



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: October 15, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer (805) 882-3652
Director(s)
Contact Info: Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer (805) 803-8588

SUBJECT: **Agreements for Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) Diversion and Program Evaluation Services**

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 attached Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA) (a local vendor) to provide grant-funded diversion services to youth in the community and their families countywide, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$894,593.00 (the "Agreement") from July 1, 2019 through February 28, 2023, the period of the grant term.
- B.** Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) to provide pre-adjudication diversion program evaluation of the state Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) diversion program, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 (the "Agreement") from July 1, 2019 through February 28, 2023;
- C.** Approve Budget Revision Request BJE 0006602 recognizing \$220,920 of FY 2019-20 YRG State grant funds and increasing appropriations by \$276,150.
- D.** 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 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 provides 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. The grant supports approaches which are evidence based, culturally relevant, trauma informed, and developmentally appropriate and is meant for communities where the rate of racial/ethnic disparities is high, within an already high rate of juvenile arrests. The Department, in partnership with CADA, applied to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for this grant as authorized by the Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2019 and was awarded funding on June 13, 2019. Ninety percent of awarded funds will be passed through to CADA to provide diversion services county-wide for youth who, without these alternatives, would likely enter the juvenile justice system. A separate and required program evaluation of grant services will be provided by UCSB.

Background:

Over the last two decades, continued research in the field of juvenile justice has shown that traditional responses to juvenile offenders, including arrest and incarceration, are not effective. Ideally, youth should be diverted at the earliest possible point and to the greatest extent possible, to avoid drawing youth deeper into the justice system. This has resulted in an evolution of the juvenile justice and juvenile probation best practices, since youth on probation often experience a higher rate of recidivism than youth who were diverted without formal contact with the juvenile court. In addition, ongoing research has highlighted the need for developmental approaches to supervision; youth have often experienced trauma, which alters their coping mechanisms in adolescence, and their brains do not mature until their late teenage years or early adulthood. Treatment for juveniles must therefore be conscious of these issues, and should not be identical to the methods used for adults. Juvenile services should focus on developmentally appropriate evidence-based interventions, and should identify and build on existing strengths. Diverting youth also decreases the possibility of exposure to negative influences within the juvenile justice system.

There is a need for a broader base of diversion services in Santa Barbara County, which will enable the County to continue transforming juvenile justice practices. The YRG offers an opportunity to establish these services in partnership with CADA, local school districts, and local law enforcement. Services will be provided to low-level juvenile offenders, particularly those who are first-time offenders and those with certain misdemeanor charges. Law enforcement, Probation, and education partners may divert youth into programs and services which will not require the involvement of the juvenile justice system, but will instead rely on case management by CADA to work with youth and families and change at-risk behaviors. CADA will track and report outcomes on this population as part of their work under the grant, and grant evaluation will be provided by University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) under separate agreement.

Performance Measure:

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

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Current FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	Total One-Time Project Cost
General Fund			
State	\$ 220,920.00		\$ 795,193.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:	\$ 55,230.00		\$ 198,798.00
Total	\$ 276,150.00	\$ -	\$ 993,991.00

Narrative:

The attached Agreements for diversion services and evaluation of youth are funded by the State YRG Grant and JJCPA funds.

Current year appropriations of \$276,150 will fund diversion services of \$196,070, Program Evaluation services of \$25,000 and Other expenditures of \$55,080. Future years' portion of the grant will be included through the proposed budget.

Staffing Impacts: None

Legal Positions:

N/A

FTEs:

N/A

Special Instructions: Please return two (2) Certified Minute Orders to Michael Cameron, Fiscal Manager, Probation Department, 117 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: The Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, FY 2019-2023 Agreement
- Attachment B: University of California, Santa Barbara FY 2019-2023 Agreement
- Attachment C: Budget Revision Request BJE 0006602

Authored by: Deputy Chief Probation Officer Holly Benton