

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

DEPT: Probation

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-9

AGENDA DATE: August 29, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval for the Chief Probation Officer to Re-apply for and Accept Phase 4 Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) Grant Funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) in the Amount up to \$200,000 for Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2018

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2017-476

On motion of Supervisor Olsen, Seconded by Supervisor Withrow

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Withrow, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Chiesa

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: Probation 

Urgent

Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-9

AGENDA DATE: August 29, 2017

CEO CONCURRENCE: 

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval for the Chief Probation Officer to Re-apply for and Accept Phase 4 Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) Grant Funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) in the Amount up to \$200,000 for Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2018

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to submit and/or sign Stanislaus County's Phase 4 Application for Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities Grant with the Board of State and Community Corrections and related contracts, amendments, or extensions relative to the Grant.
2. Approve a Resolution authorizing the Probation Department to submit the grant proposal for Phase 4 funding.

DISCUSSION:

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has worked to ensure the reduction of over representation of youth of color coming into contact with the juvenile justice system as a priority; with the ultimate goal being a fair and equitable justice system.

The goals and objectives are comprised of several prioritized themes. These themes include the emphasis on community engagement as a way to improve outcomes, the intersection between the reduction of implicit bias and the data driven decision making; and lastly applying principles that focus on enhancing correctional practices while still allowing for innovation. Although the Probation Department is the lead agency for project administration and oversight, it was imperative that the engagement, collaboration, and commitment of community stakeholders begin at the onset of Phase 1 and continue through full implementation of community forums, training, programs and youth engagement in Phases 2, 3, and 4. Successful partnerships have allowed for greater involvement in necessary assessments, data-mining and defining work plans during each grant phase. This opportunity for change requires broad system reform and supports probation departments in understanding and identifying disparities and identifying partners within the community, and is designed to equip these agencies with the tools and resources needed to provide leadership in developing and/or strengthening community-based R.E.D. activities.

In Phase 2, the local R.E.D. work groups worked on two major projects: (1) the Violation of Probation (VOP) Matrix and the (2) Detention Risk Assessment Inventory. The VOP Matrix was to be used to help reduce implicit bias when deciding on a recommendation for violations

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of probation. The VOP Matrix was created by a committee, which consisted of representatives from all of the Juvenile Division units and modified by recommendations from the R.E.D. work group. The members of the committee collectively created the Matrix, taking into account the available resources in the community and the Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System (JAIS) assessment tool which helps the officers determine the best supervision strategy for each minor. The committee considered the risks and needs of the minors under the four supervision categories of the JAIS assessment and in doing so decided on appropriate recommendations, which include when a minor should or should not be taken into custody. The VOP Matrix was implemented in April 2016. Officers are required to use the Matrix when making a recommendation to the Court regarding violations of probation. The VOP Matrix will then give the officer an appropriate recommendation which will best serve the minor in his/her rehabilitation.

The other project completed in Phase 2 was the Detention Risk Assessment Inventory (DRAI). The Detention Risk Assessment tool is completed on all youth admitted to Juvenile Hall with a new law violation. The purpose of this scored tool is to determine whether a youth will remain in custody, be released on an alternative form of custody or released without restriction prior to their first Court appearance. Due to the varying opinions regarding the appropriate use and purpose of secure detentions, and with the help of national expert on risk assessments David Steinhart, the R.E.D. work group created a subcommittee on Detention Risk Assessment Inventory (DRAI) and revised our assessment tool in 2015 and again in 2016. The revision of our Detention Risk Assessment tool was to help protect against biased treatment (unintentional or not) at intake and ensure that youth are not released if they pose a safety risk to the community. In addition, it was important that the tool be reviewed to make sure that it is not disparately impacting youth of color.

