



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

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CLERK OF THE BOARD
ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Agenda Item No. 11
May 7, 2008 Meeting

DATE: April 21, 2008

TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County

FROM: Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **Services to Homeless Children and Families**

SUMMARY:

In January, 2008 the Commission received a presentation on their investments in homeless prevention services and challenges and barriers to service this population. In follow up to that discussion, Commission staff has continued outreach to existing providers to identify opportunities to expand services. This agenda item includes a funding request to expand services at emergency shelters targeting families with children from birth to age five (0-5) with the intention of moving them into a transitional shelter program; authorization to begin a renewal process for two transitional shelter programs that have recently expanded capacity to serve pregnant single women; and an update on HomeAid's recent "Essentials for Young Lives" campaign, co-sponsored by the Commission.

A. Comprehensive Health Assessment Team for the Homeless

The Comprehensive Health Assessment Team for the Homeless (CHAT-H) was developed by Health Care Agency staff under the leadership of County Public Health Officer Dr. Eric Handler to address the emergency and chronic health care needs of the homeless in Orange County. Through a pilot launched in September 2007, a Public Health Nurse, a part-time Behavioral Health Nurse and volunteer service providers from various disciplines have spent time with the homeless to build trust, assess health status, make referrals, and conduct extensive follow-up. Homeless individuals were linked with health, educational and social services in the project's first four months.

To date, CHAT-H's outreach efforts have focused on cold-weather shelters such as the Santa Ana and Fullerton Armories. Between November 18, 2007 and February 20, 2008, families of 31 children 0-5 sought shelter at the Fullerton Armory and families of 37 children 0-5 sought shelter at Santa Ana Armory for a total of 68 children. This is an unduplicated count, meaning that many of those 68 children returned to the shelters multiple times. With the armories now closed for the season, the team will transition service provision to families with children 0-5 in motels and other sites frequented by the homeless. Commission staff and consultants have visited the armories with CHAT-H to assess the need for services to young children and their families and identify opportunities for project enhancement.

Given the number of disciplines and community partners represented in this effort and the complexity of clients' issues, there is a need for overall CHAT-H project coordination, oversight of case management and administrative services. The greatest need is for a social work supervisor to develop care plans, track referrals, work closely with SSA and other county agencies to link families with programs for which they may be eligible, and train social work students on outreach to homeless families. Data entry support is also needed to ensure compliance with grant reporting and communicate results to key stakeholders.

The nature and scope of services best fits with the community based service provided by Children's Bureau as part of the Commission's family resource center (FRC)/health access platform

Staff recommends expanding the current agreement with Children's Bureau of Southern California in the amount of \$75,000 to initiate the design and pilot of the enhanced services described above. During this initial phase Children's Bureau will work with each of the providers to fully develop the scope of work for a social work team. Commission staff anticipates returning to the Commission to fully fund this program in fall 2008 contingent on a effective design and successful pilot performance.

B. Transitional Shelter Program Renewals

The Commission began funding Precious Life Shelter, Inc., in 2002 and Casa Teresa in 2004 after each finished an expansion project through the support of HomeAid. Both of these agencies operate transitional shelters that target pregnant single women and have expanded service provision again with the support of HomeAid. The Commission's agreements with both of these shelters expire in December 31, 2008. Staff requests authorization to begin the contract renewal process with each of the shelters; anticipating that the scope of services and funding amounts in the renewal Agreements will be adjusted based on expanded service provision. Commission staff will work with these providers to identify the best use of future Commission funding and return to the Commission in July with proposed funding actions.

C. HomeAid Orange County's "Essentials for Young Lives" Campaign

Since the campaign was still underway when the agenda was distributed, staff will provide an update on the results of the campaign and next steps at the Commission meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

The proposed action has been reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan and is consistent with the Commission's Strong Families goal. Funding for this item is included in the FY 08/09 Budget within the Strong Families' budget category and will be included in the FY 09/10 Budget.

PRIOR ACTIONS:

1. January 2007- Authorize amendment with Casa Teresa to extend grant period and modify scope to include child care center and expanded services to six families (maximum obligation of agreement is for \$1,365,000 for a five year term).
2. December 2006- Authorize renewal agreement with Precious Life Shelter, Inc. for \$350,000 for 24 months.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- 1.) Adopt resolution directing the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate Agreement #FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 to provide a design and pilot for the CHAT-H project coordination, oversight of case management and administrative services for a six month term beginning May 15, 2008.
- 2.) Authorize Staff to begin the contract renewal process with Precious Life Shelter Inc., and Casa Teresa.
- 3.) Receive report on "Essentials for Young Lives" campaign and next steps.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution

Contact: Kim Goll

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. ___-08-C&FC

May 7, 2008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY DIRECTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE, AND COMMISSION COUNSEL TO PREPARE AND NEGOTIATE AGREEMENT NO. FCI-H1-10 WITH CHILDREN'S BUREAU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive, and collaborative system of information and services to enhance optimal early childhood development, the legislature adopted legislation set forth in the California Children and Families Act of 1998, Health and Safety Code Section 130100, *et seq.* (as amended, the "Act") implementing the Children and Families First Initiative passed by the California electorate in November, 1998 and establishing the California Children and Families Commission and County Children and Families Commissions, including this Children and Families Commission of Orange County ("Commission"); and

WHEREAS, Commission adopted its Strategic Plan to define how funds authorized under the Act and allocated to the Commission should best be used to meet the critical needs of Orange County's children prenatal to five years of age as codified in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director and Commission Counsel have prepared a standard Master Agreement for Services ("Master Agreement"), which was approved by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to authorize the Executive Director or designee and Commission Counsel to prepare and enter into Agreement No. FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the term July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 to provide CHAT-H project coordination, oversight of case management and administrative services as specified in the May 7, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item; and

WHEREAS, Commission has reviewed the staff report relating to the Scope of Services to be provided and hereby finds and determines that the proposed Agreement is in furtherance of and consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 Commission finds and determines the foregoing Recitals are true and correct and are a substantive part of this Resolution.

Section 2 Commission hereby authorizes the Executive Director or designee and Commission Counsel to prepare and negotiate the terms, conditions and final form of Agreement FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the term July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 to provide CHAT-H project coordination, oversight of

case management and administrative services consistent with the May 7, 2008 staff report and scope of services referenced therein; and

Section 3 The form of Agreement FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California shall be substantially similar to the form of the standard Master Agreement, subject to minor, non-substantive revisions as reviewed and approved by the Executive Director or designee and Commission Counsel. The approval by the Executive Director of Agreement FCI-H1-10 shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of the Agreement by the Commission Chair to the Commission Clerk.

Section 4 Commission hereby approves Agreement No. FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California to provide CHAT-H project coordination, oversight of case management and administrative services as specified in the May 7, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item.

Section 5 The Commission Chair and the Clerk of the Commission are hereby authorized to execute and attest, respectively, Agreement FCI-H1-10 on behalf of the Commission.

Section 6 A copy of the final Agreement FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California, when executed by the Commission Chair and attested by the Clerk of the Commission shall be appended hereto as a part of Exhibit A to this Resolution. Exhibit A is hereby fully incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference and made a part hereof. The final executed Agreement shall be placed on file in the office of the Clerk of the Commission.

Section 7 In addition to the authorization of Section 2 above, the Executive Director (or his designee) is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Commission, (i) to sign all documents necessary and appropriate to carry out and implement the Service Agreement, (ii) to cause the issuance of warrants, (iii) to administer the Commission's obligations, responsibilities, and duties to be performed under such agreement, and (iv) during the term thereof to provide waivers, administrative interpretations, and minor modifications of the provisions of such agreement in the furtherance thereof.

Section 8 The Clerk of the Commission shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Children and Families Commission of Orange County on May 7, 2008 to wit:

AYES: Commissioners: _____
NOES: Commissioner(s): _____
EXCUSED: Commissioner(s): _____
ABSTAINED: Commissioner(s) _____

CHAIR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
COUNTY OF ORANGE)

I, DARLENE J. BLOOM, Clerk of the Commission of Orange County, California, hereby certify that a copy of this document has been delivered to the Chair of the Commission and that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Children and Families Commission of Orange County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and seal.

DARLENE J. BLOOM
Clerk of the Commission, Children and Families Commission of
Orange County, County of Orange, State of California

Resolution No: __-08-C&FC
Agenda Date: May 7, 2008
Item No. ____



I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the

DARLENE J. BLOOM, Clerk of the Commission

By: _____
Deputy

EXHIBIT A TO RESOLUTION OF COMMISSION

(Attach copy of final executed Agreement No. FCI-H1-10 with Children's Bureau of Southern California)