



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:** Probation  
**Department No.:** 022  
**For Agenda Of:** February 28, 2023  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer (805) 882-3652  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Melinda Barrera, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (805) 882-3715

**SUBJECT:** March 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 Agreement with the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for Youth Empowerment Services (YES) and Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Counseling

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A.** Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA) (a local vendor) to provide diversion services to youth in the community and their families countywide through the Youth Empowerment Services (YES) program, and Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) individual and group counseling to youth at the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) with a total contract amount not to exceed \$318,599.27 (the "Agreement") from March 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024;
- B.** Authorize the Chief Probation Officer or designee to approve subsequent line-item budget changes to the Agreement in an amount not to exceed 10% of the stated line-item budgeted amounts for each service, as long as the total contract amount of each Agreement is not increased, and as long as the total budgeted amounts by each funding source are not exceeded;
- C.** Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not a project

under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.

**Summary Text:**

The Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) program, locally operated as the Youth Empowerment Services (YES) was established by the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2018) and a later related trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1812, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2018). This grant provided funds for the diversion of low-level and low risk youthful offenders at the point of their initial contact with law enforcement in order to reduce the number of youth who enter the juvenile justice system. As this grant sunsets on February 28, 2023, the Probation Department intends to utilize Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funds to continue this diversion program as local outcomes have been successful. To compliment the efforts, extended case management functions will be included to further support youth.

In addition, all youth detained at the JJC are assessed by Probation Department staff utilizing the Positive Achievement and Change Tool (PACT). Substance abuse is frequently identified as an area of concern and many detained youths report recent abuse of substances. Under this agreement, CADA will provide individual and group SUD counseling to youth at the JJC. The Probation Department intends to fund this utilizing Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funding.

**Background:**

In following decades of research, juvenile justice systems have made extensive effort to divert youth without formal contact with the juvenile court. There is a broad understanding of how trauma has altered youth's coping mechanisms and has delayed brain development. Responses to youth's behavior need to be conscious of these issues, and should not be identical to the methods used for adults. Juvenile services now focus on providing diversion opportunities and appropriate evidence-based interventions to limit wardship to only those youth who pose a high risk to the community.

The YES program has provided diversionary services to over 600 youth, as referred by law enforcement, local schools, and the Probation Department. Of the youth referred, 62% have successfully enrolled in the program. A total of 211 youth (69%) have completed the program successfully. More notably, of those who have successfully completed the program, less than 5% of youth have had a sustained petition in Juvenile Court. This illustrates locally the power and importance of diverting youth from formal processing as supported by research. The intention is to continue this program, specifically funding case management in all three regions of the County, allowing CADA to continue to provide appropriate linkages to existing and/or specialized services when assessed and needed. The Probation Department will continue to measure outcomes for youth who have successfully completed this intervention, and the percentage of those youth who do not subsequently advance into the juvenile justice system.

Currently 61% of youth housed at the JJC report severe substance abuse. According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), "Nearly one in five youth (17%) entering the juvenile justice system meet criteria for substance use disorders, a number that rises to 39% when those in detention are included. After adjudication, nearly half (47%) of youth put in secure placements have substance use disorders." To address this area of need and to expand the services for detained youth, CADA will provide both individual and group substance abuse counseling utilizing counselors with

lived experience whenever possible to support youth in addressing their substance abuse and to link them to services prior to reentry into the community.

**Performance Measure:**

Outcome measures for diversion services will include but not be limited to: a further reduction in the number of misdemeanor youth on probation; and a low rate of recidivism for youth referred into diversion services.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State		\$ 318,599.27	
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 318,599.27	\$ -

**Narrative:**

The attached one-year and four months (16 months) Agreement with the CADA is to provide diversion services and counseling services to youth with SUD at the JJC. The diversion (YES) program budget of \$264,199.27 is funded through the JJCPA and the SUD counseling services budget of \$54,400.00 is funded through the YOBG. The combined contract amounts not-to-exceed \$318,599.27.

Execution of the Agreement will not increase the General Fund Contribution to the Probation Department.

**Key Contract Risks:**

Risk assessments have been completed and key contract risks were not identified.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

No Effect

**FTEs:**

No Effect

**Special Instructions:** Please return one (1) fully signed original of the Agreement to:

Christina Sibley, Fiscal Manager  
Probation Department  
117 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: The Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, FY 2023-2024 Agreement

**Authored by:**

Erin Cross, Program Manager