



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. AM 77-2024, As Amended

Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

Municipal Clerk's Office

Amended and Approved

Date: **January 9, 2024**

From: Assembly Member Anna Brawley

**Subject: SOLE SOURCE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ALASKA
CHILDREN'S TRUST TO PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR
THE ANCHORAGE CHILD CARE EARLY EDUCATION FUND
(ACCEE FUND) IMPLEMENTATION**

Assembly Members are requesting approval of a sole source grant agreement with Alaska Children's Trust (ACT) to provide continued support for the Anchorage Child Care Early Education Fund (ACCEE Fund) Implementation Team and its deliverables, as outlined in Assembly Resolution No. 2023-404. The grant will be administered by the Legislative Services Office.

Based upon the information in the attached memo, it is recommended the Assembly approve a sole source grant agreement with ACT. The sole source grant agreement will be for a period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, with a not to exceed amount of \$100,000.00.

This is the written determination of the Purchasing Director as required by Title 7.

Prepared by: Legislative Services Office

Fund Certification: **Alden Thern, CFO[RACHELLE A. ALGER,
PURCHASING DIRECTOR]**
101000-101000-540100 FY 2024 \$100,000

Respectfully submitted: Anna Brawley
Assembly Member, District 3, West Anchorage

Date: December 27, 2023

TO: Rachelle Alger, Purchasing Director
CC: Chris Hunter, Deputy Purchasing Director
Christopher Constant, Assembly Chair
Clare Ross, Legislative Services Director
FROM: Anna Brawley, Assembly Member
Kevin Cross, Assembly Member
Kameron Perez-Verdia, Assembly Member
Jennifer Veneklasen, Legislative & Policy Analyst

SUBJECT: SOLE SOURCE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ALASKA CHILDREN'S TRUST

We request a sole source grant agreement with Alaska Children's Trust (ACT) to provide continued support of the Anchorage Child Care Early Education Fund (ACCEE Fund) Implementation Team and its deliverables, as outlined in Assembly Resolution No. 2023-404. The base period of performance for the grant agreement will be January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. The base period grant agreement value shall not exceed \$100,000.00.

ACT is the statewide nonprofit organization specializing in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The organization works towards its vision of an Alaska where all children, youth, and families can thrive through strategic advocacy, investing resources, generating funds, and convening organizations. ACT has been in operation for 35 years and is uniquely situated to continue the work already underway to successfully launch the ACCEE Fund which was approved by Anchorage voters in April 2023 (Ballot Proposition 14) and dedicates the Municipality's annual marijuana sales tax revenue to child care and early childhood education.

The marijuana tax revenue will be collected starting January 1, 2024, and placed in a dedicated fund. To ensure funds are used effectively, a public-private partnership between the Municipality and ACT was formed in fall of 2023 to establish an Implementation Team which includes three Assembly Members, staff from the Anchorage Health Department, a School Board Member, representatives from Head Start, thread Alaska, JBER, community leaders, child care and early education providers, the business community and parents.

ACT engaged and funded a consultant to support the first phase of the Implementation Team's work from September to December 2023. Over the past four months the ACT consultant, with support from ACT staff, has researched best practices and emerging trends for funding child care and early education and began developing an in-depth white paper summarizing the information for the team; convened meetings of the Implementation Team; served as a resource and liaison to the Implementation Team; began planning the team's 6 stakeholder/community listening and engagement sessions to be held in 2024; and developed a communication plan, including the launching of a website, to keep the public informed (www.careforkidsanchorage.com). ACT contributed \$60,000 towards the first phase.

The second phase of the project, the subject of the sole source grant agreement, will run primarily from January 2024 through July 2024 and include continued planning and support for stakeholder/community engagement sessions; gathering data from engagement sessions and reporting results to the Implementation Team; continuing development of the website and communications tools to keep the public informed of the progress and opportunities to participate in the process; and supporting the Implementation Team in these additional ways:

1. Drafting subsequent ordinance language as required in AO No. 2022-17(S-2), As Amended, which shall include the responsibilities, composition and operation of the Accountability Board of Child Care and Early Education;
2. Development of a preliminary budget for the use of the 2024- 2025 marijuana tax funds, to be delivered to the Accountability Board for their consideration after they are seated; and
3. Development of a draft 3-year strategic plan for the use of future funding to be delivered to the Accountability Board for their consideration after they are seated.

No reasonable competition exists that could provide the same continuity of services, specialized experience, and project partnership as ACT. The Implementation Team was convened for the express public purpose of developing a system, through stakeholder and expert engagement, that meets child care and early educations needs in the community and responsibly allocates Municipal marijuana tax funds to that purpose in furtherance of the will of Anchorage voters.

Public engagement is a critical part of the implementation timeline, both to gather public input early in the process and to ensure the work going forward is shaped by the wants and needs of the Anchorage community. To maximize engagement, ACT will host several events in different parts of the community, starting in late January.

ACT will not require any administration fee, ensuring the full \$100,000 will go towards the project. In addition, they expect to provide an additional \$25,000 in direct support for the project in 2024. We don't believe any other organization would be willing to accept the funds without any administrative costs, nor provide "matching funds" to ensure completion of the project.

Services outlined in the grant agreement will be performed by ACT, with reports and invoices submitted by the grantee monthly. The amount of the contract is not to exceed \$100,000. The term of the grant agreement will be January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

Your approval of a sole source grant agreement with Alaska Children's Trust is requested.

Rachelle A. Alger

Rachelle A. Alger, Purchasing Director

[FUNDING CERTIFICATION

~~101000-101000-540100~~ FY 2024

\$100,000

{OPERATING BUDGET}]