

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

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**LASHAWN A., et al.,**

**Plaintiffs,**

**v.**

**MURIEL BOWSER, et al.,**

**Defendants.**

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**Civil Action No. 89-1754 (TFH)**

**ADDENDUM TO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

This ADDENDUM is entered into by and among Plaintiffs (represented by A Better Childhood (ABC) and the American Civil Liberties Union of the Nation’s Capital (ACLU)) and Defendants, the District of Columbia and Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA). Plaintiffs and defendants may be referred to, collectively, as the Parties.

The Parties to this lawsuit entered into a Settlement Agreement [1215-1] (Agreement), which the Court preliminarily approved on August 20, 2020 [1217].

The Parties subsequently desire to amend the Agreement to include additional actions and commitments to achieve and sustain performance. This Addendum has been separately negotiated and is incorporated into, and is to be considered part of, the Agreement, although the Parties do not believe this Addendum is a material change to the Agreement.

**A. Standards in Section IV.G**

In establishing its standards as outlined in Section IV.G. of the Agreement, CFSA will, in collaboration with the IVA and in consultation with plaintiffs’ counsel, include meaningful metrics that measure CFSA’s performance with regard to placement stability, parental visitation, child and family visitation, and permanency, including both reunification and access to subsidized guardianship and adoption.

**B. Professional Resource Parents**

CFSA will solicit and recruit for four additional professional resource parents with a minimum of four children, up to a capacity of eight children, ages 8 – 12 who present with significant behavioral and mental health concerns. Children placed in these homes will receive trauma-informed therapeutic supports to stabilize the placement and expedite permanency. CFSA will develop a scope of work by May 1, 2021, and initiate the recruitment process by June 1, 2021, with the goal of selecting the new resource parents by September 30, 2021, and licensing, if needed, to be completed approximately 150 days after selection. This provision replaces Section II.A of the Agreement.

**C. Stabilization Staffings**

To address placement stability, CFSA will implement Placement Stability Staffings by the 10th day of any initial placement or within five days of a replacement. The Placement Stability Staffings are meetings between identified team members to gather and review medical, social, behavioral, educational and other relevant information that will help stabilize placements and/or prevent current or future placement disruption. CFSA will implement this process for all new entries into foster care by June 7, 2021 and for replacements by August 1, 2021.

ACCEPTED FOR PLAINTIFFS BY:

*Marcia Robinson Lowry*

\_\_\_\_\_ on April 22 , 2021

MARCIA ROBINSON LOWRY, Esq.

A Better Childhood, Inc.

355 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10017, Floor 16

(646) 795-4456

mlowry@abetterchildhood.org

ACCEPTED FOR DEFENDANTS BY:

KARL A. RACINE

Attorney General for the District of Columbia

*Fernando Amarillas*

\_\_\_\_\_ on April 22 , 2021

FERNANDO AMARILLAS

Acting Deputy Attorney General

Public Interest Division