

The Department for Children, Youth and Families
Justification for Contract Renewal Authorization with Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc. for the Provision of Family and Neighborhood Resource Center Services

The Department for Children, Youth and Families respectfully requests legislative authorization to renew a contractual agreement with Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc. for the provision of Clinical Prevention Services with Community and Recreational Supports. The requested contract term is for October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025 for the amount of \$170,000.

The Trinity Family and Neighborhood Resource Center (FNRC) was opened in 2005 as a neighborhood initiative as a preventive service by the Department and funded through a particular State funding stream of Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS).

The Family and Neighborhood Resource Center brings together the individual programs and services of the agency under a seamless service delivery mechanism. Using a strengths-based, solution oriented evidence based holistic approach, this system allows for immediate assessment of the presenting problem, family team conferencing, identification of ancillary needs, designation of appropriate intervention, and rapid engagement in crisis intervention services, program specific enrollment, referral to supportive resources or engagement in preventative services. All of Trinity Alliance services are trauma informed and are culturally competent, including the fact that we employ three Spanish speaking individuals.

A chief goal of the FNRC is family stabilization through the provision of family strengthening primary, secondary and tertiary preventative measures, all aimed at aversion of foster care, mental health hospitalization and criminal justice entanglement. The FNRC actively averts homelessness, intervenes in domestic violence situations, aids in treatment service location for those actively addicted, provides reunification support for families with individuals returning from incarceration or residential treatment, supports solutions outside the income maintenance system through the distribution of emergency food supplies and is a provider of multiple supports for youth returning from foster care. The FNRC staff plays a major role in preventing the abuse and neglect of children.

Individuals and families who come to access other specific Trinity services are funneled to the array of FNRC program offerings and services. These consumers are encouraged to utilize the programs that reach all members of the family, from infants to seniors. On any given day, over one hundred and fifty community members will be engaged in the various FNRC programs. The agency is open for these activities seven days a week. Over five hundred consumers take part in FNRC programming monthly, the vast majority of them being African-American, Latino/Hispanic and from immigrant populations including Butanese, Burmese, Iraqis.

As it coordinates the infusion of resources into the agency, a network of community based interventions designed to strengthen individuals, families and the neighborhood is created. The FNRC staff also delivers direct crisis and intervention services, family education and health and wellness programs. The FNRC reinforces and strengthens the overall ability of families to cope and progress, while it delivers neighborhood-building technical support and empowers South End volunteers who are building their community.