



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: June 5, 2015
Board Meeting Date: July 7, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Iliana Rodriguez, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Agreement with Unity Care Group, Inc. for Independent Living Skills Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Unity Care Group, Inc. for the provision of Independent Living Skills Program, for the term July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$398,766.

BACKGROUND:

The Independent Living Skills Program (ILP) was authorized by the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-169). The ILP provides training, services, and programs to assist current and former foster youth achieve self-sufficiency prior to and after leaving the foster care system. The ILP program offers training to foster youth ages 14-19 on critical skills that are essential for them to successfully transition to adulthood. The skills that foster youth gain will greatly contribute towards helping them achieve greater independence and a better quality of life. Further, the support and services provided under this Agreement directly impact outcomes related to high school graduation rate and rate of enrollment into post-secondary educational programs for San Mateo County foster youth.

On January 5, 2015, the Human Services Agency (HSA) conducted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for ILP services and Unity Care Group Inc. was the only proposal received.

DISCUSSION:

Unity Care Group, Inc. was selected to continue offering ILP services FY 2015-18 to improve students' capacity to successfully transition out of foster care by providing education, employment, and life skills training for foster youth. The ILP classes will continue to focus on educational/vocational training, college placement and financial

aid, social skills, financial skills and money management, computer training, and health/nutrition issues. Separate classes will be offered for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors to ensure classes are appropriately targeted for each age group.

The resolution contains the County's standard provisions allowing amendment of the County's fiscal obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate). County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement and Resolution as to form and the Contractor meets insurance certification requirements.

Approval of this Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Prosperous Community by ensuring that foster youth obtain life skills that are essential for successful transition to adulthood. It is estimated that 100 foster youth residing in San Mateo County will be eligible for services under this Agreement on an annual basis, and that by the end of the contract term, the contracted provider will reach 80% of those youth, either through the one-on-one case management component, or the group workshop component. Further, of those high school seniors participating in the program, it is anticipated that at least 76% graduate with a high school diploma or GED, which is equivalent to the high school graduation rate of the general population in California.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

| Measure | FY 2014-15 Estimate | FY 2015-16 Projected | FY 2016-17 Projected | FY 2017-18 Projected |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Percentage of foster youth attending a post-secondary educational or vocational program after graduating from ILP | 60% | 65% | 70% | 75% |
| Percentage of high school seniors participating in ILP that will graduate from high school or earn a GED/CHSPE | 75% | 76% | 77% | 78% |
| Percentage of eligible foster youth who participate in the program | 65% | 70% | 75% | 80% |

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of this Agreement is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. The total amount of the Agreement is \$398,766, of which 70% or \$ 279,136 will be funded by Realignment 2011 and 30% or \$119,630, is Net County Cost. Funds for this Agreement have been included in the FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 Recommended Budgets. Similar arrangements will be made for FY 2017-18.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS MATRIX

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| 1. | General description of RFP | RFP to solicit providers to offer Independent Living Skills courses to ILP youth ranging from high school freshmen to seniors. |
| 2. | List key evaluation criteria | Evaluation criteria included agency qualifications, ability to serve identified population, project description, evidence of collaboration, agency capacity, and cost effectiveness of the program and budget. |
| 3. | Where advertised | San Mateo County Daily Journal |
| 4. | In addition to any advertisement, list others to whom the RFP announcement was sent | RFP Distribution mailing list comprised of 204 providers. |
| 5. | Total number of RFP's sent to prospective proposers | Seven |
| 6. | Number of proposals received | One |
| 7. | Who evaluated the proposals | 1. Gary Beasley, Program Manager 2. John Fong, ILP Supervisor 2. Sandra Razo, HS Analyst |
| 8. | In alphabetical order, names of proposers (or finalists, if applicable) and location | There was only one proposal: 1. Unity Care Group |