

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 6/19/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 781-1831	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a foster family agency for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amount of \$4,482,168.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013 in the amount of \$4,482,168.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Fed, State and County	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$4,482,168	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$4,482,168	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		(12) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(13) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001157		(14) W-9 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
(15) LOCATION MAP N/A	(16) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? N/A	(17) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date <u>Approved June 21, 2011</u>	
(18) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW  Emily Jackson			
(19) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services/Trish Avery Caldwell  
(805) 781-1831

DATE: 6/19/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a foster family agency for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amount of \$4,482,168.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013 in the amount of \$4,482,168.

## **DISCUSSION**

Nationwide, the foster care system serves approximately 463,000 children temporarily removed from abusive or neglectful homes, or children that no longer have a parent(s) that can provide care for other reasons (Annie E. Casey Foundation). Statewide there are approximately 60,000 children and youth in foster care (2010, [www.kidsdata.org](http://www.kidsdata.org)), while locally the Department of Social Services of San Luis Obispo County (DSS) provides foster care services to an average of three hundred and fifty (350) children and youth each year.

When a child is placed outside of his/her home, Child Welfare Services (CWS), a division of the DSS, provides extensive services to the family of origin in hopes of reunification, or, when reunification is not an option, CWS provides for a permanent placement that meets the needs and safety of the child. Social Workers (SW) help provide adults, children and foster families, or other placement agencies, with services to stabilize the environment for the child or youth while a permanent case plan is being developed to address safety and health concerns of the child(ren). DSS has partnered with FCNI since 1992 to help meet the foster care mandates and services needed to serve children and families in our County.

FCNI is a private, nonprofit local foster family agency (FFA) that began providing services in 1987 with the purpose of creating family-based treatment programs as an alternative to group home or institutional care for children and youth. The agency's mission is "to enhance the well-being of

children and families in partnership with our community” and serves over 1,800 children, youth and families annually. The agency provides extensive foster care services and currently operates five (5) programs within its Therapeutic Foster Care Services division:

- Therapeutic Foster Care
- Emergency Shelter Care
- Intensive Therapeutic Foster Care
- Wraparound Foster Care (WFC)
- Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)

DSS links with FCNI for therapeutic foster care treatment services; and contracts for three (3) specific programs to ensure services are available for DSS children, youth and families as needed: 1) Emergency Shelter, 2) Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and 3) Wraparound Foster Care (WFC). Emergency Shelter care ensures that ten (10) shelter beds with a certified or County-licensed family are available 24/7 to provide service to children/minors who have been removed from their home due to abuse, neglect, child/youth disruptive behavior, or for other child safety reasons. Removing a child from a harmful environment can happen at anytime and a safe placement must be available. Services provided while in shelter care are designed to develop and maintain positive, productive and healthy behaviors that focus on facilitating a successful transition to the biological family, or a more permanent placement with a foster family, or successful transition to independent living. FCNI is the only local provider for emergency shelter beds with a certified or County-licensed family to provide temporary care for foster children and youth.

FCNI began offering Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC) services in 2004 to meet the needs of children/youth and families in the community. CFC provides family-centered crisis stabilization for minors requiring increased behavioral services in an out-of-home setting that exceed services provided in a basic foster care placement. CFC is a unique short-term crisis stabilization program, for up to ninety (90) days that utilizes In-Home Support Counselors *and* a behavioral management system with the intent of reunifying the child/youth to their home or prior placement. With six (6) available beds, FCNI served one hundred and three (103) children/youth between 2004 and 2010 and eighty three percent (83%) of placement days were successful based on: 1) stabilized family placement, 2) diversion from a higher level of institution care (i.e., averted from high-level institutional care), and 3) reunification or successful transition to independent living. FCNI is the only provider of CFC for foster children and youth in our County.

The Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) program offers alternatives to out-of-home placement in an institutionalized setting (i.e., group home) by bringing services like In-Home Support Counselors, tutors, clinical supervision, and social workers to the family based on an approved service plan. When remaining in the family of origin is not in the best interest of the child, WFC can be provided to a child or youth in a foster family setting. WFC is family-based treatment in a very structured behavioral management system to support emotionally and/or behaviorally challenged children/youth as they work to gain behaviors that are appropriate in a family environment. This fiscal year funding for WFC has been increased to address the growing demand for these services which will result in more placement options for children and youth, and shorter waits for an appropriate placement. FCNI is the only local provider of WFC for foster children and youth.

All programs are delivered in partnership with public and private agencies and are designed utilizing

“Best Practices” which include being family-focused, strength-based, needs driven, community-centered and culturally competent. Foster parents are specially trained to provide the best possible care for children/youth with high emotional/behavioral needs. These foster care programs not only assist the children/youth being served, but are also designed to provide parents with continuous support, training and agency accountability. For more information about services offered by FCNI visit their website at [www.fcni.org](http://www.fcni.org).

