



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: February 17, 2015
Board Meeting Date: March 31, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Iliana Rodriguez, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Agreement with San Mateo County Office of Education for two educational Liaisons

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with the San Mateo County Office of Education to provide educational services for children in the shelter/foster care system, for the term of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017, in the amount of \$407,880.

BACKGROUND:

The San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) assists children in shelter/foster care by obtaining educational histories and school placements, maintaining data on their academic progress, and providing case management services. Funds are not available from the California Department of Education to ensure that all eligible youth are served. It is essential to ensure that youth in foster care receive these services so their out-of-home placement does not hinder their ability to receive a quality education. To meet this critical need, the Human Services Agency will provide support for these educational services which are not funded by the state.

DISCUSSION:

This Agreement with SMCOE provides two educational liaisons to develop educational plans and provide case management services for students placed by the Human Services Agency and the Probation Department in the shelter/foster care system. The liaisons will facilitate placements of shelter/foster care students into appropriate school settings, obtain educational histories, refer students for educational assessments as needed, and support placement staff in educational planning. Additionally, liaisons will provide referrals for tutoring services. Foster Youth are experiencing higher pass rates on the California High School Graduation Exam (CAHSEE) and increasing school completion rates (including graduation, California High School Proficiency Exam and the GED).

The San Mateo County Office of Education provides individualized educational services to foster youth to ensure that they are given the support and advocacy they need to succeed in school. Foster youth face multiple challenges that lead to a higher than average school drop-out rate. The Education Liaisons in our county connect foster youth to a variety of educational support services to ensure that they stay in school and surpass the States foster youth high school completion average of 58%.

It is in the best interest of the County to waive the Request for Proposal (RFP) process because SMCOE is a sole source provider.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved this Agreement and Resolution as to form and SMCOE meets Insurance Certification requirements.

This Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Prosperous Community by helping youth in shelter homes avoid loss of valuable school credits and be placed in appropriate school programs. The Agreement further contributes to educational stability for youth by ensuring educational advocates are available to support youth in navigating different school districts. It is anticipated that the number of school days lost for shelter/foster youth transferring between schools and districts will reduce by an average of one to two days and 320 school age youth will have an updated Educational Passport with a high school graduation rate that surpasses the foster youth State average graduation rate of 58 % or higher.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2013-14 Actuals	FY 2014-15 Projected	FY2015-16 Projected	FY 2016-17 Projected
Average number of school days lost in transferring schools upon entering foster care.	1.38 days	1.32 days	1.29 days	1.25 days
Number of school age youth who have an updated * Educational Passport.	303	310	315	320
Percent of Foster Youth Liaisons will provide support for high school students to ensure the attainment of a High School Diploma, High School Equivalency Certificate and / or Certificate of Completion at a rate that surpasses the foster youth State average graduation rate.	58% (California State Average)	63%	65%	67%

*Educational Passport is a document in the Child Welfare System and Case Management System database. Under Federal and State law all caregivers are expected to receive this vital information so that they can continue coordinating the needed services.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this Agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. The total obligation is \$407,880, of which \$138,679 is federal funds, \$134,601 is state funds, and \$134,600 is Net County Cost. Appropriations will be included in the FY 2015-16 and FY2016-17 Recommended Budgets.