



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: District Attorney
Department No.: 021
For Agenda Of: June 27, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director John T. Savrnich, District Attorney, x82306
Contact Info: Michael Soderman, Chief Financial & Administrative Officer,
x82303
SUBJECT: Cal OES Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program Grant
Award, Subaward No. UV22 01 0420

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution approving, ratifying, and authorizing the District Attorney to execute a Grant Agreement with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) accepting the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach (UV) Program grant award for the award period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$196,906;
- b) Approve and authorize the District Attorney to execute any amendments to the Grant Agreement extending the term thereof through June 30, 2024, or for a supplemental grant award not to exceed \$50,000, with the concurrence of County Counsel and Auditor-Controller; and
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), since they consist of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

The Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach (UV) Program provides outreach to victims of violent crime within the unserved and underserved communities of the immigrant Spanish and

Indigenous-speaking agriculture workforce in the Santa Maria area. Funding through Cal OES supports 1.5 FTE Victim/Witness Program Advocates who provide mandatory and optional services to victims in accordance with Cal OES program guidelines and the Penal Code governing Victim-Witness Assistance Programs. In addition to advocate training, these advocates have completed cultural competency training on working with the Mixtec-speaking population.

Per the Cal OES Grant Agreement, the District Attorney is required to maintain written documentation on file showing authorization by the Board of Supervisors for the District Attorney to sign the Grant Agreement. In order to meet state deadlines and properly receive the grant funding, the District Attorney preliminarily executed the Grant Agreement pending formal authority from the Board of Supervisors. The purpose of this Board Letter is to request that the Board formally authorize the District Attorney to sign the Grant Agreement with Cal OES for the UV Program grant award for the award period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$196,906.

Background:

Under the UV Program, advocates provide the following services to victims of crime who are part of the unserved and underserved immigrant Spanish and Indigenous-speaking agriculture workforce in Santa Maria:

- **Crisis Intervention:** Advocates respond to victims of crime who are seeking short term emotional and physical care in the aftermath of crime.
- **Referrals:** Advocates provide referrals to licensed therapists who provide trauma-informed counseling. In addition, advocates can connect victims to other community services such as medical providers, mental health providers, County social services and child protective services, domestic violence agencies, child abuse centers, and rape crisis centers, all of which provide a myriad of services to victims as the need indicates.
- **Criminal Justice System Support and Advocacy:** Advocates provide basic information regarding the criminal justice system, define legal terms, and offer assistance to victims of crime who may not have reported the crime or be known to law enforcement. Immigrant victims are often unfamiliar with the laws of the United States and distrust law enforcement due to negative experiences in their home countries. Because of this, Advocates provide intensive orientation to the criminal justice system and explanation of victims' rights under the California Constitution (Marsy's Law).
- **Crime Victim Compensation and Emergency Assistance:** Advocates arrange for emergency financial assistance for victims such as emergency relocation, funeral burial expenses, food, transportation, and clothing.

The UV program coordinates outreach to the target community via a contract with Emerald Wave Media to provide Spanish and Mixteco radio spots about the UV program on AM and FM radio stations. In addition, the radio stations air monthly 30-minute live talk shows highlighting the UV program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes. Revenues and expenditures are included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Adopted Budget and the 2023-24 Adopted Budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

The grant award reflects program expenses for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The grant funding spans across two fiscal years. The total project cost is \$196,906 with no local cash match.

The \$196,906 grant funds include \$177,270 in Salaries and Benefits, which funds 1.5 Victim Witness Program Advocates. Also included is \$19,636 in Operating Costs.

UV Grant Award Schedule			
<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Grant Award Period</u>	<u>Grant Award Amount</u>	
2020 VOCA (Victims of Crime Act)	1/01/23 – 12/31/2023	\$	98,453
2021 VOCA (Victims of Crime Act)	1/01/23 – 12/31/2023	\$	98,453
<i>Total Grant Award</i>		\$	196,906

Key Contract Risks:

There is minimal risk to the County. Funds are reimbursed after program expenses are incurred.

Special Instructions:

The Clerk of the Board shall post the Notice of Exemption upon Board approval. Please return the following items to John DeAlba, DA Department Business Specialist:

- a) One (1) Minute Order;
- b) One (1) duplicate original fully-executed Grant Award Resolution;
- c) One (1) copy of the fully-executed Grant Award Resolution; and
- d) One (1) copy of the approved Notice of Exemption.

Attachments:

- a) Board Resolution
- b) UV22 Grant Award
- c) Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

John DeAlba, Department Business Specialist (x82434)