

MOTION

The Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), operating under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has reported that since 2014 more than 560,000 unaccompanied immigrant children (minors under 18 years of age) have been taken into custody by immigration authorities. Subsequently, these children were released to sponsors, often friends or families, living in the United States. Over 300,000 of these children were apprehended in the past three years alone. Of these, it is estimated that over 64,000 children reside in California. Approximately 5,841 unaccompanied minors were released to sponsors in Los Angeles County between January and March of 2023.

Since January 2020, the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF) has led a unique program unlike any other to support transition-age youth, specifically those between the ages of 16 and 24, who have undergone processing through the Office of Refugee Resettlement. The program offers assistance with housing, education, employment, and access to vital supportive services, fulfilling a unique role as the sole program of its kind for unaccompanied and refugee minors. With a proven track record of successfully assisting transition-age youth through specialized programs, SALEF possesses the expertise and experience working with Central American migrant youth and providing tailored support services that result in positive outcomes for the targeted population.

The City's Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget provides \$100,000 in General City Purposes funding to continue case management services to unaccompanied minor youth. Further Council action is necessary for CIFD to add funding to expand this program.

Furthermore, recognizing the escalating demand for these essential services, particularly in Council District (CD) 1, increased support in the amount of \$100,000 will be provided from CD1 Neighborhood Services Fund No. Account to provide targeted supportive services for CD1 residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council:

1. **AUTHORIZE** the General Manager, or designee, of the Community Investment for Families Department, to execute a new contract based on the FY 2023-24 budgetary contractual authority of \$100,000 and add \$100,000 for supportive services for a contractual amount up to \$200,000 and a term of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, and to execute the necessary documents with and/or payments to the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF) subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form.
2. **AUTHORIZE** the City Controller to transfer and appropriate \$100,000 from the CD1 Neighborhood Services Fund Account No. 00097 to the Community Investment for Families Fund No.100-21, Account No. 003040 (Contractual Services).

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3. **AUTHORIZE** the City Legislative Analyst to make any corrections, clarifications, or revisions to the above instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, and including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections/clarifications/changes may be made orally, electronically or by any other means.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council find that the services to be performed by the Salvadoran Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF) are for the performance of professional, scientific, expert, technical, or other special services of a temporary and occasional character for which competitive bidding is not practicable or advantageous and that the work can be performed more economically or feasibly by independent contractors than by City employees in accordance with Charter Section 1022.

PRESENTED BY


EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY


MONICA RODRIGUEZ

ORIGINAL