In Phase 3, in addition to implementing the VOP Matrix and the DRAI, community engagement was the focus. Community engagement acknowledges the importance of having the family and communities of youth most affected by the juvenile justice system working in partnership with juvenile justice system staff throughout the reform process in order to sustain reductions in disparities. The local R.E.D. project led several focus groups in the community in Phase 3. The focus groups targeted areas of the county that have an overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system. The R.E.D. work groups engaged community members who may not be able to attend the work group meetings, to incorporate community input into developing a more consistent two way communication between the Probation Department and community members. Through continued partnerships, the R.E.D. grant stakeholders identified opportunities to bring specific training and on-going engagement activities into the communities. Additionally, new contracted services were established with the Stanislaus County Boys and Girls Club and the Christ Unity Church/Firebrand Academy to offer mentoring, re-entry, recreational and family-like programs to help engage identified at-risk youth.

In Phase 4, contracted services will continue with expanded community engagement through continued forums. Additionally, the R.E.D. grant project team will be working towards a partnership with the Modesto Junior College to augment existing programs to offer educational opportunities to older at risk youth. Phase 4 will also include data evaluation of the entire RED

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grant's four phases with planning for on-going sustainability of targeted services once the grant ends.

Related to funding, Federal Title II Formula Grant funds are for counties selected to participate in this R.E.D. grant; funding is awarded annually (as federal funds are available) for a total of four (4) years. This will be the fourth year of funding for the Stanislaus County Probation Department. The Department intends to apply for up to \$200,000 to cover the costs associated with contracts related to Phase 4 of the grant. It is anticipated that the Department will contract for technical guidance with The Prison Law Office along with Leap and Associates for program evaluation purposes. The Department contracted with both agencies in Phase 2 and 3. Other contracts will include services to provide community outreach and additional training related to R.E.D. as well as the noted community-based organizations through the Stanislaus County Boys and Girls Club and the Christ Unity Church/Firebrand Academy.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) requires a Board resolution as part of the grant re-application process. The Department is still working on the application and will submit by the August 31, 2017 deadline date. The funding will provide for support in implementing community based programming that will reduce ethnic disparities among youthful offenders of color

FISCAL IMPACT:

If selected, this will be the fourth year that the Probation Department would receive the R.E.D. Grant Funding. The Department received \$200,000 in year one, \$200,000 in year two, \$200,000 in year three and is applying for \$200,000 in year four. After year one, the funds for years two through four are distributed on a noncompetitive basis. The Department anticipated estimated revenue and appropriations in the Probation Juvenile Accountability Block Grant budget as part of Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Adopted Proposed Budget. Funds from this grant are claimable on a reimbursement basis.

Cost of recommended action:	\$ 200,000
Source(s) of Funding:	
Federal Title II Grant Funds	200,000
Funding Total:	\$ 200,000
Net Cost to County General Fund	\$ -

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

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended action supports the Board of Supervisors' priority of A Safe Community, Effective Partnerships, and Efficient Delivery of Public Service by engaging both the community and collaborative partners in finding ways to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in our juvenile justice system

STAFFING IMPACT:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this agenda item. Existing Probation Department staff will act as the R.E.D. Project Coordinator

CONTACT PERSON:

Dave Chapman, Division Director Juvenile Field Services Telephone: 209-525-4598

ATTACHMENT(S):

Attachment 1 - Resolution

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: August 29, 2017

2017-476

On motion of Supervisor Olsen Seconded by Supervisor Withrow
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Withrow, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Chiesa

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

Item # *B-9

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

Approval for the Chief Probation Officer to Apply for and Accept Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) Grant Funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) in the Amount up to \$200,000 for Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2018

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Probation Department desires to participate in the Enhanced R.E.D. Grant Project supported by Federal Formula Grant Funds and administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (hereafter referred to as BSCC).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Probation Officer is authorized on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to submit the grant proposal for this funding and sign the Grant Agreement with the BSCC, including the amendments thereof, and all related contracts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Federal grant funds received hereunder shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled by this body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the county agrees to abide by the statutes and regulations governing the Federal Formula Grants Program as well as the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement as set forth by the BSCC.

ATTEST: ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,
State of California



File No.