



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:** June 27, 2023  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director  
Director(s) (805) 346-7101  
Contact Info: Marianne Reagan, Adult and Children Services Operations  
Manager (805) 681-4529  
**SUBJECT:** Third Amendment to the Agreement with Aspiranet for Child Welfare Services  
Family Evaluation Services

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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 Third Amendment to the Agreement with Aspiranet (local vendor) to provide Family Evaluation Services, adding an amount not to exceed \$116,580 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; and
- b) Determine that the activity is not a "Project" subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the activity is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda in order to approve the Third Amendment to the Agreement with Aspiranet to provide Family Evaluation Services (FES), adding a not to exceed amount of \$116,580 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The Department of Social Services (DSS) will refer families to Aspiranet for FES. FES is an assessment to identify families that are suitable to become a resource family to provide out-of-home care for children in foster care.

**Background:**

DSS has a need for FES to be completed in both English and/or Spanish for both matched and unmatched families participating in the RFA process. The goal is to provide permanency for dependent children in a timely and efficient manner.

The RFA process involves assessing families for placement of dependent children including non-minor dependents, and requires completion of a comprehensive assessment that includes evaluating the applicant family’s ability to honor a child’s natural connections; to parent a child in a family setting; to provide a safe, nurturing and stable home; and to provide permanence or prepare a child for permanence. A primary component of the comprehensive assessment is the family evaluation.

The family evaluation is an assessment that creates a comprehensive picture of the family by exploring the applicant’s family dynamics and characteristics, including mental, physical, and emotional health. This assessment helps to identify the family’s structure, values, discipline practice, coping strategies, strengths and motivation to become a resource family. The contractor will provide a recommendation based on their written family narrative and assessment that supports whether a prospective applicant should be approved or denied as well as the services or additional training that may be needed for the family to best meet the needs of children, youth, or non-minor dependents in out-of-home care.

**Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:**

DSS is requesting to renew the Agreement with Aspiranet for fiscal year (FY) 2023/2024. Aspiranet is meeting the performance measures contained in the Agreement for FY 2022/2023.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>FY2023/2024 Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund	\$ 24,424	\$ 24,423.51
State	\$ 56,996	\$ 56,995.96
Federal	\$ 35,161	\$ 35,160.53
Fees		
Other:		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 116,580</b>	<b>\$ 116,580.00</b>

**Narrative:**

Approval and execution of this Amendment will result in total direct contract expenditures of no more than \$116,580 in FY 2023/2024. Appropriations and associated funding for FY 2023/2024 are included in the DSS adopted and recommended budgets, accordingly, under the Social Service Programs division.

This Agreement will be funded with 30% federal sources, 49% state 2011 Realignment funds, and 21% County funds. DSS will use its allocation of General Fund Contribution to cover a portion of the required non-federal share of costs, in addition to the state 2011 Realignment funds. The Agreement contains a non-appropriation clause in the event funds are not appropriated.

**Key Contract Risks:**

The risk assessment worksheet has been completed and DSS has determined that Aspiranet is a medium risk vendor. The County has experience with Aspiranet and is confident of their ability to provide services.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

0

**FTEs:**

0

**Special Instructions:**

Please scan, email and send one (1) duplicate original Agreement, and a copy of the minute order to:

DSS Contracts Unit

C/O Tricia Beebe

2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Santa Maria, CA 93455

Email: tbeebe@countyofsb.org

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1 – Third Amendment – Aspiranet – Family Evaluation Services 23-24
2. Attachment 2 – Minute Order, Executed Agreement and Amendments 1-2 – Aspiranet – Family Evaluation Services

**Authored by:**

Marianne Reagan, Adult and Children Services Operations Division Chief

Tricia Beebe, Contracts Coordinator