



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. BZ
8/27/2024

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Agreement with the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Task Force on Child Abuse: CARE Center for Comprehensive Forensic Interviewer Services, \$60,000, retroactive to July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Background:

The Oklahoma City Police Department is in need of a Professional Service Provider to perform forensic interviews to interview juveniles who are victims of abuse or witnesses of abuse. The professional service provider will be responsible for hiring a qualified forensic interviewer who will conduct unbiased, neutral, non-leading, culturally sensitive, fact-finding forensic interviews with juveniles who allege experiencing abuse or violence or who are witnesses to alleged abuse or violence.

A qualified Forensic Interviewer will improve cooperation by juvenile victims/witnesses in a safe and supportive environment, resulting in a better environment for the juvenile and an improved outcomes for law enforcement investigations and prosecutions and ultimately resulting in a lesser impact on the juvenile and a safer community.

The Professional Service Provider, who has been organized since 1991, is Oklahoma County's only child advocacy center and has the professional staff and available resources to identify, hire and supervise a Forensic Interviewer.

The Professional Service Provider has the CARE Center, a neutral location available for the Forensic Interviewer to conduct sensitive forensic interviews with juveniles who allege experiencing abuse or violence or who are witnesses to alleged abuse or violence. This will be the third year of an agreement with the Professional Service Provider for these services.

Cost:
\$60,000

Source of Funds:
General Fund--Police Investigations-Police Department-Other Services and Charges (1001-4200731-11054-52890001)

Review:
Police

Recommendation: Agreement be approved.