

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HAMILTON COUNTY  
AND  
SUWANNEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COORDINATED CHILD CARE, INC.**

THIS AGREEMENT, by and between HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, hereinafter called the School Board, and SUWANNEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COORDINATED CHILD CARE, INC., hereafter called SV4Cs, each in consideration of the agreements to be performed by the other, agree:

1. The purpose of the School Board's Teen Parent Program is to help the teenage parent complete their high school education and become responsible parents and adults, while providing high-quality early childhood education and care to their children.
2. The purpose of SV4Cs Early Head Start (birth to 3 year olds) and Head Start (3 to 5 year olds) program is to provide high-quality child development and health services that addresses early childhood education, health, disabilities, social services, nutrition, mental health and parent / family / community engagement at SV4Cs Jasper Early Head Start / Head Start locations.
3. The School Board shall pay SV4Cs for and SV4Cs shall provide child care in accordance with the Teen Parent Program Services Plan for the period beginning August 12, 2021 and ending May 25, 2022. The plan is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth in this agreement.
4. The services to be provided by SV4Cs shall comply with pertinent provisions of Florida Statutes and rules of the Florida Department of Education.
5. SV4Cs shall maintain all records required by the Florida Department of Education and by the School Board for purposes of audit. SV4Cs shall make available such records to the School Board or to the Florida Department of Education upon request.
6. SV4Cs shall maintain, at its own expense, such insurance coverage as required by law and by Florida Department of Education for directly provided services including liability and property damage.
7. SV4Cs acknowledges that total funding for its services under this Agreement is dependent upon State of Florida appropriations as dispersed by the Department of Education. This agreement may be terminated by either party upon 30 days written notice, if the pertinent legislative body fails to appropriate funds for this Agreement. SV4Cs agrees that it will look only to such Department of Education funding for payment for its services hereunder, and that the Hamilton County School Board shall not be obligated to pay SV4Cs any amounts other than the amounts received by Hamilton County School Board from the Department of Education for child care as indicated herein in Paragraph 8f.

## **8. PROVISION OF SERVICES:**

- a. Teen Parent Program staff at Hamilton High School will determine which students qualify for child care services and shall forward written referrals to SV4Cs Family Services Department for those students who qualify.
- b. SV4Cs agrees to make enrollment opportunities available for children of Teen Parent Program participants at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year until August 27, 2021 at Jasper Early Head Start / Head Start locations, as age appropriate. The School Board agrees that it will identify and refer initial program participants as early as possible in the school year, but in any event no later than August 27, 2021.
- c. SV4Cs is required by Head Start Program Performance Standards to verify that all participants meet age and income eligibility requirements. Therefore, it will be necessary to obtain information from each potential parent prior to enrollment in SV4Cs Early Head Start / Head Start program to ensure eligibility for the program.
- d. The School Board may identify and refer to SV4Cs, teenagers who are pregnant but have not yet delivered their babies. SV4Cs will enroll these teenagers in the Early Head Start program if space is available and begin providing pre- and post-natal support services through referrals to include but not be limited to: nutritional assessments, health promotion and treatment, mental health interventions, prenatal education information on fetal development (including risks from smoking and alcohol), labor and delivery, and postpartum recovery (including maternal depression), and information on the benefits of breast feeding to all pregnant and nursing mothers.

The School Board will not be charged for these services. The School Board will only be charged for child care services on scheduled school days as per Paragraph f herein.

- e. The parties agree that, absent compelling documented need for another care situation, participant's children will receive Early Head Start / Head Start child care services (as age appropriate) and will be enrolled as full participants. If SV4Cs program is full, or if it is documented that the teen parent needs after-hours or weekend care in order to work or meet other legitimate needs, the parent shall select another center for child care services. SV4Cs agrees to provide assistance in contacting other child care providers to check for child care openings. SV4Cs will notify the Teen Parent Program staff and/or parent of any child care openings and the parent will be responsible for choosing a child care provider. SV4Cs will not recommend a provider and will not be responsible for services provided by other child care providers. SV4Cs will refer parents to the Early Learning Coalition of Florida's Gateway as appropriate for the parent to obtain additional information regarding child care services or if unable to locate any child care openings.
- f. The School Board shall pay SV4Cs a rate of \$9.00/day for extended child care services until 3:30 p.m. If child care is provided by another provider, the School Board shall pay SV4Cs the provider's daily rate plus a 10% administrative fee for every school day that the participant is registered in the Teenage Parent Program. SV4Cs will ensure that payment is made accordingly to the child care provider. SV4Cs will ensure that child care is

available to participants on every school day. It is understood and acknowledged that the School Board will not pay for care on scheduled school holidays, even if the child attends care on that day. It is further understood and acknowledged that the School Board will pay for care on every scheduled school day, whether the child attends care or not.

- g. SV4Cs will provide attendance information on children of participating teen parents to the Hamilton County School Board office or other designated school site, as requested, and will require other providers under this agreement to do the same. The School Board agrees to provide SV4Cs and other providers with reciprocal attendance information on teenage parents. In the event that a child is placed in care on a school day and SV4Cs or other provider receives a report that the parent is absent from school, SV4Cs or other provider will attempt to contact the parent to remove the child from care for the day, as applicable.
  - h. The School Board agrees to notify SV4Cs, in writing, when a student is withdrawn from school and no longer eligible for child care services. Upon receiving such written notification, SV4Cs may, at its discretion, continue to provide child care services and will stop billing the School Board for child care services as of the date of receipt of such written notice.
  - i. Periodic meetings between Hamilton County School Board Teen Parent Program staff and SV4Cs Executive Director, or his/her designee, will be held to keep both parties updated on potential progress or problems.
- 9. SV4Cs agrees that it will save and hold School Board harmless from all cost, expenses for personal injury or death or property damage which may occur in the program by virtue of SV4Cs operation and supervision of the program.
- 10. If either the School Board or SV4Cs shall fail to perform, or shall breach any provisions of this Agreement, the School Board or SV4Cs may give notice to terminate this Agreement, or take such actions and pursue such remedies as provided by law. The prevailing party in any action for breach of this agreement shall be entitled to receive attorney's fees and costs incurred in such legal action.
- 11. This Agreement is made in the State of Florida and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida.
- 12. Each party warrants and covenants to the other that the officers executing this Agreement have the authority to do so.

In Witness Whereof, the parties hereto have set their hands and seals by their appropriate officers this 8th day of June, 2021.

Suwannee Valley Community  
Coordinated Child Care, Inc.

School Board of Hamilton  
County, Florida

By: Michele Ward  
Michele Ward, Executive Director  
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mward@sv4cs.org

By: Johnny Bullard  
Johnny Bullard, HCSB President

Attest: Kimberly Hunt

Attest: Lee Wetherington Zarn  
Superintendent of Schools

Additional Staff Contact Information		
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