



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
Department No.: 022
For Agenda Of: June 6, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Holly L. Benton, Chief Probation Officer, (805)803-8537
Director(s)
Contact Info: Melinda Barrera, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, (805)882-3715

SUBJECT: **Agreements for Juvenile Probation Services for Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-24 and 2023-25**

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 Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Family Services Agency (FSA) (a local vendor) to provide the Strengthening Families Program to probation supervised youth and their families, residing in the Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, and Lompoc regions, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$152,555.00 from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025, (“Agreement”);
- B. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara dba CommUnify (a local vendor) to provide the Seeking Safety treatment intervention and the El Joven Noble curriculum to probation supervised male youth at medium and high risk of re-offending, residing in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria regions, and detained at the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) and Santa Maria Juvenile Justice Center (JJC), and to provide mentoring services to probation supervised youth at medium and high risk of re-offending, residing in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria regions, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$526,580.00 from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025, (“Agreement”);

- C. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley (FBSMV) (a local vendor) to develop and provide a program of targeted interventions to probation supervised youth in the Santa Maria and Lompoc regions, and Cannabis Education classes and related services to youth with a qualifying citation in the in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria regions, with a total contract amount not to exceed \$278,033.00 from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, (Agreement”);
- D. Authorize the Chief Probation Officer or designee to approve subsequent immaterial changes to the agreements including authorizing additional services, amending program staffing requirements, amending service locations, and adding programs goals, outcomes, and measures, and reallocation of funds between funding sources. Authorize the Chief Probation Officer or designee to approve line-item budget changes to Attachment B-1 of the Agreement in an amount not to exceed 10% of the stated line-item budgeted amounts for each service. Immaterial changes can be made as long as the total contract amount of the Agreement is not increased, and subject to the Board’s ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time, and provided that in no event shall any such amendment extend the term of the agreement;
- E. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities of 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:

Through funding provided by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and the Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG), the attached Agreements, with local vendors that are community-based organizations, provide a variety of evidence-based services, programs, treatment interventions, and curriculums to probation supervised youth who are at medium to high risk of re-offending and have identified criminogenic needs. Some Agreements also provide support to families. The Agreements will provide education, case management, and support to complete community service work in response to low level cannabis offenses, a family skills training program to increase resiliency and reduce risk factors for behavioral, emotional, academic, and social problems in youth, treatment interventions that provide coping skills to attain safety from trauma and substance abuse, culturally informed support for youth with a focus in preventing substance abuse, teen pregnancy, relationship violence, gang violence, and school failure, and mentoring services as trauma informed community-based responses to lower level offending and probation violations by supervised youth.

Background:

The JJCPA was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at curbing crime and delinquency. Counties may use the State funds to support prevention, intervention, and custody programs based on local needs, and requires that counties provide programs that have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency. The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) reviews local programs and oversees the development of a Comprehensive Multiagency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) that is completed annually.

The YOBG was enacted in 2007 by Senate Bill (SB) 81 (Chapter 175, Statutes of 2007) and reassigned from State to local control the non-violent, non-serious, non-sexual offenders within California's juvenile justice system. In 2016, further amendments were made by Assembly Bill (AB) 1998 (Chapter 880). The YOBG program realigned certain youth in California's juvenile justice population from State to county control and prohibited counties from sending certain lower level offenders to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Counties may use YOBG funds to support a variety of local programs and strategies that seek to prevent involvement and escalation in the juvenile justice system and limit the use of detention for youth.

YOBG supports the concept that public safety is enhanced by keeping juvenile offenders close to their families and communities. In recognition of the increased county responsibility for supervising and rehabilitating these youthful offenders, the State provides annual funding through the YOBG program. The California Department of Finance calculates each county's allocation amount annually using its own demographic information for the juvenile population and California Department of Justice data for juvenile felony dispositions. As provided by statute, allocation from the YOBG fund may be used to enhance the capacity of county probation and to deliver appropriate rehabilitative and supervision services to youthful offenders.

Execution of the FSA Agreement will provide the Strengthening Families program, an evidence-based family skills training program designed to increase resilience and reduce risk factors for behavioral, emotional, academic, and social problems in youth age 12 to 16. This service shall be provided to youth under probation supervision and their families in the Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, and Lompoc regions for a two-year period. Under this agreement, FSA is able to provide services virtually, in person, or in hybrid form to allow for a greater level of participation and a modality that best works for referred families.

