

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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-5

AGENDA DATE: September 20, 2016

SUBJECT:

Approval to Issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Provision of Transitional Housing Services for Former Foster Youth

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2016-475

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien
and approved by the following vote,

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

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: 
ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Community Services Agency
Urgent Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-5

AGENDA DATE: September 20, 2016

CEO CONCURRENCE: pht

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Provision of Transitional Housing Services for Former Foster Youth

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 Transitional Housing Services for former foster youth for the contract period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

The Community Services Agency (CSA) contracts with numerous individuals and agencies to provide essential 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, County procurement guidelines state that non-professional contracted services which have reached a \$45,000 cumulative level and have not been previously competitively procured or those that have been previously competitively procured but have now reached the maximum three year term imposed by the California Department of Social Services Management and Office Procedure 23-621, shall be competitively procured.

One of the program services that CSA provides via contract is transitional housing services for former foster youth. The Transitional Housing Placement Plus Program (THP-Plus) was implemented by Assembly Bill 427 in 2001 to address the alarming rates of homelessness among foster youth emancipating from the foster care system. The THP-Plus Program continues to provide the housing resources needed by former foster youth. To date, the THP-Plus Program has provided safe and affordable housing to over 17,000 former foster youth ages 18-24 across California. In Stanislaus County, approximately 11 former foster youth received THP-Plus Program services in the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year. Of the 11 who received services, eight of the 11 had their high school diploma at the time of enrollment and during their participation 5 started working, 5 started attending Modesto Junior College, 1 started working to acquire their General Educational Development (GED) certificate and 1 began vocational training. At the end of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year, the 3 former foster youth that exited the THP-Plus Program were renting their own apartment. During Fiscal Year 2015-2016, 15 former foster youth received THP-Plus Program services. Of the 15 who received

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services, 12 out of 15 had their high school diploma at the time of enrollment and during their participation 12 began working, 7 started attending Modesto Junior College, 1 began vocational training and 1 began attending California State University Stanislaus. During the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year only 1 former foster youth exited the program and was living with relatives.

While participating in the THP-Plus Program, the former foster youth receive services that involve housing, case management, educational, job readiness, economic stabilization (which includes retention strategies for new and current employment), life skills and 24 hour crisis intervention assistance. These services help prepares the youth participant for the workforce and/or includes academics as a pathway to earning a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate. The former foster youth participating in the THP-Plus Program can receive assistance including but not limited to the following: \$900 a month for rent, a \$400 allowance for utilities, laundry, food, cleaning supplies, transportation, a \$200 utility deposit and \$100 a month to establish an emancipation savings fund. The goal of the THP-Plus Program is that former foster youth will have secure, stable housing after graduation from the program and is progressing with his/her life goals in the area of education, physical/mental well-being, connections to the community, employment, and self-sufficiency.

The housing models provided to the youth are the Host Family Model where the youth live in the home of a former foster parent or a support person whom they had connection and the Scattered Site Model where the youth (if eligible) live independently in an apartment located in areas near their school or employment.

The Community Services Agency is now requesting approval to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the provision of transitional housing for former foster youth. The procurement method will be a "best value" approach, which means that the County is prepared to award a single contract or multiple contracts to the Proposer(s) who offer the most cost-effective and comprehensive solutions.

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

POLICY ISSUE:

Approval to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the provision of transitional housing services for former foster youth will allow the Community Service Agency to meet the County Purchasing Department's procurement guidelines that state non-professional contracted services which have reached a \$45,000 cumulative level and have not yet been competitively procured or those that have been previously competitively procured but have now reached the maximum three year term imposed by the California Department of Social Services Management and Office Procedure 23-621, shall be competitively procured.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of the transitional housing services for former foster youth contract(s) is estimated to be approximately \$327,000 for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. As a result, appropriations and estimated corresponding revenues will be included in the Community Services Agency Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Proposed Budget submission. Transitional housing services for former foster youth appropriations and estimated revenues

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for the remaining two years of the awarded contract is projected to be sustained at the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 funding level and will be included in the Agency's budget submission for the subsequent fiscal years.

Funding for transitional housing services for former foster youth is provided through 2011 Realignment. There is no additional cost to the General Fund associated with this agenda item.

Cost of recommended action:	\$ 327,000
Source(s) of Funding:	
2011 Realignment	327,000
Funding Total:	\$ 327,000
Net Cost to County General Fund	\$ -

Fiscal Year:	2017/2018
Budget Adjustment/Appropriations needed:	No

Fund Balance as of N/A

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

Approval of this request to issue an RFP supports the Board of Supervisors' priorities of A Healthy Community, A Safe Community, 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 General Services Agency Purchasing staff is available to support this RFP process.

CONTACT PERSON:

Kathryn M. Harwell, Director (209) 558-2500

ATTACHMENT(S):

None