



CHILDNET, INC.

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES FOR YOUNG ADULTS
IN BROWARD COUNTY**

REOI # CN2026-01

REOI release date: **August 6, 2026**
REOI Response due date: **August 20, 2026**

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Request for Expression of Interest for Independent Living Services for Young Adults in Broward County

A. AUTHORITY

ChildNet, Inc. has been chosen by the Florida Department of Children and Families to serve as the Community Based Care (CBC) lead agency in both Broward and Palm Beach Counties. As such, it is the single private non-profit entity responsible for administration of the local child welfare systems in each county. It fulfills this responsibility by managing comprehensive networks of child welfare services providers. The agency's mission is to lead communities in protecting and serving abused, and neglected children by supporting and strengthening their families. Fulfillment of this mission requires input and support from community stakeholders and services providers.

B. OVERVIEW

Chapter 409.988(1)(j)2, Florida Statutes states that the lead agency "Shall directly provide no more than 35 percent of all child welfare services provided unless it can demonstrate a need within the lead agency's geographic service area where there is a lack of qualified providers available to perform necessary services. The approval period for an exemption to exceed the 35 percent threshold is limited to 1 year. To receive approval, the lead agency must create and submit to the department through the lead agency's local community alliance a detailed report of all efforts to recruit a qualified provider to perform the necessary services in that geographic service area."

To comply with this statute as ChildNet's current exemption nears its completion, we are seeking interest from organizations to provide Independent Living Services to young adults ages 18-23 who were formerly in foster care and under the jurisdiction of Circuit 17, (regardless of the location of their current address) and are eligible for Independent Living Services in accordance with Section 409.1451, Florida Statutes. Independent living transition services are administered to young adults who are eligible for the Post-Secondary Educational Support Services (PESS) Program, Aftercare Services, and/or young adult interested in re-entering the Extended Foster Care (EFC) and/or PESS Program(s). Independent living services provide a continuum of tangible and intangible skills and knowledge that young adults must have to be successful. The emphasis of this program is on providing resources, training, guidance, support, and ongoing assessments to assist young adults with developing the necessary skills to be self-sufficient.

- Aftercare Support Services. Services intended to assist young adults formerly in foster care in their efforts in developing the skills and abilities necessary for independent living. These services specifically include mentoring and tutoring, mental health services and substance abuse counseling, life skills classes, including credit management and preventive health activities, parenting classes, job and career skills training, counselor consultations, financial literacy skills training, and temporary financial assistance. Temporary financial assistance to prevent homelessness should be considered emergency assistance and should be provided as expeditiously as possible.
- Post-Secondary Education Services and Support. An educational based stipend available to eligible young adults who have reached 18 years of age but are not yet 23, have received

their high school diploma or equivalent and are enrolled full time (9 credit hours) in a college, university, or vocational school.

- Community Resource Navigation: Identify a single-point-of contact who will be recognized as the community resource navigator responsible for assisting EFC, PESS, and Aftercare young adults in maximizing utilization of available community resources to assist young adults in areas that includes, but is not limited to:
 - Medicaid/Sunshine Health
 - Medical and dental services
 - Food stamps/food banks
 - Public transportation
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Community partnerships with mental health providers
 - Education system
- Life Skills Coaching and Training: Provide a recurring curriculum for EFC, PESS, and aftercare young adults that is delivered in multiple formats (virtual, in-person, group or individual sessions) that includes, but is not limited to:
 - Money management
 - Grocery shopping and food storage
 - Cooking - meal prep, storage of leftovers
 - Cleaning - Laundry, home and bathroom cleaning
 - Storage of important documents (e.g., birth certificates, court documents, car documents, etc.)
 - Internet/online safety
 - Health – doctor, dentist, medication management
 - Keys to Independence
 - Self-Care

Please note that this Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) is for informational purposes only, and no contract will be awarded as a result. A firm or organization's response to this REOI—or lack thereof—will have no impact on the evaluation of responses to any subsequent solicitations, i.e., Request for Proposals (RFP) or Invitation to Bid (ITB) released. Responses will be used solely for information and planning purposes. Also, all responses will be public record. Do not submit confidential information in your response.

The deadline for submission of interest is 3:00 p.m., August 20, 2026, and must be provided in accordance with Attachment #1.

C. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND OUTCOME MEASURES

As part of this REOI, parties of interest should have or be able to demonstrate the capacity to fulfill ChildNet's minimum requirements for Independent Living Services for Young Adults and invite eligible organizations to indicate their interest in providing Independent Living Services for Young Adults. Interested organizations should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services and meet the following outcome measures.

- 99.5% of young adults contacted a minimum of once per month via phone call, emails, text message, office visit, home visit or field visit. (Text messaging is not the only acceptable form of monthly contact.) A minimum of 2 attempted contacts notes in FSFN will meet the standard even if youth does not respond.
- 100% of all PESS/EFC young adults served will have a current Independent Living Module update in FSFN
- 90% of all Aftercare young adults served will have a current Independent Living Module update in FSFN
- 90% of young adults surveyed, ages eighteen (18) and older, who are not receiving EFC services but are on PESS or are eligible for services and have opted out, will indicate satisfaction with the services received
- 99.5% of PESS young adults served are attending an approved post-secondary educational institution full-time (9 credit hours)
- 100% of eligible young adults applying for Extended Foster Care will have a staffing with ChildNet

D. REOI CONTACT AND SUBMISSION

Section D.1 REOI Contact

The Procurement Manager is the official point of contact for this REOI. This individual is the only authorized contact permitted to communicate on behalf of ChildNet, Inc., about this REOI. Contact information for REOI point of contact:

Denesee Rankine-Palmer
Director of Contracts / Procurement Manager
ChildNet, Inc.
1100 W. McNab Road,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309
(954) 837-3951

Section D.2 Submission Detail

All expression of interest must be in writing to be considered and received by email to the REOI point of contact at Proposals@ChildNet.us before the due date identified in Section B.

