



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: Social Services
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: June 16, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Daniel Nielson, Director (805) 346-7101
Director(s)
Contact Info: Amy Krueger, Division Chief, Social Services Operations (805)
346-7248
SUBJECT: First Amendment to Agreement with Community Action Commission for Enhanced Family Reunification Support Services

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the First Amended Agreement to the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara County (CAC) for the purpose of Enhanced Family Reunification Support Services for a total contract amount not to exceed \$270,000 for the period 7/1/15 through 6/30/16 (Attachment 1); and
2. Determine that the approval and execution of the First Amended Agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), finding that the execution of the First Amended Agreement is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment, the activities are not subject to CEQA.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve the First Amendment to the Agreement with CAC for Enhanced Family Reunification Support Services. On June 17, 2014, your Board approved the existing Agreement, which expires June 30, 2015. Child Welfare Services (CWS) offers several support services to children as well as their birth, adoptive and foster parents in order to promote safe and stable families

within the communities. For families involved with CWS, the support services help facilitate successful family reunification. One of the Enhanced Family Reunification Support Services to be provided under this Agreement is supervised visitation. When children and youth are placed out of their parent’s care because of abuse or neglect issues, the Juvenile Court often orders supervised visitation. Supervised visitation allows the parent to maintain contact with their children while there is some degree of protection for the children and youth. Supervised visitation permits a third person monitoring the visits between the parent and the child to assure the interaction between parent and child is healthy and the child is safe from further abuse or coercion by the parent. The Agreement also provides for transportation services. Transportation services will assist the child who is placed outside of their family home to attend supervised visits or transportation to/from parent/child visits that are unsupervised.

Referrals will be made by Child Welfare social workers. These visits would be at a site which allows for visits in an appropriate setting. On a case-by-case basis, visits will occur at sites to be determined by the referring social worker. Visitation aides are expected to supervise the entire visit, to intervene if necessary and to give written feedback about the visits to the social worker who made the referral. Transportation services provided also entail detailed feedback to the social worker. It is estimated on current workload that the contractor would provide transportation/supervision for approximately 100 visits per month with the majority of these occurring after-hours (evenings), weekends, and holidays.

Background:

To families involved with the Child Welfare System, reunification is often the primary permanency goal and the most likely reason a child will leave placement. The preference for the role of natural parents is codified in law and provides the rationale for retaining reunification as a core outcome for children placed in foster care. Contracting out this much needed service in Santa Barbara County will assist DSS in meeting our System Improvement Plan improvement goal to reduce the length of time for children to exit foster care to reunification in support of the Federal Outcome Measure for Timely Reunification.

Performance Measure:

1. 95% of the referrals received will be responded to within three (3) business days.
2. 100% compliance with scheduled appointments.
3. 100% of completed activities will be reported in an e-mail to the assigned social worker and documented in the CWS/CMS within three (3) business days of the completed contact.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund	\$ 81,000.00		
State	\$ 189,000.00		
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 270,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

Approval and execution of this First Amended Agreement will result in total direct contract expenditures of no more than \$270,000. Appropriations and associated funding for FY 2015-16 are included in the Department of Social Services recommended budget under the Social Service Programs division. This First Amended Agreement will be funded with 70% State 2011 Realignment funds and 30% County funds. The Agreement contains a non-appropriation clause in the event funds are not appropriated.

Key Contract Risks:

The risk assessment worksheet has been completed. CAC is insured for General and Professional Liability. DSS has had a positive and productive relationship with CAC. CAC has been providing Enhanced Family Reunification Support Services for the last seven (7) years. DSS is confident of CAC's ability to continue providing these services.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) duplicate First Amendment and one (1) copy of the Minute Order to:

Department of Social Services
Attn: Contracts Coordinator
2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway
Santa Maria, CA 93455

Attachments:

First Amendment to Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor

Authored by:

Amy Krueger

cc: