



Agenda Date: 1/8/2008  
Agenda Placement: 6A

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Mary Butler - Chief Probation Officer  
Probation  
**REPORT BY:** Lynn Perez, Staff Services Manager, 253-4126  
**SUBJECT:** New Agreement with Alternatives for Better Living

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Chief Probation Officer requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Alternatives for Better Living for a maximum of \$30,000 for the term January 8, 2008 through June 30, 2008 to facilitate the Crossroads Curriculum Training Program for adult probationers under the supervision of the Probation Department.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Alternatives for Better Living has staff who are certified Crossroad Curriculum facilitators. These facilitators will provide cognitive-based treatment programs for adult probationers referred by Probation Department Staff. This is the first step in implementing evidence-based practices programs in Adult Probation.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Probation
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This item is discretionary in that there is no mandate to provide cognitive-based treatment to all probationers. Certain offenders may be ordered to participate in treatment services as part of the terms of their probation. Cognitive-based treatment programs designed to reduce recidivism are not provided at this time. Failure to approve this agreement will result in fewer resources for adults needing treatment.

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Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	This agreement will be reviewed annually and future appropriations will be budgeted accordingly.
Consequences if not approved:	If this agreement is not approved, the Probation Department will not have cognitive-based programming for the offender population.
Additional Information:	None

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

In September 2007, the Napa County Probation Department hosted a facilitator's training on the Crossroads Curriculum. Staff from Alternatives for Better Living attended this training and are now certified to facilitate Crossroads group classes to the criminal offender population.

The Crossroads Curriculum is an evidence-based practices program recommended by the American Probation and Parole Association. The purpose of this curriculum is to reduce recidivism by offering educational and behavior modification classes to offenders. Courses within the Crossroads Curriculum include substance use, anger management, cognitive life skills, parenting and job preparation. Courses may also be geared towards specific criminal offenses including felonies, domestic violence, larceny and assault.

Each offender assigned to the Probation Department undergoes a risk and criminogenic needs assessment. Offenders will be referred to the appropriate Crossroads courses based on the assessment tool. Staff from Alternatives for Better Living will facilitate some of the Crossroads courses. Courses to be offered will be determined based on Departmental needs. It is anticipated that Alternatives will facilitate several groups per week and will serve approximately 100 adult probationers by June 30, 2008. Alternatives for Better Living will be paid \$100 per facilitator per each 120 minute group session.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve  
Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan