

CHILDNET, INC.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR ADOPTION CASE MANAGEMENT IN BROWARD COUNTY

REOI # CN2025-01

REOI release date: **August 1, 2025**REOI Response due date: **August 15, 2025**

Contact Person
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Request for Expression of Interest for Adoption Case Management 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 2 years. 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 pre-adoption, adoption, and post-adoption support to children in the care and custody of the State that have been referred to and are available for adoption, who are on appeal, who have a goal of adoption, and to prospective and approved adoptive parents. Adoption Case Management services are provided to:

- (a) all children up to age eighteen where a termination of parental rights petition has been filed or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and have a permanency goal of adoption, including children whose parent's termination of parental rights may be under appeal.
- (b) Prospective and approved adoptive parents.
- (c) Post-finalization adoptive families requesting support services.

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 12:00 p.m., August 15, 2025 and must be provided in accordance with Attachment #1.

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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 Adoption Case Management services and invite eligible organizations to indicate their interest in providing Adoption Case Management Services. 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.

- 95% of children served shall not experience a recurrence of maltreatment, verified or indicated, within 12 months after adoption finalization.
- 170 children will have finalized adoptions between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.
- 90% of children referred with an identified placement will have their adoption finalized within 90 days of Termination of Parent Rights.
- 95% of children available for adoption with no identified placement will have required match staffings conducted every 45 days and documented in FSFN.
- 90% of all recruitment events and activities outlined in the approved Recruitment Plan will be completed each quarter.
- 100% of children who become available on Florida's statewide website will be registered
 and made available on the national website at www.AdoptUSKids.org and local recruitment
 resources such as the Heart Gallery, after the child is documented on the Florida Adoption
 Exchange.
- 97% of all post-adoptive children listed on the HRA report will have their health risk assessments completed by the end of each month.
- 100% of all adopted children will be contacted at 6 months and one year after their adoption is finalized to determine whether the adoptive child(ren) require additional services in the home.

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,

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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 Denesee.Palmer@ChildNet.us. The email subject line for questions to this REOI must include REOI # CN2025-01. 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 1, 2025

Deadline for Questions: August 6, 2025

Questions and Answers Posting: August 12, 2025

REOI Responses Due: August 15, 2025

E. WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

ChildNet is interested in hearing feedback from for-profit and non-profit community-based accredited organizations that are currently or will be licensed by the Department of Children and Families as a Child Placing Agency. 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 Adoption Case Management 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 to children and pre- and post-adoptive families. 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 children and families.

Section F.2 Adoption Finalizations

The agency's process to ensure adoption finalizations occur within 90 days of the child being legally free for adoption and the child is placed in their identified adoptive home.

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Section F.3 Separated Siblings

Efforts to continue meaningful connections between siblings that are separated through adoption.

Section F.4 Post Adoption

Provision of post-adoption support services that will be made available to families once adoptions are finalized at intervals of 6 months and one year following finalization. Process of referring adoptive families for Post-Adoption Services and how adoptive families will be supported beyond adoption finalization.

Section F.5 Recruitment

Recruitment of adoptive families for children with special needs and families that reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of children waiting for adoptive homes. Services that will be provided to prepare children for adoption and how the organization will work with children who are freed for adoption but have expressed a desire not to be adopted.

Section F.6 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.7 Family Engagement

Specific efforts that will be used to positively and effectively engage and involve families in services and maintain their effective engagement and involvement throughout delivery service.

Section F.8 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.9 Service Delivery Area

Adoption Case Management services will be provided for all children and families residing in Broward County.

Section F.10 Follow-up Support

Description of services and support families may receive following program completion and the level and duration that follow-up will be provided. Description of how community and natural supports will be identified, engaged and maintained and how their effectiveness and value will be assessed.

Section F.11 Financial Resource

The intended financial support for this service delivery will be an amount up to \$1,400,000.00.

G. SUGGESTED LITERATURE REVIEW

Florida Statutes, Chapter 39, Proceedings Relating to Children

Florida Statutes, Chapter 63, Adoption

<u>Statutes & Constitution : View Statutes : Online Sunshine 65C-16 : ADOPTIONS - Florida Administrative Rules, Law, Code, Register - FAC, FAR, eRulemaking (flrules.org)</u>

CF Operating Procedure 170-12 Adoptions - <u>Safety Methodology Practice Guidelines</u>, <u>Investigations (myflfamilies.com)</u>

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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