



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: August 27, 2019
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 30 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director (s): Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, 805-568-3400
Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director, Department of Behavioral Wellness 805-681-5220
Contact Info: Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer, 805-568-3400
Richard Morgantini, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, 805-568-3551

SUBJECT: Response to 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report: Children and Youth in Crisis, Weathering the Storms of Mental Disorders and Emotional Disturbances

County Counsel Concurrence
As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence
As to form N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Consider and adopt the responses set forth in Attachment A as the Board of Supervisors' response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury report entitled "Children and Youth in Crisis, Weathering the Storms of Mental Disorders and Emotional Disturbances," Attachment B;
b) Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included in Attachment A and forward the letter and responses to the Presiding Judge of Santa Barbara County Superior Court; and
c) Determine pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15378(b)(5) that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review, because they are government administrative activities that do not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

On June 13, 2019, the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury published a report entitled “Children and Youth in Crisis, Weathering the Storms of Mental Disorders and Emotional Disturbances”. Today, the Board will consider the proposed responses to the report, adopt their preferred responses and authorize the Board Chair to sign the response letter. The Board is required to respond in writing to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by September 11, 2019.

Background:

On June 13, 2019, the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury published a report entitled “Children and Youth in Crisis, Weathering the Storms of Mental Disorders and Emotional Disturbances.” While the Grand Jury found that the Department of Behavioral Wellness has dedicated professional staff, the Grand Jury concluded that: “The most salient observation the Jury made is the need for greater mental health resources in the County for children and youth, including community and private psychiatrists, pediatricians who are experienced in diagnosing and treating mental illness and co-existing disorders, case managers who can navigate the complicated systems of health care and insurance companies, and in-county, short-term facilities for crisis de-escalation. While some community-based preventive and support services exist, many families are unaware of them”.

The Board of Supervisors are named as responders to Findings and Recommendations 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5, 6a, 6b, 6c, and 7.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Staff anticipates no fiscal or facilities impacts as a result of the Board’s action on this matter.

Special Instructions:

1. As per Recommended Action (b), please forward the original signed letter and responses to the Presiding Judge of Santa Barbara County Superior Court.
2. Please send a copy of the signed letter and a copy of the minute order to Richard Morgantini, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, CEO office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Board of Supervisors Response

Attachment B: FY 2018-19 Grand Jury Report “Children and Youth in Crisis, Weathering the Storms of Mental Disorders and Emotional Disturbances”

Authored by:

Richard Morgantini, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, County Executive Office