

the minor is placed into the UAC, and ending when the minor is released from federal custody or when a final disposition of the minor's immigration proceedings occurs.

Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Authority for this activity is contained in the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, Title V, Section 501(c) Pub. L. 94 Stat.1799, 1809–1810, the Immigration and Naturalization Act and Section 462 of the Homeland Security Act.

Per the *Flores v. Reno* settlement agreement, no child apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security can remain in a secure detention setting for longer than 72 hours, unless warranted. Given the recent influx of apprehensions along the southwest border, ORR has the urgent need to increase the number of shelter beds to ensure that no child is placed in secure detention unless warranted.

The Recipient will provide assistance and services for each minor including, but not limited to:

1. Family Reunification Services;
2. Initial Program Orientation;
3. Individual Counseling;
4. Group Counseling;
5. Acculturation/Adaptation;
6. Education;
7. Access to Legal Services.

Other services that are necessary and appropriate for these minors may be provided if ORR determines in advance that the service is reasonable and necessary for a particular minor.

The Recipient will be expected to develop and implement an appropriate individualized service plan for the care and maintenance of each minor in accordance with his/her needs as determined in an intake assessment after initial placement. In addition, the Recipient is required to implement and administer a case management system which tracks and monitors each minor's progress to ensure that services are appropriate and to each minor's individual needs.

Services comply with State child welfare statutes and generally accepted child welfare standards, practices, principles, and procedures. Services offered provide for the safety and security of each child. The service will be provided in an age appropriate, culturally acceptable manner that meets the needs of each individual minor.

After the appropriate reviews, it has been determined that the need for additional shelter care beds and services in the southwest United States is compelling. The project period is July 1, 2003 through September 30, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Tota, Office of Refugee

Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447, telephone (202) 205–3590.

Dated: July 31, 2003.

Nguyen Van Hanh,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

[CFDA #: 93.676]

Office of Refugee Resettlement Grant to United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for the Unaccompanied Alien Children's Program

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement, HHS.

ACTION: Grant Award Announcement.

SUMMARY: This notice is hereby given that an award is being made to The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), 3211 4th Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20017 in the amount of \$349,967 in FY03 due to urgent and compelling circumstances. The award will be used to assess and develop a capacity plan for unaccompanied alien minors transferred into the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) from the Department of Homeland Security by reason of their immigration status. The program providing such services shall hereafter be referred to as the Unaccompanied Alien Children's Program (UAC).

The specific goal of the program is to facilitate the provision of family reunification and/or long-term foster care services to unaccompanied alien minors referred to USCCB by ORR and currently held in the legal custody of the ORR. The provisions of services will include child welfare related services, including family reunification and foster care placement, to alien unaccompanied minors who have been approved for such services by the appropriate entities. USCCB has extensive experience in this area drawing from the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program. In addition, they have one of the largest affiliate networks, allowing them to easily facilitate capacity development and establish a much needed presence in major apprehension centers.

Per the *Flores v. Reno* settlement agreement, no child apprehended by the

Department of Homeland Security can remain in a secure detention setting for longer than 72 hours, unless warranted. Given the recent influx of apprehensions along the southwest border and southern border, ORR has the urgent need to assess and develop a capacity plan for the program.

Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Authority for this activity is contained in the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, Title V, Section 501(c) Pub. L. 94 Stat.1799, 1809–1810, the Immigration and Naturalization Act, and Section 462 of the Homeland Security Act.

The Recipient will:

1. Assess and develop a capacity plan;
2. Identify agencies and sites for reception and assessment centers in major apprehension locations throughout the United States;
3. Develop residential, therapeutic and foster care programs;
4. Assist with developing a long-term care program;
5. Develop a system for family reunification assessment including support systems;
6. Participate in the development of a universal assessment placement plan under the direction of ORR;
7. Coordinate placement plan recommendations; and
8. Develop an assessment training manual of protocols and procedures

Other services for these minors may be provided if ORR determines in advance that the service is reasonable and necessary for a particular minor.

USCCB will ensure services comply with State child welfare statutes and generally accepted child welfare standards, practices, principles, and procedures, and the *Flores v. Reno* settlement agreement. Services offered provide for the safety and security of each child.

After the appropriate reviews, it has been determined that the need to assess and develop a capacity plan is urgent and compelling. The project period is July 1, 2003 to September 30, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Tota, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447, telephone (202) 401–4858.

Dated: August 20, 2003.

Nguyen Van Hanh,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

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