



**RCA  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 10  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 12/16/2004  
PAGE: 1 of 2**

**SUBJECT:** Approve execution of a 12-month contract with AUSTIN FAMILIES, INC. d/b/a FAMILYCONNECTIONS, Austin, TX, to provide childcare quality improvement and training services in an amount not to exceed \$664,375, with two 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$664,375 per renewal option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,993,125.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$498,281 is included in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. The term of the contract is for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. Funding for the remaining three months of the contract and renewal options is contingent on available funding in future budgets.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING** Health and Human  
**DEPARTMENT:** Services

**DIRECTOR'S  
AUTHORIZATION:** David Lurie

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director for Human Services, 972-5011; Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, 972-5028; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** Approved 2004-2005 Operating Budget, September 13, 2004.

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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**Background:**

The contract with Austin Families, Inc. dba FamilyConnections provides childcare quality improvement services, training for childcare employees, and parent education services. The Quality Connections Program will include the following components: Child Care Resource and Referral; annual Child Care Status Report; Child Care Resource Center (includes the Family Place Library, a resource lending library for childcare providers and parents, a mobile resource van, childcare provider training, and parent outreach); consultants for directors; and salary stipends to retain qualified teachers in the classroom.

A Request for Application process for childcare quality funding was conducted in coordination with Travis County in August and September 2004. Four applications were received and reviewed. Three agencies are recommended for funding in contracts that begin January 1, 2005. The recommendations are:

ACC Child Development Department - \$140,485

Austin Families dba FamilyConnections - \$664,375

WorkSource Greater Austin Area Workforce Board - \$39,804.

The recommendation for an Interlocal Agreement with Austin Community College Child Development Department is contained in a separate Request for Council Action. The recommendation for a contract



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with WorkSource Greater Austin Area Workforce Development Board will be processed administratively by the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD).

**Performance Measures:**

**Related Departmental Goal**

Provision: Social Services – Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle among targeted populations.

**Outcomes**

**Goals**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| • Percentage of early child care programs community-wide that meet quality standards | 13% |
| • Percentage of parents satisfied with childcare resource and referral services      | 90% |
| • Percentage of teachers retained in same classroom after 12 months                  | 85% |

**Outputs**

**Goals**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| • Number of low income families provided child care resource and referral services (unduplicated) | 2,700 |
| • Number of centers visited by mobile resource van (unduplicated)                                 | 200   |
| • Number of parent visits to resource center  | 3,000 |
| • Number of early childhood development staff receiving training or technical assistance          | 450   |
| • Number of parents of newborns receiving parent education packets                                | 7,000 |
| • Number of early childhood classroom teachers receiving stipends (unduplicated)                  | 100   |

**Requested Council Action**

Council is requested to approve execution of a 12-month contract with AUSTIN FAMILIES, INC. dba FAMILYCONNECTIONS, Austin, TX, to provide childcare quality improvement and training services in an amount not to exceed \$664,375, with two 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$664,375 per renewal option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,993,125.