



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: DSS
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: July 10, 2012
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Kathy Gallagher, Director-Department of Social Services
Director(s)
Contact Info: Kathy Gallagher, 346-7101 *TMAJ for KG.*
SUBJECT: Grant Application to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for “Partnerships to Demonstrate the Effectiveness of Supportive Housing for Families in the Child Welfare System” HHS-2012-ACF-ACYF-CA-0538 Due: July 30, 2012

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Department of Social Services to submit an application for the “Partnerships to Demonstrate the Effectiveness of Supportive Housing for Families in the Child Welfare System” grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Summary Text:

This grant seeks to demonstrate the effectiveness of collaborative partnerships in developing and providing supportive housing to families in the child welfare system. This is a 5-year grant with a maximum award of \$5 million. The Department of Social Services is working closely with Good Samaritan Shelter Services and Transition House in developing the application and addressing specific details regarding program design and proposed budget for supportive housing for families in the child welfare system. This grant application is due to the Administration for Children and Families on July 30, 2012.

Background:

The Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) has announced targeted 5-year grants to support:

- the development or expansion of triage procedures for a subset of families who come to the attention of the child welfare system due to severe housing issues and high service needs;

- local implementation of supportive housing services that integrate community services for housing and other critical services for the specified target population;
- customized case management services for children and their parents, as well as trauma-informed interventions and evidence-based mental health services through partnerships to access additional services through community-based service providers; and
- evaluations that examine the process and implementation outcomes for these grants.

These grants will further triage efforts outlined in the reauthorization of the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) of 2010 through collaborations between child protective services and various community authorities, agencies, and providers, focused on intervention, prevention, and investigation of child maltreatment. Projects will serve a subset of families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a factor, in addition to other high service needs, in the imminent placement or placement of the child, or children, in out-of-home care.

Community-linked services, as specified in CAPTA, will be provided to families through the local implementation of supportive housing services. The demonstration models will build upon and adapt supportive housing services designed to respond to the complex needs of families with child protective services involvement in a multidisciplinary and ongoing manner. Evidence-based, trauma-informed services will be embedded into the service structure in order to improve housing stability and engagement in supportive services.

Expected outcomes are: a reduction in child welfare system contacts, child maltreatment, child removals, and foster care placements; and an increase in housing stability and employment.

Grantees must demonstrate innovation in responding to reports of child abuse and neglect through a partnership between the child protective services agency, local housing authority, community housing providers, and other critical service providers as appropriate. A broad array of other collaborative partnerships is encouraged.

Grantees must demonstrate that they have secured affordable housing or a concrete plan to do so through which services will be provided. Local data must justify the proposed target population and service plan. The components of the proposed supportive housing service plans must link to the expected outcomes listed above.

An evaluation plan and a sustainability plan are required.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There are no fiscal and facilities impacts associated with submitting the grant application. Should the grant funding be received, funding of approximately \$1 million each year, for 5 years will be secured. Funding will provide for staffing and programming to address the goals and outcomes set forth via the grant.

Attachments:

Resolution

cc: Kathy Gallagher, Director - Department of Social Services