

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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA # *B-7

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE April 28, 2015

CEO Concur 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 Intensive Time-Limited Family Reunification Services in Stanislaus County to Children and Families in the Child Welfare Family Reunification Program

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

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 intensive time-limited family reunification services for the contract period of October 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017 with an option to renew the agreement for a maximum of one additional year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of the intensive time-limited family reunification services contract is estimated to be approximately \$167,930 for the period of October 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. As a result, appropriations and corresponding revenues were included in the Community Services Agency Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016 Proposed Budget submission. Appropriations and estimated revenues for the remaining months of the awarded contract will be included in the Agency's budget submission for the subsequent year. The intensive time-limited family reunification services contract is funded with Federal, State, and 1991 Realignment funds. There is no cost to the General Fund Associated with this agreement.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2015-183

On motion of Supervisor De Martini, Seconded by Supervisor Chiesa

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman Withrow

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

DISCUSSION:

The Community Services Agency (CSA) contracts with numerous individuals and agencies to provide child welfare services to Stanislaus County residents. In most cases, individuals and agencies are selected through a competitive process, which takes into account specific expertise, as well as cost efficiency. Agreements are renewed based on a demonstrated ability to deliver required outcomes effectively, along with availability of funding. While a number of agencies have successful, long term partnering relationships with CSA, all major provider agreements continue to be reviewed and, consistent with Board of Supervisors' direction, competitive proposals will be sought periodically.

One of the program services that CSA provides via contract is intensive time-limited family reunification services performed through community based organizations that benefit children and families open in the Child Welfare Family Reunification program. In general terms "intensive family reunification services" means the services and activities are provided to a child that is removed from the biological parents' or primary caregiver due to child abuse and neglect. The child is placed in a foster family home or child care institution. These services are also provided to the biological parents or primary caregiver of such a child (including families with a medically frail child) in order to facilitate the reunification of the child to a safe and nurturing environment.

The provider will meet with the client to help develop an in-depth plan to overcome barriers to reunification. This plan helps drive the service delivery which includes: housing search, obtaining a job, accessing mental health services, transportation to visitations with their biological child and modeling how to utilize community supports. The provider will provide between five (5) and twenty (20) hours of direct services per week to each family depending on the needs, the stage of treatment, and the family's transition to self-sufficiency. The current provider has served one hundred seventeen (117) families since the beginning of the contract, July 1, 2013. The current provider's contract is scheduled to end on June 30, 2015; therefore, CSA has requested in the third quarter budget a contract extension through September 30, 2015 to allow enough time for the RFP to be completed and a new contract to be written with the awarded provider.

The Community Services Agency is now requesting approval to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the provision of intensive time-limited family reunification services. The procurement method will be a "best value" approach, which means that the County is prepared to award a single contract to the Proposer who offers the most cost-effective and comprehensive solution.

The Department will return to the Board upon completion of the RFP process with a final contract recommendation.

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POLICY ISSUES:

Approval of this request to issue an RFP supports the Board's priorities of A Healthy Community, Safe Environment, Effective Partnerships and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by meeting a community need for services that improves the health and well – being of children and families in our community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Community Services Agency and Purchasing staff is available to support this RFP process.

CONTACT:

Kathryn Harwell, Director

558-2500