

Contractor Agency Description and Requirements (Exceeding State Foster Home Licensing Rules or Contract)

1. ADCS will be updating the www.azkidsneedu.gov website with contractor information. Describe your agency and its specialties. Include your agency website url and contact information. Do not exceed 500 words.

Southwest Human Development's mission is to strengthen the foundation Arizona's children need for a great start in life. Southwest Human Development is Arizona's largest nonprofit dedicated to early childhood development. Since our founding in 1981, Southwest Human Development has been a leader in providing services for children ages birth to 5 and their families in the areas of Easter Seals Disabilities Services, Head Start and Early Literacy, Child Welfare, and Professional Education. Southwest Human Development serves 135,000 children and families each year through more than 40 programs and services that focus on preventing problems before they start or, when they already exist, providing opportunities to intervene as early and effectively as possible. The agency's vision is a positive future for every child.

Southwest Human Development provides an array of services designed to give children and their families or caregivers who are involved with the Department of Child Safety (DCS) the support, counseling and resources critical to the children's well-being. Emphasis is placed on increasing the family's protective factors to promote future safety and well-being of children. The agency's *Kinship Care and Adoptions* program provides kinship home studies, foster care licensing, adoption home studies, adoption certifications and placement supervision and support to assist families seeking to provide homes for children who have been removed from their parents due to abuse or neglect.

Southwest Human Development is located at 2850 N. 24th Street in Phoenix, AZ 85008. For general information about the agency, the main line is (602) 266-5976, the agency fax number is (602) 274-8952, and the website is www.swhd.org. Ginger Ward is the agency's Chief Executive Officer. For inquiries about foster care licensure, adoption certification, and pre-service training for the Arizona Department of Child Safety, please contact Program Manager, Tanya Abdellatif at (602) 633-8813 or tabdella@swhd.org.

2. List and describe in detail any specific agency requirements or expectations of your agency that exceed the State foster home licensing rules or the requirements within this contract. This may include additional requirements regarding pets or pool fences, for example. Also include anything that may be considered added value, such as offering additional respite hours or a faith-based perspective.

Name of Additional Requirement or Expectation	Is this Required? Yes or No	Reason
SWHD does not have any additional requirements for licensure beyond what is required by the Office of Licensing and Regulation and in Article 58.		