



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 5/21/2019

Agenda Placement: 6I

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: JoAnn Melgar for Jennifer Yasumoto - Director
Health & Human Services Administration

REPORT BY: JoAnn Melgar, Staff Services Analyst II - 707-253-4722

SUBJECT: Agreement with Community Resources for Children, Inc. (Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Children in Foster Care)

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Community Resources for Children, Inc. for an annual maximum of \$95,308 for the term May 21, 2019 through June 30, 2019 and each automatic renewal thereof to carry-out the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Children in Foster Care.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of today's requested action is to approve a new Agreement with Community Resources for Children, Inc. (CRC) to carry out the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Children in Foster Care, with funding from Title IV-E and Emergency Children Bridge For Foster Children State General Fund.

California Child Welfare Agencies are participating in the Emergency Child Care Bridge program in partnership with their local Resource and Referral (R&R) Programs. CRC is Napa County's local Resource and Referral Program (R&R). CRC provides this same service for clients of the County's CalWORKs program.

CRC is a local vendor.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes

Where is it budgeted?	Health & Human Services Child Welfare Services
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This action is discretionary in that there is no mandate to use this provider. Counties may choose to issue vouchers directly or enter into a formal agreement to issue vouchers. This contractor already issues child care voucher services for CalWORKs clients. Approval of this action will enable HHSA to pay the contractor's fees related to child care vouchers, Navigator services, and Trauma-informed care training and coaching, which will ensure that caretakers of foster children will have adequate support to balance their work and home lives.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Although the agreement terminates June 30, 2019, the agreement contains an automatic renewal, which allows the County to continue these services into the next fiscal year.
Consequences if not approved:	If this contract is not approved, Child Welfare Services will be unable to utilize this resource and funding to provide child care for foster placements.
Additional Information:	

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

One of the primary barriers for recruiting and retaining families who take in a foster child is the lack of access to child care at the time of placement. With funding provided through the Bridge Program, resource families, families that have a child placed with them in an emergency or for a compelling reason, licensed foster family homes or certified family homes, approved homes of relatives or nonrelative extended family members (NREFM), and parents under the jurisdiction of juvenile court, including, but not limited to, nonminor dependent parents who have their child placed with them (hereinafter referred to as "eligible families") are eligible to receive a time-limited monthly payment or voucher for child care and access to child care navigator services.

The goals of the Bridge Program are to:

- | increase the number of foster children successfully placed in home-based family care settings,
- | increase placement stability, increase the capacity of child care programs to meet the needs of foster children in their care, and
- | maximize funding to support the child care needs of eligible families.

The Bridge Program consists of three components:

1. Emergency child care voucher or payment - Eligible families may receive a time-limited child care voucher or payment to help pay for child care costs for foster children birth through age 12, children with exceptional

needs, and severely disabled children up to age 21. Counties are authorized to disburse child care payments either directly to the family or to the child care provider. All vouchers and payments, whether paid directly to the family or child care provider, must be paid in accordance with the Regional Market Rate (RMR) ceilings for subsidized child care payment rates.

2. Child care navigator - A local Resource and Referral Program will provide a child care navigator to eligible families. The navigator will assist with finding a child care provider, securing a subsidized child care placement if eligible, completing child care program applications, and developing a plan for long-term child care appropriate to the child's age and needs.
3. Trauma-informed care training and coaching: Child care programs participating in the Bridge Program will receive access to trauma-informed care training. Child care providers will also receive access to coaching to assist them in applying training curriculum and learn strategies for working with children in foster care.

Community Resources for Children, Inc. (CRC) was selected to carry out this program because it is Napa County's local Resource and Referral Program (R&R). The CRC also provides this same service for clients of the County's CalWORKs program.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri