

## Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan - Calendar Year 2021

Agency: Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)

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## 2021 DCYF Supplier Diversity Inclusion Plan

Agency's plan to increase participation of certified small minority, women, and veteran owned firms:

DCYF is the State Agency charged with the administration of multiple key programs related to the education, safety, and wellbeing of children. As such, DCYF has three primary functional areas in which these services are delivered: Early Learning, Child Welfare, and Juvenile Rehabilitation. The purpose of this memo is to outline the efforts that will be made, regarding supplier diversity and inclusion, during the 2020 calendar year.

<u>Planning, Expenditures, and Outreach</u>: The primary mission of DCYF is the delivery of high quality services to clients of the agency. As a result, DCYF contracts for a wide array of client services. Over the coming year, DCYF will continue to align its efforts with regard to the provision of those services. More specifically, DCYF will work to gain a better understanding of its provider community. Ensuring that providers reflect the communities they serve, while also delivering high quality services, is a primary focus of DCYF. Over the next year, DCYF will explore the possibility of underwriting the cost of in-state OMWBE certification. Doing so has the possibility of removing a barrier that would allow DCYF to better understand the composition of its provider community.

Non-Client Service Procurement: In addition to client service agreements, DCYF also contracts for a wide array of services which broadly support the agency. These agreements cover a wide array of topics and can include contracts for consulting, information technology projects, security guards, janitorial services, and much more. Over the past year, DCYF has engaged a Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) panel, that has been making agency wide policy and practice recommendations. As that group continues its work, the DCYF Contracts and Procurement Office will continue to implement best practices and recommendations which pertain to Contracts.

<u>Contract Requirements</u>: As part of the service development and review process, DCYF will also continue to consider the necessity of contract requirements. The goal here will be to ensure that unintentional barriers are not created through the imposition of new contract requirements. Also, when new requirements are implemented, thought will be given to how contractors may be assisted in meeting these new requirements.