



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: Social Services
Department No.: 044
For Agenda Of: December 6, 2016
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Daniel Nielson, Director (805) 346-7101
Director(s)
Contact Info: Rene Garcia, Employment Services Operations Division Chief
(805) 681-4540

SUBJECT: Transition House Agreement for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program

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:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Transition House to provide California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP) services for the period of December 6, 2016 through June 30, 2017, in a total amount not to exceed \$95,000.00; and
- b) Determine that the approval and execution of the above Agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), finding that the execution of the Agreements are covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment, the activities are not subject to CEQA.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda as this Agreement with Transition House will exceed \$100,000 in aggregate County-wide and to inform the Board of the total amount of funding allocated to Transition House through the Department of Social Services (DSS) and to recommend that the Board approve the Agreement with Transition House to provide CalWORKs Housing Support Program services.

Background:

On July 15, 2016, DSS submitted an application to receive funding for a CalWORKs Housing Support Program. On July 27, DSS received notification of fiscal year 2016/17 allocations for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program. As a result of the allocation of funds, DSS is requesting approval of this Agreement with Transition House.

For families in the CalWORKs program, housing issues can severely interfere with progress toward self sufficiency. Housing instability and homelessness are some of the most challenging problems facing CalWORKs families, especially in Santa Barbara County, where housing costs are high.

Over the last year, CalWORKs Housing Support Program funding has allowed CalWORKs families in Santa Barbara County to overcome this obstacle, so that parents can engage in employment and children can be safe and secure.

Transition House offers a Landlord Liaison Program, which provides Santa Barbara County Landlords extensive financial safeguards and support systems to house mainly homeless veterans and children (of non-veteran families) that are ready to be successful tenants. To solve family homelessness and assist families moving towards self-sufficiency, DSS is working with Transition House to develop new programs and expand on the Landlord Liaison Partnership program. With our combined efforts behind them, families can put sound decision-making skills into practice, alleviating poverty and identifying and removing barriers to attaining permanent housing as well as better facilitate safe and affordable housing and economic responsibility.

Placement services that will be delivered under the Housing Support Program include:

- Rental and security deposit assistance
- Utility deposit and arrears assistance
- Furnishings (habitability)
- Advocacy with Landlord/Property Owner
- Money Management Courses
- Being a Good Tenant (in development)

Intensive Case Management services will also be provided as part of the Housing Support Program, which includes:

- Identify eligible CalWORKs families' housing barriers.
- Assist with rental search and with housing applications and supportive and subsidized housing paperwork
- Surveying rental markets for affordable options and advocating for families with prospective landlords.
- Work with DSS in arranging housing support payment for rental amounts, deposit amounts, and any basic needs (ex. furnishings) prior to the family entering into any agreements.
- Meet with client once a week to:
 - Support family in maintaining housing post-lease
 - Review how to be a good tenant
 - Discuss any issues or concerns
 - Work on determining any housing needs.

The CalWORKs Housing Support Program will continue to be administered by DSS' CalWORKs/Welfare to Work staff in conjunction with DSS' Family Stabilization Services (FSS) staff. FSS provides flexibility and varying levels of support based on each family's needs as documented in the Family Stabilization Program along with intensive case management.

Performance Measure:

- Contractor shall provide homeless assistance and homeless prevention services to 100% of CalWORKs referrals and place twenty (20) CalWORKs families into permanent housing through the CalWORKs Housing Support Program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 95,000.00		
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 95,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

Approval and execution of this contract will result in total direct contract expenditures of no more than \$95,000.00. Appropriations and Funding for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 are included in the Department of Social Services recommended budget under the Social Programs division. There is no General Fund Contribution.

Key Contract Risks:

The risk assessment worksheet has been completed and has determined that LLP is a medium risk vendor.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please send one (1) duplicate of each original Agreement, and a copy of the minute order to:
 Department of Social Services
 Attn: Tricia Beebe, Contracts Coordinator
 2125 S. Counterpointe Parkway, 3rd Floor
 Santa Maria, CA 93455

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 – Agreement – Transition House - LLP – CalWORKs HSP

Authored by:

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Rene Garcia, Employment Services Operations Division Chief
Tricia Beebe, Contracts Coordinator
Kelly Arredondo, DBS