Section D.3 REOI Timeline

Please review the REOI timeline below. Dates may be modified or amended by the Procurement Manager, who will post an amendment to this REOI notifying prospective respondents of any change. Before submitting responses, organizations will have the opportunity to ask questions. All questions must be in writing and directed to the Procurement Manager at Proposals@ChildNet.us. The email subject line for questions to this REOI must include REOI # CN2026-01. All questions and answers will be addressed via posting on the ChildNet website to be available to all organizations at <https://www.childnet.us/request-proposals>. This is the only source of official information regarding this REOI.

REOI Released: **August 6, 2026**

Deadline for Questions: **August 12, 2026**

Questions and Answers Posting: **August 14, 2026**

REOI Responses Due: **August 20, 2026**

E. WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

ChildNet is interested in hearing feedback from for-profit and non-profit community-based accredited organizations that can deliver independent living services for young adults. Organization expertise and qualifications must be demonstrated through historical provision of the service being requested, or a closely related service and describe prior work with State agencies and/or local government.

F. WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Interested organizations should consider the independent living for young adults scope of work listed below.

Section F.1 Program Services

Approach and the specific service components, training, activities, resources and support that will be provided. Identifying evidence-based, evidence-informed or promising practice model(s) that will be utilized, as well as demonstrating how the proposed services will be tailored to meet the needs of young adults.

Section F.2 Transition Process

Approach to transitioning process, case consultation, minimum monthly contact with young adults enrolled in PESS, timely submission of court documents, life skills training and presentations, assisting young adults with documentation for renewal and academic purposes, and case planning activities.

Section F.3 Monthly Contacts

Coordinating and providing independent living activities and training. Making monthly contacts with young adults enrolled in the PESS program and ensuring all monthly contacts are visual which can be in-person or virtual, using virtual meeting platforms or video conferencing.

Section F.4 Follow-up Contacts

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Making follow-up contact with young adults 60 days post EFC and/or PESS termination and 60 days after the Aftercare application has been completed.

Section F.5 Monthly Eligibility Documentation

Obtaining monthly documentation from young adults and/or the young adult's educational program reflecting progress and enrollment to support continuing eligibility.

Section F.6 Opt-In and/or Opt-Out of services

Working collaboratively with ChildNet when young adults Opt-In and/or Opt-Out of services to ensure timely processing and submission of documents.

Section F.7 Life Skills Coaching and Training

Providing a recurring curriculum for EFC, PESS, and aftercare young adults that is delivered in multiple formats (virtual, in-person, group or individual sessions) that includes, but is not limited to the following topics:

- Money management
- Grocery shopping and food storage
- Cooking - meal prep, storage of leftovers
- Cleaning - Laundry, home and bathroom cleaning
- Storage of important documents (e.g., birth certificates, court documents, car documents, etc.)
- Internet/online safety
- Health – doctor, dentist, medication management
- Keys to Independence
- Self-Care

Section F.8 Assessment

Description of assessments that will be used to identify client needs and strengths, direct service planning and evaluate progress. Defining the frequency with which the assessments will be completed, reviewed, and how they will be used to improve client outcomes.

Section F.9 Young Adult Engagement

Description of outreach strategies that will be used to positively and effectively engage young adults in program services and maintain their engagement and involvement throughout service delivery. Demonstrating how young adults who have “dropped off” and are not engaged in any services will be reengaged.

Section F.10 Referral and Admission

If referral requires coordination with other agencies, description of how those agencies will be engaged and the specifics of the proposed referral process.

Section F.11 Service Delivery Area

Independent living services for young adults are provided to young adults whose dependency case originated in Broward County regardless of the location of their current address.

Section F.12 Financial Resource

The intended financial support for this service delivery will be an amount up to \$600,000.00.

G. SUGGESTED LITERATURE REVIEW

Chapter 409.1451, Florida Statutes

Chapter 414.56, Florida Statutes

Chapter 65C-42, Florida Administrative Code

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

Section H.1 Convicted Vendors

A person or affiliate placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime is prohibited from doing any of the following for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list:

1. submitting a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity;
2. submitting a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work;
3. submitting bids on leases of real property to a public entity;
4. being awarded or performing work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and
5. transacting business with any public entity in excess of \$3,500.

Section H.2 Discriminatory Vendors

An entity or affiliate placed on the discriminatory vendor list pursuant to section 287.134, F. S. may not:

1. submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity;
2. submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work;
3. submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity;
4. be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, sub-contractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; or
5. transact business with any public entity.

Section H.3 Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.216, Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment.

1. ChildNet is prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to:
 - a. Procure or obtain a contract;
 - b. Extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or
 - c. Enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law, 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - i. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - ii. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
 - iii. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

I. ATTACHMENT

Section I.1

Attachment #1 Request for Expression of Interest Form

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