



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 8/27/2019

Agenda Placement: 6B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Janet Nottley - Director
Child Support Services

REPORT BY: Karina Castaneda, Staff Services Manager - 259-8289

SUBJECT: Approval and authorization to sign Plan of Cooperation renewal with DCSS

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Child Support Services requests authorization to sign the revised Plan of Cooperation with the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS), at no cost, for the term from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As outlined in Family Code 17304(a), the Napa County Department of Child Support Services (CSS) is required to enter into a Plan of Cooperation (POC), at no cost, with the California Department of Child Support Services in order to receive funding for the child support program.

The purpose of the POC is to delineate the function and responsibilities of each entity in relation to the Child Support enforcement program. This year's revised Plan of Cooperation with the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) extends the term from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. It also added related verbiage to the Terms and Approval Section of the plan allowing for future automatic plan renewals beyond one year.

This revision includes the deletion of some information and requirements from the existing agreement which have become obsolete, specifically as it relates to old policy letters referenced in previous versions of the POC. The POC also removes the existing Civil Rights section and the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) agreement attachment as these two elements are not required under the POC.

Lastly, the Paternity Opportunity Program sections have been updated with new family code sections that become effective January 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

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

All local child support agencies (LCSA) are required to enter into a Plan of Cooperation (POC) with the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) in order to define responsibilities for securing child support, including child support establishment, collection, and disbursement services; medical support; determining paternity; and providing other public services of the local child support program. This POC allocates responsibilities for administering Title IV-D services between the State Department of Child Support Services and the Napa County Department of Child Support Services.

The Department of Child Support Services' responsibilities include complying with all federal Title IV-D provisions of the Social Security Act, which includes establishing systems and procedures to facilitate the local department's administration of the program, allocating funds to the local agency, imposing penalties on counties for failure to meet audit or performance related criteria, and withholding funds if the local department is failing in a substantial manner to comply with any provision of the POC and/or any corrective action plan.

Napa's local child support agency's responsibilities include complying with state and federal laws and regulations, procedures and instructions, providing child support services at no charge to the public, preparing and administering a local quality assurance and performance improvement plan, ensuring reliable data, conducting searches for medical insurance, assisting other jurisdictions in enforcing child support orders, complying with the State complaint resolution program, maintaining an Ombudsperson program, and cooperating with DCSS in any and all of its related functions.

This renewal includes changes that remove references to obsolete State policy letters and the requirement for quarterly updates to the annual Performance Plan. The revision also deletes other sections no longer applicable under the POC; the Civil Rights requirements section and the section that required the Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) agreement will now be addressed outside the POC.

In addition, the new POC also updates the section that addresses the Parentage Opportunity Program in accordance with the Family Code citations that will become effective January 1, 2020.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Ben Guerrieri