



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Sheriff's Office



Date: August 23, 2016
Board Meeting Date: September 20, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Carlos G. Bolanos, Sheriff

Subject: Agreement with the San Mateo County Service League

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with the Service League of San Mateo County for inmate services within the County's correctional facilities for the term of July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$334,527, with the option to extend the term six months through June 30, 2017, and increase the amount by \$334,527 for a combined maximum fiscal obligation of \$669,054.

BACKGROUND:

The Inmate Welfare Trust Fund (IWTF) has been set up under California Penal Code Section 4025, which provides that the Sheriff may operate a commissary in the jail, and that profits shall be deposited into an IWTF. Section 4025 also provides that a refund, rebate or commission received from a telephone company for inmates' use of telephones shall be deposited into the Inmate Welfare Fund. The fund may only be used primarily for the benefit, education, and welfare of the inmates, and maintenance of county jail facilities, which includes the cost of operating programs to benefit the inmates, including, but not limited to, education, drug and alcohol treatment, welfare, library, accounting, and other programs deemed appropriate by the Sheriff.

A committee consisting of the Assistant Sheriff, a Captain of the Sheriff's Corrections Division and a Community Representative oversees the IWTF operation. Each year the committee receives proposals from service providers outlining their funding requests. The committee makes recommendations for award of contracts, some of which (because of the dollar amount) come before this Board of Supervisors for approval.

The IWTF generates revenue from two main sources: inmate commissary sales and inmate telephone commission. In 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) capped local, intrastate, and interstate rates, which directly impacts the amount of commission that can be generated. A stay has been issued on the FCC ruling and

the final ruling is pending. At this time, the fiscal impact to the key source of revenue for the IWTF is unknown. However, inmate telephone providers have reduced commission payments and the IWTF continues to experience a decline in revenue.

To ensure continuation of important services, the Sheriff's Office will move forward with the FY 2016-17 contract process. The Sheriff's Office will initiate contracts for quarters 1 and 2 of the fiscal year (July - December 2016). Any funding adjustments to contracts for quarters 3 and 4 will be dependent upon the final outcome of the FCC ruling.

DISCUSSION:

The Service League of San Mateo County provides direct services to inmates such as education, jail orientation, counseling, referrals, jury trial clothing, childcare, travel fare for released inmates, Spanish language services, and various denominational chaplaincy services. The Service League also provides indirect services consisting of training and guidance for volunteers who interact with inmates and handle their requests, as well as build supportive networks with departments, agencies, and substance abuse treatment programs.

The County has contracted with the Service League for these services since 1989. The Service League has a unique ability to provide services to inmates by utilizing volunteers and community professionals at a reasonable cost. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the County to waive the Request for Proposals process and continue to contract with the Service League on the basis of being a sole source provider in the County of San Mateo.

The Inmate Welfare Trust Fund Committee awarded the Service League \$469,054. In addition, \$200,000 from the Sheriff's General Fund Reserves will be included in order to maintain the level of services provided to inmates during FY 2016-17, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$669,054.

The Resolution and agreement have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

Approval of this agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of Safe Neighborhoods by providing educational programs and services to inmates in order to promote personal growth and development as well as seek worthy goals upon their release.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Measure	FY 2015-16 Actual	FY 2016-17 Projected
The number of incoming message requests processed*	7,651	3,826
The number of outgoing message requests processed*	4,175	2,088

** FY 2016-17 projected performance measures are for a 6 month period to coincide with the contract term. Should the County extend the term an additional 6 months, the measures are projected to double.*

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FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed agreement is for a term commencing July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 and an amount not to exceed \$334,527. Dependent on the outcome of the forthcoming FCC ruling and subject to the availability of funding, the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund Committee awarded the Service League a total of \$469,054. In order to maintain the level of services provided in FY 2015-16, regardless of the FCC ruling impact, an additional \$200,000 will be funded through the Sheriff's General Fund Reserves. The \$200,000 has been included in the Sheriff's Office FY 2016-17 Approved Recommended Budget.