



**Department of Community Justice
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Juvenile Services Division

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Portland, OR 97213

To: Shannon Busby, County Budget Office, Budget Analyst Senior
From: David Koch, Director, Juvenile Services Division
Date: May 27, 2011
Subject: Morrison Child & Family Services Contract Program Amendment

The proposed contract between Morrison Child and Family Services (Morrison) and the Department of Community Justice will provide exclusive access to a 16-bed secure custody unit at the Donald E. Long Home (juvenile detention) for placement of youth referred to Morrison by the Division of Unaccompanied Children's Services (DUCS), within the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. DUCS is responsible for the care and placement of unaccompanied and undocumented children and youth. As outlined in the Flores Settlement Agreement, ORR provides a safe and appropriate environment for children and youth from the time they are placed in ORR custody until their reunification with family members or sponsors in the U.S. or until they are returned to their home country by the US Department of Health and Human Services immigration officials. ORR takes into consideration the unique nature of each child's situation and child welfare principles when making placement, case management, and release decisions that are in the interests of the child.

This partnering proposal allows Morrison to lease space in detention and funds milieu staffing (county employees) in addition to health care, food and various services for youth under the jurisdiction of DUCS. The revenue contract, which runs July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, totals \$857,298 (with approximately \$727,000 to DCJ and \$129,000 for Corrections Health). It is anticipated the secure custody contract will be renewed annually, in keeping with the current contract between Morrison and ORR, which extends through September 2014, to provide staff secure shelter for youth under supervision of ORR.

These secure custody beds will serve males ages 13-17 who are currently on supervision to or have previously been adjudicated in a juvenile court. Secure detention is limited to those youth in the custody of ORR requiring a secure custodial placement who have a documented history of juvenile

offending. Routine assessment of the population referred to secure custody – utilizing a standardized risk assessment tool – will determine length of stay and potential for transition to a less secure setting. Only previously adjudicated (delinquent) youth will qualify for placement in the secure unit. Ultimately, Morrison determines which youth to accept from DUCS. The majority of these youth are from Mexico and Latin American countries; most common countries of origin are Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

While in ORR custody children and youth are provided services by a network of ORR-funded care provider facilities. Currently there are more than 41 ORR-funded care provider facilities in 10 different states. A variety of services are provided at these facilities including: classroom education, health care, socialization/recreation, vocational training, mental health and drug abuse services, family reunification, access to legal assistance, and case management. The ORR residential continuum of care consists of four levels: *Long-Term Foster Care* (the least restrictive option in the ORR continuum of care, long term foster care provides quality care in a family and community-based living environment); *Shelter Care* (this level of care includes shelter, group home care and transitional foster care settings); *Staff-Secure* (these providers maintain a more intensive level of security measures within a licensed shelter care context); and *Secure* (the highest level of security in the continuum characterized by more intensive staff supervision as well as structural and physical barriers to prevent escape and respond to disruptive behavior).

As mentioned previously, in addition to the proposed secure custody beds, Morrison contracts with ORR to operate a 20 bed 'staff-secure' residential facility (the 'Paso Program') at its Mt. Scott facility in Portland, OR. This program serves adolescent males between the ages of 13-17. Youth in the program are provided routine and emergency medical care, comprehensive assessments, educational services, recreation, individual and group counseling, acculturation and adaptation orientation, access to religious and legal services, and family reunification services. By operating multiple care facilities that provide different levels of care, and utilizing locally modified assessment criteria, Morrison will be able to facilitate movement among levels of care within Multnomah County in a quick and efficient manner providing the most appropriate level of care (and security) while addressing service and safety needs of the youth, the program and the community.