Execution of the Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara (dba CommUnify) Agreement will provide Seeking Safety, an evidence based treatment intervention, to high and medium risk of reoffending male youth, under probation supervision in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria regions, and at the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) and Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC); will provide El Joven Noble curriculum to high and medium risk of re-offending male youth age 14-18, under probation supervision in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria regions, and at LPBC and the JJC; and will provide mentoring services for high and medium risk of re-offending male and female youth age 12-18 under probation supervision in the Santa Barbara, Lompoc, and Santa Maria regions, including when youth are in the LPBC and JJC, for a two year period. This contract has been expanded to add additional cohorts of youth for Seeking Safety and Joven Noble at the county detention facilities to ensure all eligible youth have access to these programs, and to allow for both virtual, in person, and hybrid models of services in the community to maximize participation and completion for youth out of custody.

Execution of the FBSMV Agreement will provide targeted interventions to youth, under probation supervision in the Santa Maria and Lompoc regions. Services include school-based mentoring and support, employment readiness and coaching skills, coaching youth to advocate for their needs to be met in the school setting, as well as cannabis education classes and assigning and ensuring the completion of community service for youth cited for qualifying cannabis offenses in the county. The later has been expanded to offer case management and to fund three program specialists to support youth in completing education courses and community services requirements.

Performance Measure:

All Agreements contain both standardized and program-specific performance measures. These measures enable the Probation Department to better assess individual program effectiveness. The Probation Department utilizes Department Business Specialists who provide periodic quality assurance reviews of each agreement which include observations of facilitation of services, programs, treatment interventions, and curriculums, as well as review of monthly invoices that include information on service delivery and youth response to it.

As written, many of the performance measures define successful completion of program as attendance of a minimum number of sessions in addition to completion of a posttest. In the FY 2023-2025 contract cycle, these are two separate measures and successful completion will be defined only as completion of the minimum number of sessions. Local vendors have reported difficulty having youth return to complete posttests after program completion and thus will be given the option to administer posttests one week prior to completion of program or during the final session to capture more youth responses. Additionally, it was determined some of the previously used pre/posttests did not fit the program goals as closely as they should and have been replaced with more appropriate tests for FY 2023-25.

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

For FY 2021-22, a general measure for all local vendors was to enroll a minimum of 80% of referred youth into programs. This measure was met or exceeded across the board; however, with the exception of Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley's Cannabis Education program, referrals to all programs were low, which contributed to many of the unmet outcomes such as overall completion and posttest percentages where one unsuccessful or low score can have a significant impact on the small populations. Note that while data exists for the first half of FY 2022-23, it is incomplete and does not provide a full overview of all performance measures as a few general problems with measures were noted and corrected for the FY 2023-25 cycle.

To support programs in meeting outcome measures in the upcoming fiscal years, the Probation Department is committed to holding Child Family Team Meetings (CFTs) for all youth identified as at risk of out-of-home placement or at high risk of recidivism, moving toward implementing these meetings at periodic intervals. These meetings allow for an opportunity to establish a support network to include these identified programs as part of the youth and families team. CFTs will then support increased enrollment, participation, and completion of these programs, moving toward higher outcome measures. Lastly, some of these programs such as Strengthening Families can be utilized as a diversionary program for youth identified as being at high risk of recidivism to support the youth and the family in not moving further into the juvenile justice system. Utilizing these programs at this stage is yet another opportunity to provide evidence-based tools to successfully divert youth from formal processing. Even at this stage, there will be support from the Probation Department to increase enrollment, participation and completion of interventions.

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		\$ 618,101.00	
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 618,101.00	\$ -

Narrative:

The attached three (3) Agreements for Juvenile Probation program services are fully funded by State funding sources, which includes JJCPA revenue in an amount of \$76,278 and YOBG revenue in an amount of \$541,823 for a combined total funding of \$618,101. Funds for these Agreements have been accounted for in the FY 2023-24 proposed budget and future year’s portion of the Agreements will be included through the proposed budget. Execution of the three (3) Agreements will not increase the General Fund Contribution to the Probation Department.

Key Contract Risks:

Risk assessments have been completed and key contract risks were not identified.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
No Effect

FTEs:
No Effect

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) fully signed original of each of the three (3) Agreements to:

Christina Sibley, Fiscal Manager
 Probation Department
 117 E. Carrillo St., Santa Barbara CA 93101

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Family Service Agency, FY 2023-2025 Agreement
- Attachment B: Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara (dba CommUnify)
FY 2023-2025 Agreement
- Attachment C: Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley, FY 2023-2024 Agreement

Authored by:

Erin Cross, Probation Manager