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Heather Carrigan Chief Executive Officer, Allies For Every Child
Adriana Molina, Chief Program Officer, Allies For Every Child
Kellee Coleman, Assistant Program Administrator, LA Region, CCLD
Bernice Karnsrithong, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division
Monique Marshall-Turner, Regional Manager, Community Care Licensing Division
Celeste M. Fitchett, MSW, Bureau Chief, Fiscal and Performance Audits



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ALLIES FOR EVERY CHILD (FFA)



Corrective Action Plan

2024

FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

15. Common areas were safe and well-maintained

15e. A current and operable all-purpose fire extinguisher is readily accessible Title 22 80020; Title 19 596(b)(1), 557.9 & 567(b), (h), (i) **Title 22 80020; Title 19 596(b)(1), 557.9 & 567(b), (h), (i)**

Facility

Site 1457

15g. There is a current and complete first aid kit available for use Title 22 80075(g) **Title 22 80075(g)**

Facility

Site 1456

1. Explain the Cause.

15e-Social worker inspecting the home did not know the device the family had on site was not an approved option based on licensing requirements. The family had a Stay Safe All-in-1 by LifeSafe Technologies on site and readily available. However, this was not approved as an alternative to a typical fire extinguisher. 15g-Though the first aid kit was there during quarterly inspection that RFA SW completed, at the time of the site visit RP realized that she had removed the first aid kit from the home and forgot to return it.

2. Corrective Action Taken.

15e-The family provided proof during RFA SW home visit on 6/27/2024 that they had an approved fire extinguisher in their home located in an easily accessible cabinet in the kitchen area. 15g-RFA Social Worker and supervisor met with family to ensure RPs are clear on requirement to be in compliance with licensing requirements and have first aid kit on site at all times. RFA SW completed follow up during weekly visit and confirmed that first aid kit was in the home.

3. Explain what the Quality Assurance (QA) Plan is to maintain Compliance.

15e-The one social worker on staff was re-trained on requirements for a home inspection and fire extinguisher. Social worker assigned to this family was trained on 9/17; agenda and sign-in sheet attached. During regular supervision, Supervisor will review quarterly walk-throughs to ensure all items are available in the home are in compliance. Any notable changes required or completed will be included in visit notes. 15g-The RFA one social worker on staff was trained on 9/17 and will now offer training to the resource family on the requirement to always maintain a first aid kit on premises and inspect the home for a first aid kit by October 15, 2024. During regular supervision, Supervisor will review quarterly walk-throughs to ensure all items are available in the home and in compliance. Any notable changes required or completed will be included in visit notes.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL NEEDS

42. Initial dental examinations were conducted on time (Contract, Section 19.0, SOW Part C, Sections 15.3.9)

Facility

Site 1457

1. Explain the Cause.

Dental exam was completed within 6 months prior to being admitted into Allies and DCFS 561b was not obtained by RFA social worker.

2. Corrective Action Taken.

Develop and train social worker on providing appropriate documentation showing when last dental exam completed using Medi-Cal prior to joining Allies for Every Child and confirming requirement for exam within first 30 days of joining a home. RFA Social worker completed training on 9/17/24; agenda and sign-in sheet attached.

3. Explain what the Quality Assurance (QA) Plan is to maintain Compliance.

Supervisor will review requirements with RFA Social Worker when a child joins a new home as part of the initial intake. Designated quality assurance staff will monitor completion of initial exam within 30 days or confirm that we have appropriate documentation in the file (e.g. DCFS 561b).