



Health & Human Services Agency

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: August 27, 2024

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Francena Martinez PHONE: 559-624-8000

SUBJECT: Approve an agreement with the Tulare County Superintendent of Schools

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with the Tulare County Superintendent of Schools for the reimbursement of funds to ensure that Tulare County foster youth receive educational support, in an amount not to exceed \$301,464, retroactive from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This agreement is retroactive due to delays in finalizing the budget amount, making it impracticable for the Board to take action prior to July 1, 2024.
2. Find that the Board had the authority to enter into the agreement as of July 1, 2024, and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date.
3. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the agreement.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Health and Services Agency's Child Welfare Services (CWS) wishes to enter into an agreement with the Tulare County Superintendent of Schools (TCOE), to support the educational needs of Tulare County foster youth. All County Letter No. 04-32 (Title IV-E Reimbursement of Administrative Costs for Pre-Placement Prevention) outlines a funding opportunity that enables CWS to receive federal reimbursements from TCOE for the cost of administrative services associated with pre-placement prevention and educational support for children in the foster care system. CWS will act as a pass-through agent for federal Title IV-E funds for allowable administrative costs. TCOE will provide an annual match, and CWS will invoice the state quarterly to receive the pass-through federal funding that will reflect the federal discount rate at that time.

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This agreement aims to identify each participating agency's specific and general responsibilities within the framework of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. Allowable activities are defined in 45 Code of Federal Regulations 1356.60(c) and include those activities necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the state's Title IV-E plan. This includes referral to services, case plan development, case reviews, case management, and supervision. CWS administration activities completed on behalf of foster youths meet the eligibility requirements to qualify for a federal match to support the cost of those activities.

The partnership between CWS and TCOE can provide children who come into the foster care system with access to the services and programs to ensure each child can reach their full educational potential and maintain their school of origin whenever possible. By ensuring continuity in educational services and providing an increased level of staffing to support education, this agreement can ensure better educational outcomes for children in foster care and more children achieving educational success. With this collaboration, there is a greater likelihood that high school graduation rates for children in foster care will increase in Tulare County.

This agreement did not include a Request for Proposal process because TCOE is the only provider in Tulare County that is eligible to serve Title IV-E eligible foster youth for educational support to draw down federal pass-through funds.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The budgeted costs associated with this agreement is in an amount not to exceed \$301,464 for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. CWS will act as a pass-through agent for federal Title IV-E funds for allowable administrative costs. TCOE will provide an annual match, and CWS will invoice the state quarterly to receive the pass-through federal funding that will reflect the federal discount rate at that time. The budgeted costs associated with this agreement are included in the Health and Human Services Agency 001-142 budget line 4020-7043 in an amount not to exceed \$301,464. The following details this fiscal pass-through amount for the 2024/2025 contract period, totaling \$301,464:

FY 24/25

Title IV-E Administrative Cost Reimbursement \$301,464

TCOE Match \$471,521

TCOE Total Cost \$722,985

There is no net County cost to the General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life initiative that encourages innovative provisions of quality supportive services to at-risk youth and children in state and federally-mandated programs. This agreement increases the ability to fulfill the obligation by providing resources to support educational needs through administrative activities directly related to the coordination and provision of educational information for children in foster care.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/Francena Martinez
Francena Martinez
Director of Human Services

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Agreement