



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Announcement of the Intent to Award a Single-Source Cooperative Agreement to Burke Law Group, PLLC in Houston, Texas

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of intent to award a single-source cooperative agreement

SUMMARY: The ACF, ORR announces the intent to award a single-source cooperative agreement in an amount of up to \$150,000,000 to Burke Law Group, a law firm headquartered in Houston, Texas. The purpose of this proposed award is to provide legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation services for eligible unaccompanied alien children (UACs) during immigration proceedings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and in hearings and proceedings before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) while children remain in ORR care. The proposed award also includes limited discharge-related legal continuity planning and referral support for children exiting ORR care. Under the proposed award, Burke Law Group would provide legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation services for eligible UACs while they remain in ORR care. The recipient would also provide limited discharge-related legal continuity planning and referral support to assist children in connecting with appropriate post-discharge legal resources.

DATES: The proposed period of performance is August 15, 2026 to August 14, 2027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reina Byrd, Assistant Deputy Director, Unaccompanied Alien Children Bureau, 330 C St SW, Washington, DC 20201. Telephone: (202) 256-9497, Reina.Byrd@acf.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ORR announces the intent to award a single-source cooperative agreement to Burke Law Group to provide legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation services, as required under 8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(5), 45 CFR 410.1309(a), and the preliminary injunction in *Community Legal Services In East Palo Alto, et. al. v. HHS, et. al.*, No. 4:25-cv-02847 (N.D. Cal.), for eligible UACs during immigration proceedings before EOIR and in hearings and proceedings before USCIS while children remain in ORR care. The proposed award also includes limited discharge-related legal continuity planning and referral support.

The proposed award would expand ORR's capacity to provide legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation services for eligible UACs while complementing existing ORR-funded legal services. Services under the proposed award include legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation during immigration proceedings before EOIR and USCIS, and limited discharge-related legal continuity planning and referral support.

The proposed award is intended to help address identified gaps in legal orientation, legal consultation, and attorney-of-record representation services for eligible UACs while supporting ORR's statutory responsibility to ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that eligible UACs have counsel to represent them during immigration proceedings.

Statutory Authority: Section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, 6 U.S.C. 279, transferred responsibility for the care and custody of UACs to the Office of Refugee Resettlement. In addition, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, 8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(4) and (c)(5), requires the Department of Health and Human Services, to the greatest extent practicable and consistent with 8 U.S.C. 1362, to ensure that UACs have counsel to represent them in

legal proceedings or matters and to protect them from mistreatment, exploitation, and trafficking.

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