



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: District Attorney
Department No.: 021
For Agenda Of: November 19, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item:
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Joyce E. Dudley, District Attorney
Contact Info: Megan Rheinschild, Victim Witness Program Director x2408
SUBJECT: Department of Justice Direct Services to Support Victims of Human Trafficking
Cooperative Agreement with the District Attorney's Office

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the District Attorney or designee to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), accepting the Direct Services to Support Victims of Human Trafficking grant award totaling \$675,000 for the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2022;
- b) Approve and authorize the District Attorney to execute any amendments or extensions thereof through September 30, 2023, not to exceed \$200,000, with the concurrence of County Counsel and Auditor-Controller;
- c) Approve BJE #0006688 to increase expenditures in FY 2019 - 2020 in the amount of \$66,667 in District Attorney's Office General Fund for Salaries & Benefits (\$45,336) and Services & Supplies (\$21,331), funded by unanticipated revenue from Intergovernmental Revenue-Federal; and
- d) Determine that the above action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because it consists of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Assistance Program submitted a proposal for and has been awarded a cooperative agreement from the Federal Department of Justice (DOJ) under the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) FFY 2019 Direct Services to Support Victims of Human Trafficking, Purpose Area 1: Comprehensive Services for Victims of All Forms of Human Trafficking, Focus Area 3: Comprehensive Services and Partnership with Enhanced Collaborative Model Human Trafficking Task Forces. This project is in coordination with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office, which applied for and received Bureau of Justice Assistance FY 2019 funding and will support the Santa Barbara County Human Trafficking Task Force (SBCHTTF).

The total cooperative agreement for the Human Trafficking Task Force is \$675,000, which will be allocated over the period of 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2022. The total project cost is \$900,000, which includes the Federal award of \$675,000, and \$225,000 in County funds that serve as match for the program.

The District Attorney's funding will allow for expert victim advocates and Rape Crisis Center advocates to provide critical comprehensive victim services and a countywide 24/7 resource to identify and enlist appropriate services for adult and minor, female and male, and domestic and international trafficking victims. Funds will also support needed training and public awareness efforts (including social media presence) that have shown essential in improved victim identification efforts. Furthermore, cooperative agreement funding will build upon early efforts to collect, share and analyze data towards making data and evidence-based system decisions and improvements.

Background:

Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery. Victims include not only sexually exploited individuals, but also those forced to provide labor by means of force, fraud or coercion. California is one of the top four U.S. human trafficking destinations, and the central coast has been identified as a natural transit corridor for trafficking activity between major metropolitan areas to the south and north. As a tourist destination with conference venues, a transitory population and migrant labor, Santa Barbara County is vulnerable to trafficking activity. In response to this alarming trend, the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office established the Human Trafficking Taskforce in 2013. In 2016, the District Attorney's Office applied for and received funding from DOJ under the FFY 2016 Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Victims, enabling the Taskforce to provide comprehensive support services to trafficking victims during the period of 10/1/16 – 9/30/19. Approval of the recommended actions will authorize the District Attorney to enter into a cooperative agreement with DOJ to receive funding under the FFY 2019 program.

The goal of the OVC Focus Area 3 funding is to support the provision of a comprehensive array of services to victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking identified in geographic regions where multidisciplinary human trafficking task forces are operating. The Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking grant program provides funding to local governments for the purpose of assisting communities in developing effective and sustainable multidisciplinary human trafficking taskforces. These taskforces implement collaborative approaches to combating all forms of human trafficking within the United States. This includes identifying victims, addressing the individualized needs of victims through quality services, and investigating and prosecuting cases at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels.

Between January 2017 and June 2019, the District Attorney's Office opened 119 human trafficking investigations, compared to only seven investigations between 2014 and 2016. Of these 119 investigations, 88% were sex trafficking, 7% were labor trafficking, and the remainder were either both or unknown. 97 suspected human traffickers have been identified, with 69% of these being confirmed. The program has identified 129 survivors of human trafficking, with more being identified each year. Of survivors, 42% are minors, and 96% are female. DOJ funding has also enabled the program to conduct 78 human trafficking trainings, reaching 1,733 participants.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes. Revenues and expenditures are included in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Adopted Budget, with the exception of \$66,667. BJE#0006688 is included to add the additional unanticipated revenue and associated expenditures to the District Attorney's FY 19-20 budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

The total cooperative agreement for the Human Trafficking Task Force is \$675,000, which will be allocated over the period of 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2022. The total project cost is \$900,000, which includes the Federal award of \$675,000, and \$225,000 in County funds that serve as match for the program. The Federal portion of the award funds the following personnel:

- 0.5 FTE Victim Witness Program Advocate II in year one, increasing to 0.75 FTE in year two, and 1.0 FTE in year three, plus on-call time in all three years, who will provide direct services to victims and provide outreach and education to the community.
- 0.15 FTE Victim Witness Project Lead who will provide technical assistance for law enforcement, service providers and advocates, on behalf of the task force. The Project Lead will also help implement the goals for data collections and reporting of project goals and outcomes in the appropriate database.
- 0.60 FTE Victim Witness Program Supervisor will work jointly with the task force members to facilitate protocol development and implementation.

In addition, federal funding covers travel, supplies, and subawards, including:

- Travel to local task force meetings and to meet with potential victims, travel to regional trainings, and travel to meetings in Washington, DC, required by the award.
- Supplies, including training and marketing materials
- Subawards with North County Rape Crisis Center to provide 24/7 Crisis Response and Hotline, as well as subawards for evaluation, marketing, and development of training materials.
- Other costs including gift cards, hotel vouchers, and transportation vouchers to help address immediate needs of victims.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>FFY 19-20</u>	<u>FFY 20 - 21</u>	<u>FFY 21-22</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal	\$ 207,867.00	\$ 226,570.00	\$ 240,563.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 207,867.00	\$ 226,570.00	\$ 240,563.00
Total Federal Funding			\$ 675,000.00

Staffing Impacts:

There are no staffing impacts.

Key Contract Risks: There is minimal risk to the County. Funds are reimbursed after program expenses are incurred.

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the minute order to Nicole Lee- Rodriguez, DA Business Manager (x82413).

Attachments:

- A. Budget Revision Request #0006688
- B. Cooperative Agreement
- C. Project Budget
- D. Project Abstract

Authored by:

Danielle Spahn, Team Project Leader (EXH)