



Agenda Date: 6/26/2007
Agenda Placement: 6D

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Mary Butler - Chief Probation Officer
Probation
REPORT BY: Lynn Perez, Staff Services Manager, 253-4126
SUBJECT: Renewal of Agreement with Isadora Asch for Peer Court

RECOMMENDATION

Chief Probation Officer requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the renewal of Agreement No. 4802 with Isadora Asch for a maximum of \$35,520 for the term July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 for Peer Court Services.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Peer Court Program has been operating in Napa County since 1998. The program originated in the Juvenile Courts but responsibility transferred to the Probation Department in FY 02-03 to improve coordination of referrals with the Juvenile Court Probation Officer.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Costs for services under this agreement are included in the Probation Department's Recommended Budget. Funding for this program is provided through the Juvenile Probation and Camp Funding (JPCF).
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This action is discretionary in that there is no mandate to have this specific agreement. However, the County receives JPCF funding and is under contract with the State Corrections Standards Authority to provide an array of services to support a broad spectrum of probation services targeting at-risk youth, juvenile offenders, and their families. Approval of the requested action will allow the

department to continue appropriately paying Ms. Asch for the provision of supportive services to at risk youth in the community who would otherwise impact the juvenile court workload.

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: This agreement ends June 30, 2008. The agreement is reviewed annually by the department and will not be renewed if funding is not found.

Consequences if not approved: There will be an increase of juveniles referred to the Juvenile Court System, thus impacting the workloads of juvenile court officers.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

This program diverts first time juvenile offenders from the Napa County Juvenile Court system. These juveniles agree to be tried and judged by their peers and to comply with conditions set by them so that justice may be achieved. If a minor completes the program successfully, his or her case is closed and no formal charges are filed. The Peer Court Coordinator recruits and trains juvenile volunteers to staff Peer Court and utilizes adult professionals to serve as consultants to the minors. The Coordinator also oversees all activities needed to produce a minimum of one Peer Court session per month during the school year. Each year approximately 150 students participate in the actual court sessions as volunteers and serve as jurors, attorneys, clerks and bailiffs. Additionally, more than 8,000 eighth grade students in almost all the public schools in the County have learned about the court system through the Criminal Justice Education Curriculum introduced to the schools by Ms. Asch.

The contract for Peer Court is the same as amount as FY 06-07. Funding for Peer Court is included in the Juvenile Probation and Camp Funding (JPCF) allocation. Additional up-valley outreach and coordination services in the amount of \$2,000 will be provided under separate agreement with a different provider. Due to that agreement being under \$50,000, it will be signed by the County Executive Officer. The total cost for the Peer Court Program, including up-valley outreach, is \$37,520.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan