



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

25-0626-PR1

Agenda Date: 6/26/2025

AUTHORIZE THE FIRST RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC. FOR YOUTH THERAPY SERVICES

THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Authorize the first renewal agreement with Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. to provide youth therapy services to the College and Career Success Office at an estimated annual cost set forth in the Financial Section of this report. A written document exercising this option is currently being negotiated. No payment shall be made to Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. during the option period prior to execution of the written document. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written document is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this option is stated below.

Contract Administrator: Garvis, John R. / 773-553-2280

VENDOR:

- 1) Vendor #10619
YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC.
3899 N FRONT STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17110

Carla Powell
717-232-7580

Ownership: Not for Profit

USER INFORMATION:

Project
Manager: 10870 - College and Career Success Office
42 West Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60602

Mcgee, Letitia J.
773-535-5100

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:

The original Agreement (authorized by Board Report 23-0524-PR14) in the amount of \$20,853,706.00 is for a term commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025, with the Board having two (2) options to renew for one (1) year terms. The original agreement was awarded on a non-competitive basis pursuant to Board Rule 7-6.

OPTION PERIOD:

The term of this agreement is being renewed for one (1) year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

OPTION PERIODS REMAINING:

There is one (1) option period for one (1) year remaining.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Choose to Change (C2C) is an innovative collaboration between Youth Advocate Programs (YAP), Inc. and Children's Home & Aid. C2C engages youth heavily impacted by violence and trauma by offering them individualized advocate-wraparound services along with group-based trauma-informed therapy to help them lead safe and successful lives. The Choose to Change model was birthed in 2015 through the YAP & Children's Home & Aid partnership and has successfully delivered evidenced and proven results for youth across the district.

Choose to Change attributes its success to:

- Its 6 month intensive implementation of behavioral health and wraparound support, relentless engagement and advocacy.
- Community-based, individualized, trauma-informed services offered both inside and outside of school partnership with Chicago Public Schools and the University of Chicago Crime Lab resulting in proven outcomes such as a decrease in victimizations, justice system involvement, and an increase in school attendance.

C2C combines individualized, advocate-wraparound services, including intensive mentoring, with group-based, trauma-informed therapy. This combination supports youth in better understanding how past traumatic experiences and chronic stress can impact their thinking and behavior and how that affects their emotional responses.

Over the course of the six-month program, youth build strong interpersonal bonds through mentoring services that focus on addressing each young person's specific needs. Additionally, youth attend sixteen (16) trauma-informed cognitive behavioral therapy SPARCS sessions, which encourage youth to challenge unhelpful thinking patterns and build better problem-solving and communication skills. These strategies combined, help youth to go forward on a pathway of change that will help positively shape their future. These high level mentoring and cognitive behavioral therapy services will be purchased to administer to youth across the district.

DELIVERABLES:

This program does not provide a service that requires the vendor to create something tangible like software, plans, programs or workshops. The end product will be the therapeutic services that are provided to the students of CPS.

OUTCOMES:

Vendor's services will result in youth being better able to manage the effects of trauma (such as hypervigilance and aggression), which will lead to: an increase in the number of students who report that they feel safe at school, at home and in the community; a reduction in the number of youth who are injured by gun violence or are arrested for gun charges; and a reduction in out of school suspensions and major misconducts. An additional goal of the project is to leverage resources in the community including work programs and recreational services that lead to improved life skills.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written option document. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the option document. Authorize Chief of College & Career Success to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this option agreement.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

Pursuant to the Remedial Policy for Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) participation in Goods and Services contracts, the contract is an excluded transaction pursuant to the Goods and Services Policy, for the aspirational goals of 30% MBE and 7% WBE, as the agreement is for a Not-for-Profit organization.

LSC REVIEW:

Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL:

Fund 115, Unit 10870 - College and Career Success Office,

FY26 - \$10,100,000

Not to exceed \$10,100,000 for the one (1) year term. Future year funding is contingent upon budget appropriation and approval

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

The agreement shall contain general conditions including but not limited to the following: Inspector General provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1; Conflicts provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3; Indebtedness provision, in accordance with the Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 pursuant to Board Report 96-0626-PO3; Ethics provision, in accordance with the Board's Ethics Code as amended; and, Contingent Liability provision.

Approved for Consideration:



PATRICIA HERNANDEZ
Chief Procurement Officer

Approved:



MACQUILINE KING, Ed.D
Interim Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: 



RUCHI VERMA
General Counsel