



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: Child Support Services
Department No.: 045
For Agenda Of: July 21, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority Vote

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Carrie Topliffe (805) 568-2326
Director(s)
Contact Info: Shirley Moore (805) 568-2329

SUBJECT: Child Support Awareness Month

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Select_Other

As to form: No

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions: Receive and file a presentation of Child Support Services.

Summary Text:

August has been celebrated as Child Support Awareness Month since President Clinton's 1995 federal proclamation. Locally, Child Support professionals will observe the month with a vigorous effort to regain contact with parents who have fallen behind on their child support payments and with public outreach to raise awareness of the Child Support Program.

Background: Approximately 12,500 families are served through Santa Barbara's Child Support program. Of these, about one-half are entitled to regular monthly payments, and we are able to collect on 85% of those cases. For those absent parents who are not paying, there can be many reasons for the lapse. Unfortunately, the automated enforcement remedies are not programmed to consider changing circumstances. Well intentioned non-payers can become embroiled in disastrous consequences, one of those being suspension of driver licenses. During the month of August, Santa Barbara Child Support will publicize a campaign titled "Get Back on the Road" to release driver licenses. Customers who have or are in jeopardy of having their licenses suspended will be contacted regarding this program and how they can get licenses released and/or retained. In addition, Child Support will be participating in several community-wide events in Santa Maria, Lompoc and Santa Barbara to increase awareness of Child Support Services and provide Child Support information to the public.

Performance Measure: This local effort will be tracked to evaluate its overall effectiveness. Specifically, the two federal performance measures we expect to be improved are current support and payment on arrears.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: Negligible one-time costs. 100% State/Federal.

Staffing Impacts:

Special Instructions:

Attachments:

Authored by: Shirley Moore

CC: