

**Agenda Item 7**
July 1, 2015

DATE: June 17, 2015

TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County

FROM: Christina Altmayer, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Implementing Actions for AmeriCorps

ACTION: Adopt resolution authorizing funding increase to agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California for the AmeriCorps Program.

SUMMARY:

At the May meeting, the Children and Families Commission approved an agreement to have 23 AmeriCorp members for the next federal fiscal year. The AmeriCorp program is part of the Commission's Capacity Building goal area which is focused on promoting an effective and quality delivery system for young children and their families. This agenda item includes a recommendation to add funding to support seven additional AmeriCorp members for the 2015/16 program budget.

DISCUSSION:

The Commission has participated in the federal AmeriCorps program for over 10 years and approved a renewal agreement at the May 6, 2015 Commission meeting that would maintain the existing allocation of 23 members. Shortly following the May meeting, Commission staff was notified of the opportunity to increase the member allocation by a maximum of 10 additional members. Given resource constraints, staff recommends expanding by an additional seven members.

The program's structure requires that all AmeriCorps members provide direct services to children ages 0-5 to improve educational outcomes. All programs report progress towards common goals and outcomes. The Commission has supported THINK Together and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Garden Grove programs with AmeriCorps members who focus on early learning activities and improving early literacy outcomes. During program year 2013/14, AmeriCorps members provided early learning services to over 640 children ages 0-5; over 80 percent of the children served improved their school readiness as measured by prior and post assessments. The additional members could increase the number of children served by an additional 190 to over 830 annually.

The program is a collaborative in which the First 5 Association of California is the lead and contracts with Prevent Child Abuse California (PCA CA) for statewide administrative support. The structure of the grant agreement provides that PCA CA is responsible for all payments made to the members and is reimbursed by each participating First 5/Children and Families Commission for the net program cost, offset by the proceeds of the grant.

The next three-year grant period is anticipated to start July 1, 2015. This will be the first year of the three-year AmeriCorps grant term. Staff requests Commission authority to enter into an agreement with PCA CA for an amount not to exceed \$570,000 for a term of 12 months, which is an increase of \$100,000 for an additional seven members increasing the total Orange County allocation to 30 members. The annual federal contribution per member is estimated to be \$11,600 which represents almost 38% of the total cost expense per member living stipends and benefits. Additionally the federal government provides an education award of \$5730 per member per year of completed service completed; this benefit is provided directly to the member. Members are anticipated to start their term of service in August and be completed by July 2016.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

The proposed action has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Commission's Strategic Plan and is consistent with the Commission's Early Learning and Capacity Building goals. The total funding amount of up to \$570,000 for the AmeriCorps program is included in the FY 2015/16 budget.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- May 2015- Funding Approval for AmeriCorps Program
- February 2015- Capacity Building program update
- May 2014- Funding Approval for AmeriCorps Program
- March 2014 – Capacity Building Goal Area Update
- May 2013 – AmeriCorps Funding approval for program year 2013/14
- June 2012 – Updated funding approval for FY 2012/13
- March 2012 – Funding approved for program year FY 2012/13

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt resolution (Attachment 1) authorizing the Executive Director, or designee, and Commission Counsel to prepare and negotiate Agreement FCI-PAC-18 with Prevent Child Abuse California in a total amount not to exceed \$570,000 for a term of 12 months for an allocation of 30 AmeriCorps members.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution for Prevent Child Abuse California

Contact: Kim Goll

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. ___-15-C&FC

July 1, 2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY DIRECTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE AND COMMISSION COUNSEL TO PREPARE AND NEGOTIATE THE FINAL FORM OF AN AGREEMENT WITH PREVENT CHILD ABUSE CALIFORNIA FOR THE AMERICORPS PROGRAM; AND, AUTHORIZING APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF SUCH AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION

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, Commission desires to authorize the Executive Director or designee and Commission Counsel to prepare and negotiate an Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California for participation in the First 5 Service Corps collaborative AmeriCorps Program, in an amount not to exceed \$570,000 for a twelve month term, as specified in the July 1, 2015 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

WHEREAS, Commission desires to authorize the Executive Director and Commission Counsel to enter into an Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California, in an amount not to exceed \$570,000, for a twelve month term, as specified in the July 1, 2015 staff report for this Agenda Item.

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 an Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California, in an amount not to exceed \$570,000, for a twelve month term,

for participation in the First 5 Service Corps collaborative AmeriCorps Program, consistent with the July 1, 2015 staff report and scope of services referenced therein; and

Section 3 The approval by the Executive Director of the Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of the Agreement by the Executive Director to the Commission Clerk.

Section 4 Commission hereby approves the Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California, in an amount not to exceed \$570,000, for a twelve month term, for participation in the First 5 Service Corps collaborative AmeriCorps Program, as specified in the July 1, 2015 staff report for this Agenda Item.

Section 5 The Executive Director and Commission Counsel are hereby authorized to execute the Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California on behalf of the Commission.

Section 6 A copy of the final Agreement when executed 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 designee, is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Commission, (i) to sign all documents necessary and appropriate to carry out and implement the Amendments to Agreement(s), (ii) to cause the issuance of warrants, (iii) to administer the Commission's obligations, responsibilities, and duties to be performed under such agreement(s), and (iv) during the term thereof to provide waivers, administrative interpretations, and minor modifications of the provisions of such agreement(s) in the furtherance thereof.

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

EXHIBIT A TO RESOLUTION OF COMMISSION

(Attach copy of final executed Agreement with Prevent Child Abuse California)