

**AUTHORIZE A NEW AGREEMENT WITH YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC. FOR YOUTH THERAPY SERVICES**

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

Authorize a new agreement with Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. to provide youth therapy services to Chicago Public Schools at an estimated annual cost set forth in the Compensation Section of this report. Vendor was selected on a non-competitive basis pursuant to Board Rule 7-6. This item was presented to the Single/Sole Source Committee on May 2, 2023, and approved by the Chief Procurement Officer. Prior to approval as a Single Source, the item was published on the Procurement website on May 2, 2023, found here: [cps.edu/procurement](https://cps.edu/procurement). The item will remain on the Procurement website until the May 24, 2023 Board Meeting. This process complies with the independent consultant's recommendations for sole source procurements and the Board's "Single/Sole Source Committee Charter." A written agreement for Vendor's services is currently being negotiated. No services shall be provided by Vendor and no payment shall be made to Vendor prior to the execution of their written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written agreement is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

Contract Administrator : Mccormack, Amos / 773-553-3221

**VENDOR:**

- 1) Vendor # 10619  
YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC.  
3899 N Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
Keith Koenig  
717 232-7580

Ownership: Not for Profit

**USER INFORMATION :**

Project  
Manager: 10610 - School Safety and Security Office  
  
42 West Madison Street  
  
Chicago, IL 60602  
  
Copeland, Toni  
  
773-553-3011

**TERM:**

The term of this agreement shall commence on July 1, 2023 and shall end June 30, 2025. This agreement shall have two (2) options to renew for periods of one (1) year each.

**EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT:**

The Board shall have the right to terminate this agreement with 30 days written notice.

**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.

**COMPENSATION:**

Estimated annual costs for the term are set forth below:  
\$10,426,853 FY24  
\$10,426,853 FY25

**REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES:**

None.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

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

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:**

Pursuant to the Remedial Program for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Participation in Goods and Services contracts, (M/WBE Program), this contract is exempt as this agreement is for a Not-for-Profit Organization.

**LSC REVIEW:**

Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

**FINANCIAL:**

Fund 210, Safety & Security, Unit 10615

\$10,426,853, FY24

\$10,426,853, FY25

Not to exceed \$20,853,706 for the two (2) year term.

Future year funding is contingent upon budget appropriation and approval.

**CFDA#:** Not Applicable

**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 May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), 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:

PATRICIA HERNANDEZ  
Acting Chief Procurement Officer

Approved:

PEDRO MARTINEZ  
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

RUCHI VERMA  
General Counsel