



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: May 9, 2023

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|------------------------------------|-----|
| 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: Vienna Barnes PHONE: 559-624-8075

SUBJECT: Approve an agreement with First 5 Tulare County

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with First 5 Tulare County for administration of the Home Visiting "Parents-as-Teachers" Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 effective from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign one (1) copy of the agreement.

SUMMARY:

The Home Visiting "Parents-as Teachers" Program ("Program") provides resources and support for parents of children under 24 months and pregnant individuals to promote the health, development, and well-being outcomes of individuals, families, and children born into poverty; and to expand future educational, economic, and financial capability opportunities and improve the likelihood of exiting the cycle of poverty.

The Program is an evidence-based, voluntary program that pairs the Tulare County Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) families with a qualified Home Visitor that will make regular visits to the child's home to provide early education support services including health and wellness support for parents and caregivers, as well as pre- and postnatal care for expecting parents. The pairing of the Home Visiting Program with the CalWORKs program provides an opportunity to connect families with necessary resources, to improve their parenting skills and household order, and ensure that their children have a safe and nurturing environment that allows them to thrive and grow.

First 5 of Tulare County uses five Family Resource Centers (FRCs) to deliver the Parents-As-Teachers model home visitation services. Each FRC is located in a non-

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overlapping pocket of Tulare County and is designed to meet the needs of that community by reaching families where they reside via collaboration and co-location of services at their establishments.

The Program's Parents-as-Teachers model provides coaching and guidance to parents through regularly planned home visits and group socialization activities. Home Visitors use standardized data collection tools such as the following: 1) screenings; 2) assessments; 3) questionnaires; and 4) interviews to evaluate, develop and individualize service plans based on each family's needs. Home Visitors can make referrals for each of the following: 1) prenatal; 2) infant and toddler care; 3) nutrition; 4) parent education; 5) and child development services as needed. Parents and caregivers can also receive referrals for services such as job readiness, education, domestic violence, and mental health services. Families can also be supported with the purchase of child safety kits, car seats, adaptive equipment for children with special needs and resources related to language and literacy needs. Resources are further maximized through a partnership across the agency with the Public Health Branch. This partnership allows the Public Health Nurses to visit children and/or expecting parents that may have unique medical needs. Additionally, the Public Health Branch provides trainings for the Home Visitors on the oral health needs of infants and toddlers.

The target population served with this program is pregnant CalWORKs clients, parents with a child younger than twenty-four months, or first-time caretaker relatives with a child younger than twenty-four months. Under the 2022/2023 agreement, First 5 of Tulare County has served 103 families through January 2023. The number of families served was reduced significantly by the elimination of in-person visits. Under the 2023/2024 agreement, First 5 of Tulare County plans to enroll 150 families by June 30, 2024.

This agreement did not include a Request For Proposal process because Parents-as-Teachers was one of a select number of evidenced-based models approved by the State for use with the Home Visiting Program. We selected Parent-As-Teachers because it is a nationally known model that has been used for decades. First 5 of Tulare County was selected to implement the Program because they have established relationships with several Family Resource Centers (FRC) in rural, outlying areas of the county that we are targeting with the Home Visiting Program, which eliminates the need to establish individual contracts with each FRC to implement the Parents-As-Teachers model.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The budgeted costs associated with this agreement are included in the Health and Human Services Agency 001-142-4032 budget unit on line 7043, professional services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 for Fiscal Year 2023/2024. The Home Visiting Program adopts the whole person approach to serving families with an average cost of approximately \$8,000 per family. The funding is derived from a combination of State and Federal allocations for the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program. There is no additional net county cost to the General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

Tulare County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life initiative to promote and encourage the provision of quality supportive services for at-risk adults, youth and

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children in state and federally mandated programs. This agreement increases the ability to fulfill that obligation by providing parenting resources for first-time parents to ensure healthy child development, empowered parents and, ultimately, strong communities.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/ Francena Martinez

Francena Martinez

Director of Human Services

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Agreement