



Mendocino County
Department of Social Services
Healthy People, Healthy Communities

Bekkie F. Emery, Director
Kelsey Rivera, Assistant Director



Memorandum

Date: August 10, 2023

Division: Family & Children's Services

Contract Info: Tapestry Family Services, September 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Amount: \$92,000

Meeting Date: August 29, 2023

History:

When a minor is taken into custody by Family & Children's Services (FCS), has been ordered detained by the Juvenile Court or is in foster care, FCS must place the minor in the home of a relative, extended family member, nonrelative extended family member, an approved resource family, a home licensed or approved by an Indian child's tribe, an emergency shelter or other suitable licensed place, a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program, or a place exempt from licensure designated by the juvenile court. When a child is initially detained or their current placement is no longer available and an emergency placement is needed, FCS staff actively explore available relatives, extended family members, nonrelative extended family members for immediate placement. However, when those placement options are not immediately available, FCS relies on designated approved resource homes through Tapestry Family Services (TFS), a local foster family agency, to be on standby ready to receive children/youth in need of emergency placement.

It is very challenging to have enough resource homes within Mendocino County to care for foster children and youth through FCS, TFS and the other local foster family agency, Redwood Community Services, especially on an emergency basis, in the middle of the night, etc. The proposed agreement provides a stipend to compensate designated TFS resource parents who are willing to be on standby for emergency placement any time of day or night and at any time during the month. FCS has had this arrangement with TFS since Fiscal Year 2017/18. This arrangement was also in place with the other local foster family agency, Redwood Community Services, in Fiscal Years 18/19 and 19/20, but discontinued due to the lack of resource homes willing to be available 24/7 for emergency placement.

Funding:

This contract is covered by Federal, State and Realignment funding.

Numbers served through this agreement:

Between the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, TFS served approximately 39 youth (unduplicated) and provided emergency shelter beds for approximately 1,887 nights.