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County of El Dorado

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	11-0793 **Version:** 1		
Type:	Agenda Item	**Status:**	Approved
File created:	7/8/2011	**In control:**	Board of Supervisors
On agenda:	8/2/2011	**Final action:**	8/2/2011
Title:	Department of Human Services recommending the Board: 1) Approve and authorize the Purchasing Agent to execute Agreement for Services 518-S1111 with Milestone House, a group home, for the provision of emergency shelter care and/or foster care placement services on an “as requested” basis; and 2) Authorize the Purchasing Agent to execute any subsequent amendments relating to said Agreement, contingent upon approval by County Counsel and Risk Management, that do not affect the scope, compensation or term of said Agreement. The Agreement allows placement by the Department of Human Services and the Probation Department, is effective upon execution, shall continue until terminated and specifies a maximum annual compensation of $100,000. FUNDING: Federal and State Social Services funding (55%) with required County Share of Cost (45%) met primarily with realignment resources.		
Sponsors:			
Indexes:			
Code sections:			
Attachments:	1. A. Blue Route, Milestone House 518-S1111, 2. B. Milestone House 518-S1111		

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
8/2/2011	1	Board of Supervisors	Approved	Pass

Department of Human Services recommending the Board:
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FUNDING: Federal and State Social Services funding (55%) with required County Share of Cost (45%) met primarily with realignment resources.

BUDGET SUMMARY:		
Total Estimated Cost		$100,000
Funding		
Budgeted	$100,000	
New Funding	$	
Savings	$	

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Other	$	
Total Funding Available	$100,000	
Change To Net County Cost		N/A

Fiscal Impact/Change to Net County Cost: No change. Emergency shelter care services, which are necessary pending Court-ordered case disposition, require a 15% to 30% County share of cost. Court-ordered foster care placement services require a 40% to 60% County share of cost. The State reimburses the County for the Federal and State share of cost in a varying ratio based on an array of circumstances. A total of $6,139,410 is included in the Department's budget for provision of emergency shelter care and foster care services during FY 2011-12. Funds for these services are budgeted annually based on projected need. The not-to-exceed annual compensation of $100,000 allows for anticipated potential usage.

Compensation: Compensation is based upon the non-negotiable State-assigned authorized rate of the group home/foster family agency providing services to the child placed at the facility. Payments to service provider are made monthly in arrears following notification that a child has been placed at the facility.

Termination: Agreement includes the County's standard Fiscal Considerations termination language as well as a provision for the County to terminate the Agreement without cause in seven (7) calendar days upon written notice.

Background: The Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for the administration and provision of Child Welfare Services, which frequently involves the emergency removal of children from an unsafe situation or environment and is often followed by Court-ordered foster care placement to ensure the ongoing safety of the children. Under certain circumstances, voluntary placement of children may occur at the request of the parent(s) for a specified period of time. DHS currently maintains contracts with no stated end term for the purchase of emergency shelter and foster care placement services with multiple group home and foster family agency vendors locally, statewide and nationally to ensure the placement of children in the most appropriate location and environment to meet the widely varied needs of each individual child who requires placement.

While usage with a given vendor may be occasional or sporadic, it is necessary to maintain a contractual arrangement with as many vendors as possible in anticipation of potential child placement needs. When placement is Court-ordered with a non-contracted vendor, every effort is made to expedite execution of an Agreement retroactive to the actual placement date. DHS has determined that establishing contracts with group home/ foster care vendors that continue until terminated facilitates ongoing maintenance of these necessary Agreements and ensures the ongoing and immediate availability of appropriate placement options.

Reason for Recommendation:
Agreement 518-S1111 for emergency shelter care and/or foster care placement services is with a new California group home vendor. DHS believes it is prudent to continue to expand capacity to meet mandated placement requirements in a timely manner and ensure the most appropriate placement of at-risk children by entering into contracts with as many group homes and foster family agencies a possible. The El Dorado County Probation Department is a party to this Agreement and shall be authorized to also place children at this facility.

The maximum annual compensation amount of $100,000 specified in this Agreement represents the not-to-exceed amount that may be received by the vendor during a single fiscal year. Working in conjunction with the CAO, the Department has established a tracking system that regularly monitors the level of expenditures for combined placement services as well as for each individual vendor. This tracking system allows DHS to ensure that overall expenditures remain within budget while also allowing sufficient time to amend any individual agreement for which actual placement costs will exceed its annual not-to-exceed maximum compensation amount. Services will only be accessed on an “as needed” and “as requested” basis.

Human Resources has determined that the nature of services provided by the foster family agencies and group homes negates the need for their review and subsequent approval of the Department’s intent to contract with each individual vendor.

Purchasing Agent Recommendations: The Purchasing Agent reviewed the Department’s request to enter into this Agreement and concurs that it is not necessary to conduct a competitive selection process as the services are court ordered. DHS maintains purchase of services Agreements with multiple local, state and national vendors for the provision of emergency shelter care services for its clients to ensure that clients can be referred by their caseworker on an “as requested” basis to receive necessary services from the most appropriate and conveniently located vendor. Choice of vendor is based on the specific needs of each individual DHS client.

Action to be taken following board approval:
1. Purchasing Agent to execute two (2) copies of the approved Agreement 518-S1111 and return one (1) original of the Agreement to Human Services at 3057 Briw Road.
2. Department to distribute the document as appropriate.

Contact: Daniel Nielson, M.P.A., Director, 642-7275

Concurrences: County Counsel, Risk Management, Purchasing Agent and Human Resources.