

County Of Sonoma Agenda Item Summary Report

Clerk of the Board Use Only
Meeting Date **Held Until**
 / / / /
Agenda Item No: **Agenda Item No:**
 _____ _____

Department: Human Services

4/5 Vote Required

Contact:
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Board Date:
10/27/2009

Deadline for Board Action:
10/27/2009

AGENDA SHORT TITLE: FY 2009-10 IHSS (In-Home Supportive Services) Enhanced Anti-Fraud Program

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

Resolution approving FY 2009-10 IHSS Enhanced Anti-Fraud Program Plan for submission to CDSS (California Department of Social Services)

Resolution adding 1.0 Social Worker IV, 1.0 Welfare Fraud Investigator, .5 Senior Office Assistant

Resolution authorizing budget adjustments in the FY 2009-10 final budget in the amount of \$303,104 for IHSS Fraud Prevention activities.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES:

ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL:

Estimated Cost	\$361,728	Contingencies (Fund Name:)	\$0
Amount Budgeted	\$58,624	Unanticipated Revenue (Source: CDSS Anti-Fraud initiative)	\$303,104
Other Available Appropriations (Explain Below)	\$0	Other Transfers (Source:)	\$0
Additional Requested	\$303,104	Additional Funds Requested	\$303,104

Explanation (if required): This is a new allocation for IHSS Fraud prevention activities. Total available to Sonoma County is \$361,624. County match required is \$58,624. Match is contained within the FY 09-10 approved HSD budget.

Prior Board Action: None.

Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval: Sonoma County will not participate in the IHSS Enhanced Anti-Fraud Initiative.

Background:

The State 2009 Budget Act appropriated new funding for the purpose of IHSS fraud prevention, detection, referral, investigation and additional program integrity efforts. The funds cannot be used for prosecution. In order to receive a portion of the available funding, counties have been given an opportunity to submit a Fraud Prevention plan. Participating counties must certify that program integrity efforts outlined in the Fraud Prevention plan can begin within 60 days of the receipt of funding. Sonoma County Human Services Department is able to meet this requirement and has developed a local Fraud Prevention plan consistent with the State requirements. The plan has been coordinated with the District Attorney and is included with this Board transmittal report.

The purpose of the state-prescribed IHSS Fraud Prevention plan is to implement new requirements to identify and reduce the occurrence of IHSS fraud by using the 2009-10 California Department of Social Services (CDSS) fraud investigation funds to create an In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Integrity Unit. The proposed In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Integrity Unit will be responsible for implementing new requirements for investigating, documenting, and tracking the occurrences and outcomes of IHSS fraud. Sonoma County will use the new fraud allocation to add 2.5 staff: 1.0 FTE IHSS Program Integrity Social Worker IV, 1.0 FTE Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Welfare Investigator dedicated to the IHSS program, .5 FTE Senior Office Assistant.

The newly created In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Integrity Unit will be co-located in the Adult and Aging Division at the same building with the IHSS program. The Program Integrity Unit will be supervised by the IHSS Program Manager. The Program Integrity Unit will work closely with IHSS Managers, IHSS Supervisors, and IHSS Social Workers/Payroll.

The statistical information about IHSS fraud in Sonoma County show 45 cases referred in the past year to the Department of Health Care Services for investigation. The current monthly caseload for IHSS exceeds 5,000 cases. Existing State regulation requires suspected IHSS fraud be referred to the Department of Health Care Services, not to the local Special Investigations Unit. The new funding expands County responsibility for the prevention and detection of IHSS fraud and gives the County local funding for IHSS fraud investigation. HSD proposes to use the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Integrity Unit to engage in new anti-fraud activities, including unannounced home visits, to prevent and detect fraud in the IHSS program using revised State definitions and to investigate any occurrences that are found. HSD anticipates that there will be additional responsibilities forthcoming from CDSS for the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Integrity Unit.

HSD will provide an annual outcomes report to CDSS by August 1st of each year.

Attachments:

- Resolution – IHSS Fraud plan
- Resolution – Position Allocation List
- Resolution – Budget Adjustments
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On File With Clerk:

- FY 2009-10 Sonoma County IHSS Fraud plan
- County response signature page

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Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: