



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: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: June 28, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD, Director
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Lauren Grant
(805) 681-5368
SUBJECT: County of Ventura Safe Haven Agreement for Sexual Assault Response Team Response

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 consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with the County of Ventura Safe Harbor program to provide Sexual Assault Response Team services for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024 for a total amount not to exceed \$150,000; and
- b) Determine that the proposed action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because it consists of the creation of a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activities, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with the County of Ventura Safe Harbor program to provide Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) services in the County of Santa Barbara’s jurisdiction (Attachment A). This agreement will allow the County of Santa Barbara’s Public Health Department to reimburse County of Ventura’s Safe Harbor program for SART responses in the County of Santa Barbara’s jurisdiction.

Background:

Santa Barbara County Sexual Assault Response Team is dedicated to providing timely, comprehensive services to meet the medical and emotional needs of adult and adolescent sexual assault survivors and child sexual abuse victims, and to meet the forensic needs of the criminal and juvenile justice system through evidence collection, STI prophylaxis, nursing assessment, and other medical care or follow up as indicated based on events or findings.

Across the state and country, Sexual Assault Response Team’s are consistently understaffed, or struggle to train and maintain staff, due to nursing or budget shortages, the lack of trained forensic nurses, and other events such as the pandemic. However, the needs of the community, our agreements with Law Enforcement Agencies, and the standard of care for SARTs is to have 24/7 coverage for survivors. This is due to the need to provide timely medical and emotional support after a traumatic event to the survivor, reduce the risk of having the survivor lost to follow up, and to collect any forensic evidence as quickly as possible due to the degradation of evidence over time. For this reason, it is required that exams take place within 5 days of the assault occurring. Based on these factors, the County of Ventura works closely with our county to provide exams as needed to our survivors. The County of Ventura trains their nurses to the same standards and requirements set by the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and adhered to by our Public Health Department.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

N/A

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current and Projected FY 2021-22 Cost:</u>	<u>Additional Projected FY 2022-23 Cost:</u>	<u>Total Agreement Cost</u>
General Fund	\$ 22,300.00	\$ 22,300.00	\$ 66,900.00
State			
Federal			
Law Enforcement Fees	\$ 27,700.00	\$ 27,700.00	\$ 83,100.00
Total	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 150,000.00

The SART program is funded with a combination of County General Fund and per capita fees to law enforcement agencies. The annual budget for the SART program includes examiners on call 24/7. If there are vacancies that require an exam to be done by the County of Ventura, the reduction in cost of the Santa Barbara nurse examiner will offset the cost of the exam fee charged by Ventura. Therefore, this agreement does not increase costs to the County.

Key Contract Risks

The County of Santa Barbara has a good standing relationship with the County of Ventura. Additionally, the Agreement has a termination for convenience clause.

Staffing Impacts

There are no staffing impacts.

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please execute two (2) original Agreements with the County of Ventura Safe Haven program and retain one (1) original Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick-up by the department. Please email the PHD Contracts Unit at PHDGROUPEContractsUnit@sbcpd.org when available for pickup. Upon execution by the County of Ventura, an original Agreement will be forwarded to the Clerk of the Board for retention in the record.

Attachments:

- A. County of Ventura Safe Haven SART Agreement

Authored by:

Lauren Grant, SART Nurse Coordinator