



San Bernardino County

Legislation Text

File #: 4896, Agenda Item #: 22

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY AND RECORD OF ACTION

October 5, 2021

FROM

MARLENE HAGEN, Director, Children and Family Services

SUBJECT

Amendment to Contracts for Active Supportive Interventions Services for Transition Program

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Approve Amendment No. 3, effective November 1, 2021, to contracts with the following agencies for the Active Supportive Interventions Services for Transition Program to provide support resources to aid in the transition of youth from residential placements, decreasing the total combined contract amount by \$225,000, from \$3,350,000 to \$3,125,000, with no change to the total contract period of November 6, 2019 through June 30, 2023:

1. Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, Contract No. 19-727, decreasing the contract amount by \$28,100, from \$418,750 to \$390,650.
2. South Coast Children's Society, Inc., Contract No. 19-728, decreasing the contract amount by \$84,500, from \$1,256,250 to \$1,171,750.
3. Uplift Family Services, Contract No. 19-729, decreasing the contract amount by \$56,200, from \$837,500 to \$781,300.
4. Victor Community Support Services, Inc., Contract No. 19-730, decreasing the contract amount by \$56,200, from \$837,500 to \$781,300.

(Presenter: Jonathan Byers, Assistant Director, 387-2792)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Provide for the Safety, Health and Social Service Needs of County Residents.

Pursue County Goals and Objectives by Working with Other Agencies and Stakeholders.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This item does not require additional Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The decrease of \$225,000 to the contracts for Active Supportive Interventions Services for Transition (ASIST) Program services is due to a shift in payment responsibilities from the contracted agencies to Children and Family Services (CFS). ASIST Program services are 100% state funded. Adequate appropriation and revenue have been included in the Human Services Claim 2021-22 and will be included in the 2022-23 recommended budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The agencies in the Recommendation provide support and resources to youth transitioning from residential placements under the ASIST Program. Through the ASIST Program, these agencies collaborate with CFS to coordinate individualized, intensive services for identified youth and families and provide extensive family-

finding efforts, specialized permanency services, targeted ongoing transition support for youth, and youth and caretaker coaching to achieve stabilization. ASIST providers deliver trauma-informed, permanency competent clinical strategies and interventions for the transition of youth with complex and co-occurring needs from residential placement to family-based settings. The recommended amendments for the ASIST Program will allow CFS to decrease the total combined contract amount by \$225,000, which is a necessary reduction in the contracted services amounts on these amendments is due to the shift in responsibility for payment of the 1:1 oversight services paid to placements for high-risk youth, from the contractors to CFS. Over the previous two contract periods, the providers have been unable to expend the entire general funds allocation, at this time, these unspent funds could be used by the County to fund additional direct supports, including but not limited to 1:1 supervision for youth in care. Reducing the contract totals has the dual benefit of maximizing the supports provided to these high needs youth and maximizing the State general fund allocation.

The Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), established following the passage of California Assembly Bill 403 (Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015), seeks to reduce the reliance on residential placement as a frequently used placement option for youth. CCR adopted a new licensing category, Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP), which provides short-term, 24-hour intensive care and supervision to children, youth, and non-minor dependents (NMD). Following full implementation of CCR, residential placement settings that do not convert to the STRTP license model are no longer eligible for foster care placements.

The ASIST Program was developed to provide additional support and resources to aid in the transition of identified youth who remain in residential placement settings who are not transitioning to a STRTP. The ASIST Program is a short-term, time-limited resource, which the State originally funded through 2019-20, extended funding through 2020-21, and extended funding again through 2022-23. This funding will continue to provide additional resources to aid counties with transition planning, extensive family funding, engagement, specialized permanency services, and other transition support services.

Combined spending will not exceed an annual amount of \$337,500 in 2021-22 or 2022-23. The contracts allow CFS the flexibility to select the contractor best meeting the needs of each individual youth. CFS will monitor individual referrals to ensure total payments do not exceed the annual spending authority.

Contracts may be terminated by the County without cause upon 30-day prior written notice. Contractor performance will continue to be monitored by review of invoices and monthly reports to ensure compliance with the administrative, program, and fiscal terms and conditions of the contract.

PROCUREMENT

On November 5, 2019 (Item No. 19), the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved non-competitive contracts with the agencies listed in the Recommendation for the ASIST Program, in the combined contract amount of \$2,000,000, for the contract period of November 6, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The combined contract amount included in the recommendation was incorrectly stated as \$1,485,000; the combined amount of the four contracts was \$2,000,000. Purchasing concurred with the non-competitive justification due to the specialized credentials.

On May 19, 2020 (Item No. 34), the Board approved Amendment No. 1, effective May 20, 2020, to the contracts, updating contract language, increasing the total combined contract amount by \$450,000 to \$2,450,000, and extending the contract period by one year, for the total contract period of November 6, 2019 through June 30, 2021. As with the November 5, 2019 Item, the combined contract amount in the recommendation was incorrectly stated; the correct amount after the increase \$450,000 increase was \$2,450,000.

On May 4, 2021 (Item No. 26), the Board approved Amendment No. 2, effective July 1, 2021, to the contracts, updating contract language, increasing the total combined contract amount by \$900,000, from \$2,450,000 to \$3,350,000, and extending the contract period by two years, for the total contract period of November 6, 2019

through June 30, 2023.

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by Human Services Contracts (Becky Giroux, Administrative Supervisor, 388-0241) on August 1, 2021; County Counsel (Julie Surber, Principal Assistant County Counsel, 387-5455) on September 14, 2021; Purchasing (Bruce Cole, Supervising Buyer, 387-2148) on September 16, 2021; Finance (John Hallen, Administrative Analyst, 388-0208) on September 14, 2021; and County Finance and Administration (Tanya Bratton, Deputy Executive Officer, 388-0332) on September 21, 2021.