

County of Sonoma

Agenda Item Summary Report

Clerk of the Board Use Only

Meeting Date

____/____/____

Agenda Item No: _____

Department:

Human Services Department

4/5 Vote Required

Contact:

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Phone:

(707) 565-4343

Board Date:

June 16, 2009

Deadline for Board Action:

June 16, 2009

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:

Child Welfare Services Provider Agreements – Fiscal Year 2009/2010

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

1. Authorize the Director of Human Services, or her designee, to sign and execute agreements with service providers for child welfare service clients.
2. Authorize the Director of Human Services, or her designee, to amend the contracts based on client need as long as the cumulative total remains within approved department character budget.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES

ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

Estimated Cost	\$	699,000	Contingencies	\$	000.00
			(Fund Name:)		
Amount Budgeted	\$	699,000	Unanticipated Revenue	\$	000.00
			(Source:)		
Other Available Approp. (Explain Below)	\$	000.00	Other Transfer(s)		000.00
			(Source:)	\$	
Additional Requested:	\$	0.00	Total Source of Funds:	\$	0.00

Explanation (if required):

Funding for these Agreements is included in the department's 2009-2010 fiscal year budget. The funding for these services is a combination of State (70%) and matching County (30%) funds.

Prior Board Action(s):

The Board of Supervisors authorizes execution of agreements to provide specialized services to child welfare clients on an annual basis.

Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval:

Child welfare clients will not have necessary services available to avert the cycle of abuse and neglect that brought them into the child welfare system.

Background:

The Family, Youth and Children’s Services Division of the Human Services Department works with child welfare service system children and their families to alleviate the results of abuse or neglect. The social workers must continuously seek specialized services to meet the needs of the children and their families, such as counseling, psychological assessments, supervised visitation, and parent education, and other therapeutic and supportive services.

The Human Services Department is requesting that the Director of Human Services, or her designee, be authorized to sign and execute Agreements with the service providers listed below for fiscal year 09/10:

Provider	Services	Recommendation
Ananda Institute	Anger Management and Counseling	\$45,000
California Parenting Institute	Parent Education and Supervised Visitation	\$200,000
Karen Church	Parent Education and Resource Services	\$55,000
Kathleen Dark, PhD	Counseling and Psychological Evaluation	\$30,000
Drug Abuse Alternatives Center	Counseling and Substance Abuse Services	\$50,000
Family Service Agency	Counseling and Domestic Violence Services	\$75,000
Rodolfo Rodriquez, PhD	Counseling and Psychological Evaluation	\$45,000
Tina Tamborini	Family Resource Services	\$45,000
Angela Tejeda	Family Resource Services	\$35,000
Gloria Speicher, PhD	Counseling and Psychological Evaluation	\$55,000
Social Advocates for Youth	Family Coaching	\$64,000

These contractors deliver much needed services to children and assist parents and families in learning skills needed to care for their children that are in danger of or have been removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. These services are generally part of a parent’s court-approved plan to reunify or remain with their children. Without these services, families may stay in the child welfare system for a longer period of time, thus increasing time spent in out of home placements for children and increased costs associated with foster care benefits.

The cost of therapy sessions, parenting instruction and many other services are frequently provided at below-market rates. This enables the department to offer a wide range of services throughout the county. By offering such a range of services, Social Workers can refer clients to services that are customized to fit the specific needs of the child and their family. These are vendor contracts where each service to a child or family is individually authorized and tracked by the social worker for a specific number of sessions and/or time period. Services that prove ineffective can be cancelled at any time.

Attachments:

On File With Clerk:
Sample Agreement

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote:

Background Cont'd.

Because of California's budget crisis, the Governor has proposed reductions in child welfare services; however, in the opinion of County Counsel, Sonoma County has an obligation to provide these services until legislative action has occurred and we are officially directed otherwise by the State of California. All vendor agreements contain a 5-day termination clause which could be exercised in the event of loss of funding; however, the Department believes there would be sufficient federal and state funding to cover any costs incurred to the point of termination.

Recommendation

1. Authorize the Director of Human Services, or her designee, to sign and execute agreements with service providers for child welfare service clients.
2. Authorize the Director of Human Services, or her designee, to amend the contracts based on client need as long as the cumulative total remains within approved department character budget.