



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Probation



**Date:** September 22, 2015  
**Board Meeting Date:** November 17, 2015  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** John T. Keene, Chief Probation Officer

**Subject:** Continued Acceptance of the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funding

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Chief Probation Officer or his designee to:

- A) Participate in the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program, funded through the state recidivism fund and administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC); and
- B) Submit the grant proposal for this funding and sign the grant agreement with the BSCC including any amendments thereof; and
- C) Accept federal funds available for FY 2015-16 in the amount of \$40,345; and
- D) Provide matching fund required for this grant in the amount of \$4,483.

**BACKGROUND:**

The JABG provides funds to states and units of local government to enhance their efforts to combat serious and violent juvenile crime through accountability-based reforms. Accountability in juvenile justice means assuring that, as a result of their wrongdoing, juvenile offenders face consequences that make them aware of and answerable for the loss, damage, or injury perpetrated upon the victim.

The San Mateo County Probation Department has received funding from this grant since 2003 to support the Victim Impact Awareness (VIA) program in an effort to promote victim awareness and active reparation to victims. Youth who are enrolled in the VIA program are required to complete a behavioral contract and attend a ten (10) hour classroom program focusing on gang and dating violence, drunk driving, drugs and crime, and robbery and assault. Probation officers, mental health therapists, community-based organizations, and crime victims make presentations to youth in the program.

Youth are also enrolled in the Juvenile Mediation Program to facilitate restorative justice activities. Probationers who complete the VIA program are statistically less likely to recidivate than youth who do not complete the program. This will be the eighth fiscal year Probation has applied for this grant.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Probation Department has submitted the FY 2015-16 grant application to the BSCC for their review. Per grant requirements, acceptance of the grant requires a resolution by the Board of Supervisors. Receipt of continued Federal funding provided by the JABG program covers the cost of Probation's continued collaboration with Star Vista and the YMCA to facilitate group counseling. Probation will be entering into contracts with these community-based organizations to continue to provide these services. These contracts help underscore the importance of each stakeholder making commitments to change behavior in youth involved in their programs.

The contractors have assured compliance with the County's Contractor Employee Jury Service Ordinance, as well as all other contract provisions that are required by County ordinance and administrative memoranda, including but not limited to insurance, hold harmless, non-discrimination and equal benefits.

The term of the agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The Agreement and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel.

This agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by helping youth reduce destructive and criminal behavior. With proper mentoring, the at-risk youth can better participate in their education and contribute positively within their communities.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):**

Measure	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Target
Percent of VIA program graduates who do not recidivate with the grant period	80%	85%

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The term of this JABG is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The total grant is \$40,345. The grant requires a \$4,483 matching funds and is 100% net county cost. Funds have been included in the FY 2015-16 adopted budget.