

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS WITH CHICAGO AREA PROJECT AND SGA YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES TO PROVIDE BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CONSULTING SERVICES**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve entering into agreements with Chicago Area Project and SGA Youth & Family Services ("Providers") to provide Balanced and Restorative Justice consulting services to the Office of Specialized Services, Coordinated School Health Department ("CSH") at an amount not to exceed \$300,000 in the aggregate. Providers were selected on a competitive basis pursuant to a duly advertised Request for Proposal (Specification Number 07-250041). A written agreement is currently being negotiated for each Provider. No services shall be provided and no payment shall be made to any Provider prior to the execution of such Provider's written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind as to each Provider in the event a written agreement for such Provider is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to the agreements is stated below.

**Specification No.: [07-250041]**

**PROVIDERS:**

1. SGA Youth & Family Services  
11 East Adams, Suite 1500  
Chicago IL, 60603  
Contact: Susana Marotta  
Phone: 312-663-0305  
Vendor # 34171
2. Chicago Area Project  
55 E. Jackson Blvd., Suite 900  
Chicago, IL 60604  
Contact: Edith Crigler  
Phone: 312-663-3574  
Vendor #37858

**USER:**

Office of Specialized Services  
Coordinated School Health  
125 South Clark, 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Contact: Dr. Renee Grant-Mitchell  
Phone: (773) 553-1800

**TERM:** The term of each agreement shall commence on April 1, 2008, and shall end on March 31, 2010. Each agreement shall have two 1-year options to renew.

**EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT:** The Board shall have the right to terminate each agreement with 30 days written notice.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** Providers will provide training and technical assistance using the following, but not limited to, Restorative Justice Practices:

**1. Peer Mediation:** A process for resolving disputes and conflicts in which a neutral third party (parties) acts as a moderator. In mediation, the goal is to work out differences constructively. Mediation provides schools with an alternative to traditional disciplinary practices. Students involved in this process, either as mediators or disputants, learn a new way of handling conflict.

**2. Peer Jury:** A student-driven program performed in collaboration with the school's discipline office, and is typically utilized at the High School level. Students, acting as peer jurors, are trained to analyze the facts of a referred student's case, ask questions, and decide upon appropriate consequences to school disciplinary issues. Students are connected with community resources to address the root cause(s) of their behavior and identify positive solutions.

**3. Restorative Circles:** Also commonly known as peacemaking circles, participants arrange themselves in a circle and use a talking piece (object) to ensure that each person speaks individually. A set of values or a philosophy is often articulated as part of the process to emphasize respect, the value of each participant, and the importance of the relationships among the participants. Participants usually consist of victims, offenders, family members, community members and authority figures (e.g. those who will take disciplinary action).

**4. Restorative Conferences:** Restorative conferences are structured meetings that bring together everyone affected by an incident of wrongdoing or conflict to discuss how they have been affected and decide how to repair the harm. Such a conference also may be referred to as victim-offender conferences, where a few other participants are involved, or family group conferences, where family members or other individuals significant to the parties directly involved take part in the discussion and restitution.

**DELIVERABLES:** Providers will provide training and technical assistance to CPS staff and school personnel in "Restorative Justice Practices", which will ultimately improve the scope, sequence and effectiveness of disciplinary actions in the Chicago Public Schools. Strategies and programs implemented must be in accordance with the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Principles for: 1) individual, 2) school, and 3) community. Providers will submit evaluation data reports as requested by the Board.

**OUTCOMES:** The expected outcomes from Providers' implementation of Restorative Justice Practices are:

- (1) Regular and consistent implementation of restorative justice practices.
- (2) Ongoing evaluation of restorative justice practices in schools and modification of the practice implementation, as needed, to improve outcomes.
- (3) Quantifiable reduction in suspensions, expulsions, and repeat offenders/offenses.
- (4) Observed increase in student connection to school.

**COMPENSATION:** Each Provider shall be paid a negotiated rate for service as detailed in each Provider's written agreement. Compensation shall not exceed \$300,000 in the aggregate for the initial term.

**REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES:** None

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the agreements. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreements. Authorize the Chief Specialized Services Officer to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate the agreements.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Pursuant to Section 5.2 of the Remedial Program for Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise Participation in Goods and Services Contracts, a determination will be made as to when transactions should be excluded from contract specific M/WBE goals. It has been determined that the participation goal provisions of the Program do not apply to transactions where the pool of providers includes not-for-profit organizations.

**LSC REVIEW:** Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

**FINANCIAL:** Charge to: Office of Specialized Services: \$300,000.00  
Fiscal Year: 2008  
Budget Classification: 11675-115-000149-221025-54125  
Source of Funds: General Education - Fund 115

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

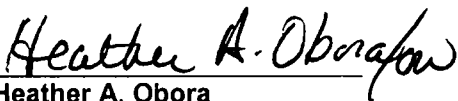
Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

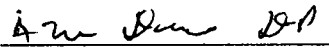
Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

**Approved for Consideration:**


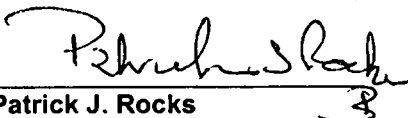
**Approved:**

  
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Heather A. Obora  
Chief Purchasing Officer

  
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Arne Duncan  
Chief Executive Officer

**Within Appropriation:**

  
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Pedro Martinez  
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:   
  
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Patrick J. Rocks  
General Counsel