Approval of this renewal contract will ensure FCNI continues to provide Emergency Shelter, CFC and WFC services for the County in support of the outcomes of Assembly Bill 636 (AB 636), the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (better known as the System Improvement Plan or SIP), which focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting on outcomes. These services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in the community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

This contract was developed in partnership with the FCNI and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The total contract amount for FCNI Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services is \$4,482,168. The budget funds three programs: Emergency Shelter, CFC, and WFC in the amounts of \$458,000, \$382,000, and \$3,642,168 respectively. The amount of funding for WFC has increased based on serving more children. The contract is included in the DSS adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency		Estimated FY 11-12	Budgeted FY 12-13	Notes	Sharing Ratios			
					Fed	St	Co	Other
FCNI	<i>Shelter</i>	\$ 458,000	\$ 458,000	Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services	13%	35%	52%	0%
	<i>CFC</i>	\$ 382,000	\$ 382,000					
	<i>WFC</i>	<u>\$3,228,420</u>	<u>\$3,642,168</u>					
<i>Total Contract Amount</i>		<u>\$4,068,420</u>	<u>\$4,482,168</u>					

**RESULTS**

**Fiscal Year 11-12**

*An estimated ninety (90) foster children and families received services during the contract year.*

**Emergency Shelter**

FCNI provided services that resulted in providing 1,133 shelter days with a forty six percent (46%)

utilization rate as of March 31, 2012. *Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the FY, the utilization rate will still be lower than the anticipated fifty-five percent (55%) or 1,800 days filled, due to a lack of referrals from DSS for this service. The lack of referrals is primarily a result of a reduced need for emergency shelter during this fiscal year. Each year the service type fluctuates and as needed, funding shifts to the program/service with the highest demand based on the needs of children and families in our communities. No appropriate shelter referrals were turned away.*

*On June 30, 2011 a final total of 1,317 shelter days with a forty percent (40%) utilization rate was reported for FY 10-11.*

FCNI met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect.

### **Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)**

FCNI provided 1,925 placement days with a 91% utilization rate as of March 31, 2012. *The number of placement days is expected to meet the anticipated 2,555 placement days by June 30, 2012.*

*On June 30, 2011, it was reported that for FY 10-11, a total of 2,555 placement days were provided with a 96% utilization rate.*

FCNI provided services that resulted in serving twelve (12) teens receiving short-term (90-120 days) CFC services as of March 31, 2012. *Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the FY, the number of teens served will still be lower than the anticipated twenty-three (23) teens due to the following reasons:*

- 1. The behaviors and needs of the children being placed have been more severe therefore extending the length of stay and reducing the total number of children that can be served.*
- 2. Foster parent availability has been limited.*

FCNI provided services that resulted in eighty three percent (83%) of children/youth (10 of 12) utilizing CFC services and being stabilized and diverted from placement in a Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home or hospital placement as of March 31, 2012. *The percentage of children successfully utilizing CFC services was slightly lower than the estimated eighty-five percent (85%) due to the low number of appropriate referrals. Ten (10) of twelve (12) children/youth served had successful outcomes. Each year the service type fluctuates and as needed, funding shifts to the program/service with the highest demand based on the needs of children and families in our communities. FCNI received funding for services provided.*

### **Wraparound (WRAP) Foster Care**

FCNI provided services that resulted in exceeding performance outcomes of serving up to forty four (44) children/families per month, up to seventy (70) per year. *A total of seventy-one (71) WRAP placements were made as of March 31, 2012. It is anticipated that this number will be slightly higher by the end of FY 11-12.*

*On June 30, 2011 a final total of eighty six (86) WRAP placements were reported for FY 10-11.*

FCNI exceeded its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in eighty percent (80%) of clients served being successfully stabilized and/or diverted from Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home placement. *As of March 31, 2012 a total of 91% of participants receiving services were successfully stabilized and/or diverted from RCL 12-14 group home placement.*

FCNI met its performance outcome and provided services that resulted in one hundred percent (100%) of children/families being served receiving crisis intervention services 24 hours per day, seven days per week as needed.

### Fiscal Year 12-13

#### **Emergency Shelter:**

- FCNI will provide 3,285 shelter days with a utilization rate of fifty-five percent (55%) or 1,800 days filled.
- FCNI will have no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect.

#### **CFC Services:**

- FCNI will provide 2,555 child/youth placement days with a utilization rate of ninety percent (90%) or 2,044 days filled.
- FCNI will provide twenty-three (23) teens CFC services for 90 - 120 days.
- FCNI will provide services that result in eight-five percent (85%) of the children/youth (16) utilizing CFC services being stabilized and diverted from placement in an Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home (i.e., placement in a facility to address emotional or mental health needs with special services) or hospital placement.

#### **Wraparound Services:**

- FCNI will provide wraparound services for up to fifty (50) children/families per month, up to one hundred (100) per year.
- FCNI will provide services that result in eighty percent (80%) of clients served being successfully stabilized and/or diverted from RCL 12-14 group home placement.
- FCNI will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of children/families being served receiving crisis intervention services 24 hours per day, seven days per week as needed.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Clerk's File