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THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-2

Urgent  Routine

AGENDA DATE March 3, 2015

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Provision of Sober Living Environment Services in Stanislaus County and the Elimination of Local Match Requirements in the RFP

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the General Services Agency (GSA) Purchasing Division to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) on behalf of the Community Services Agency for the provision of Sober Living Environment Services in Stanislaus County for the initial contract period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 with an option to renew the contract on a year-to-year basis up to a maximum of three additional years.
2. Eliminate local match requirements in the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Sober Living Environment Services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Appropriations and estimated revenue of \$1,250,000 to support these agreements will be included in Community Services Agency's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Adopted Proposed Budget. Federal and State Revenue of \$996,500 will offset the planned program expenditures with the County Match requirement for Child Welfare Services (CWS) program costs of \$253,500 to be funded through 1990/1991 Realignment. There is no additional impact to the General Fund.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2015-73

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman Withrow

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: O'Brien

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

- 1) X Approved as recommended
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

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**DISCUSSION:**

Sober Living Environment services performed through community-based organizations provide a benefit to this community by allowing parents and their children the opportunity to live in a structured and drug free setting while they work toward fulfilling the requirements of their Child Welfare and/or StanWORKs case plan. The focus of these plans is on child safety and family self-sufficiency, providing substance abuse services, as well as mental health services, employment and educational counseling, medical care, child care, housing and transportation.

These local Sober Living Environment services for the community are not mandated by the State or Federal Government, however are recognized as an essential service for individuals in substance abuse recovery. Child Welfare funding for Sober Living Environment services is made available by the State but requires a 30% local match for Child Welfare eligible cases. CalWORKs Welfare to Work funding for Sober Living Environment services is made available by Federal and State sources with no local match required beyond the County's initial maintenance of effort requirement for the CalWORKs cases.

In Fiscal Year 2010-2011, Stanislaus County was in the midst of its third year of considerable economic decline. Budget reductions necessitated minimum local match funding to all programs. As a result, Child Welfare funding was reduced by over 30 percent. Clean and sober living programs faced closure.

In late 2010, a group of local individuals approached Supervisor O'Brien with an amazing idea about private donations being made to serve as "local match," to be able to draw the State Child Welfare Services and StanWORKs funding that the County General Fund was unable to match. This unique proposal was the catalyst to not only save but expand clean and sober living programs, some of which were on the verge of closure. As a result, a new non-profit was created – Valley Recovery Resources – and the capacity for clean and sober living programs was significantly enhanced in our community.

On May 10, 2011 the Board of Supervisors authorized the Community Services Agency (CSA) to enter into an agreement with Valley Recovery Resources to provide these services to a maximum of 40 families per month. Included in the agreement was a commitment from Valley Recovery Resources to provide the annual local match requirement of \$144,540. This donation from Valley Recovery Resources enabled Stanislaus County to draw down \$3.1 million in augmentation funds in Fiscal Year 2010-2011, with an estimated \$9 million received to date. The Board also directed CSA to work with the General Services Agency to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) in Fiscal Year 2011-2012 for the provision of Sober Living Environment Services for contracts beginning July 1, 2012.

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On June 26, 2012, the Board of Supervisors awarded the agreements for Sober Living Environment services to Valley Recovery Resources in the amount of \$983,675 and Nirvana Drug and Alcohol Treatment Institute in the amount of \$108,000 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Execution of these two contracts provided a total of 55 beds per month; 49 beds provided through Valley Recovery Resources and 6 provided through Nirvana. Included in the contract was the requirement of local match from Valley Recovery Resources in the amount of \$181,783 and Nirvana Drug and Alcohol Treatment Institute in the amount of \$32,400. The contracts were renewed in Fiscal Years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

Since July 2012, approximately 340 individuals have received services through Clean and Sober Living facilities. The current Request for Proposal (RFP) expires on June 30, 2015. In order to continue Clean and Sober Living Services after June 30, 2015 a new RFP will need to be issued and awarded.

In 1991, the State realigned several programs (CalWORKs, Child Welfare Services, Foster Care, Adoptions Assistance Program and In-Home Supportive Services) and increased the county share of costs of those programs. The State provided 1991 Social Services Realignment Sales Tax revenues, earned by those realigned programs, to offset the increased county share of costs. With the economic recovery from Fiscal Year 2011-2012 to Fiscal Year 2014-2015, the State caught up and remitted prior year growth receipts and is projecting continued moderate Sales Tax growth. Due to an increase in 1990/1991 Realignment, which was a direct result of the provider match, it is recommended that the local match requirements be eliminated from the next RFP cycle.

**POLICY ISSUE:**

Approval of this request to Issue a Request for Proposal supports the Board's priorities of A Healthy Community, Effective Partnerships and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by meeting a community need for services that improve the health and well being of families in our community.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

Existing Community Services Agency staff is available to support the Request for Proposal process and the contracts to provide Sober Living Environment Services in Stanislaus County.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Kathryn Harwell, Director 558-2500