



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
District Attorney



Date: September 24, 2014
Board Meeting Date: November 4, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe

Subject: Grant Award Agreements with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution:

- A) Ratifying the District Attorney's grant application and executed agreement with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program Grant for the period of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015; and
- B) Authorizing the District Attorney to submit annual grant applications and execute similar agreements with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program for the periods of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 and October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

The County has received funding for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program since 2010 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). Cal OES requires the County Board of Supervisors to approve the application and executed agreement for grant funds for Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program. The District Attorney has already submitted an application and executed an agreement for the grant funds for the period of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. The District Attorney seeks Board ratification of the October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 application and grant agreement. Because the Cal OES requires a new application and executed agreement each year, for the sake of efficiency, the District Attorney seeks Board approval to submit a grant application and

execute a grant award agreement for the periods of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 and October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

DISCUSSION:

The Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program was established in 2010. The Program, administered at the local level by the Office of the District Attorney, provides comprehensive services to diminish the adverse effects of crime on unserved/underserved crime victim populations in California by establishing victim advocacy positions solely dedicated to the unserved/underserved population in order to coordinate direct services in an enhanced response to victimization of specific crime populations among locally involved agencies and implement an outreach awareness program to the specific population. During FY2013-14, the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program received approximately 1,101 victim referrals from law enforcement agencies and provided services to 1,025 new victims. The Program assisted 138 domestic violence victims, 207 victims of assault and/or battery, and 173 victims of sexual assault, both adults and children. In addition, the Program provides services to victims of child abuse, elder abuse, false imprisonment, kidnaping and attempted kidnaping, criminal threats, robbery and attempted robbery, hit and run, drunk driving and driving under the influence, attempted homicide as well as survivors of homicide.

There are several notable trends in San Mateo County that continue to impact crime victim services in our community, such as the lack of affordable community based counseling agencies as well as a lack of an adequate number of shelter beds designated for crime victims.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

Approval of the Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision of 2025 of a Healthy Community by enhancing the safety of unserved/underserved victim populations in San Mateo County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding requested from Cal OES for fiscal year 2014-15 is \$ 125,000. The funds have been included in the District Attorney's Office FY2014-15 Tentatively Adopted Budget. Funds will be included in future budgets. There is no Net County Cost associated with accepting this grant funding.