

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

(1) DEPARTMENT District Attorney	(2) MEETING DATE 1/28/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Debra Vallely 781-4082	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve renewal contracts (Clerk's Filed) for \$29,015 each between the County and the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County and RISE (formerly the North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center) for disbursement of County Domestic Violence Program Special Fund Monies and Battered Women's Shelter Trust Account Monies. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION The District Attorney's Victim/Witness Division recommends that the Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign annual contracts to disburse Domestic Violence Special Fund monies and funds from the Battered Women's Shelter Trust Account with the following: 1) Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County for a grant in the amount of \$29,015; and 2) North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center for a grant in the amount of \$29,015.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) DV Program Spec, Fund; Battered Women's Trust Acct.	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$61,084.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$61,084.00	(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) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) RISE (formerly No. Co. Shelter): 0019001364 SLO Shelter: 0019001364		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: <u>January 29, 2013</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: District Attorney / Debra Vallely  
781-4082

DATE: 1/28/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve recurring contracts (Clerk's Filed) for \$29,015 each between the County and the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County and RISE (formerly the North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center) for disbursement of County Domestic Violence Program Special Fund Monies and Battered Women's Shelter Trust Account Monies. All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The District Attorney's Victim/Witness Division recommends that the Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign annual contracts to disburse Domestic Violence Special Fund monies and funds from the Battered Women's Shelter Trust Account with the following: 1) Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County for a grant in the amount of \$29,015; and 2) North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center for a grant in the amount of \$29,015.

## **DISCUSSION**

The County sets aside \$23 from each marriage license fee issued for the purpose of funding domestic violence programs. Historically, two agencies have applied for and received funds: the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County and the North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center. Both agencies are eligible to receive these funds based on 2007 criteria set forth in the Welfare and Institutions Code as amended by the passage of AB 2084 which restricts this funding to "domestic violence shelter-based programs".

In addition to the trust account generated from marriage license fees, fines collected from defendants convicted of domestic violence pursuant to Penal Code 1203.097(a)(11)(A) and designated for battered women's shelters, are also available for disbursement. Pursuant to Welfare & Institution Code 18305(c) the Board of Supervisors may request a quarterly accounting of the special fund.

As both shelters provide similar services, we recommend that the County divide the available funding equally, as it has done in prior years.

After the deduction of a 5% administrative fee, the combined total of both trust accounts budgeted by the District Attorney and available for disbursement is \$58,030, or \$29,015 per shelter. As with prior years, the County's District Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Division has administered the contracts and disbursed the funds through the District Attorney's budget with no impact on the General Fund.

## **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

Both women shelter programs and a number of community public and non-profit agencies and groups are members of the County's Domestic Violence Task Force and their representatives participate on the Task Force on a bi-monthly basis.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

All funds recommended for distribution are generated through the Domestic Violence Shelter Based Programs Act of 2006 and the Battered Women's Shelter Trust Account. As with prior years, the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Division retains a 5% administrative fee from the accumulated funds to help cover the costs of preparing and processing the contracts. After the deduction of the administrative fee, the funds available for distribution equal \$58,030 or \$29,015 per shelter. This action will disburse \$29,015 to the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County and \$29,015 to RISE (formerly the North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center).

## **RESULTS**

As intended by law, disbursement of these funds will augment the local women's shelters' budgets and provide additional funding for shelter-based emergency and support services for victims of domestic violence and their children. For FY 2012-13, the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County (WSP) provided 2,394 shelter nights and 7,182 meals for 105 clients, including women and children. The WSP also provided 10,762 nights of transitional housing to 50 clients and their children. The RISE (formerly North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center) provided 4,332 shelter nights and 12,996 meals for 114 women and children. In addition to shelter services, both shelters offer crisis counseling, individual and group counseling, restraining order assistance, case management, information and referrals, and outreach services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.

The disbursement of these funds to our County's two women shelters supports the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Division's goal to "reduce the effects of crime on victims, family members, and the community" by providing augmented funding for these two essential referral agencies in our community. The ongoing availability of domestic violence shelter services contributes to the Victim/Witness County performance measure "percentage of new crime victims on cases filed by the District Attorney who are assisted by Victim/Witness within 8 working days" through the hundreds of cross-referrals between the Victim/Witness Assistance Center and the shelters. During FY 2012-13, the Victim/Witness Assistance Center assisted over 3,870 victims of crime and 20% were victims of domestic violence and related crimes. Referrals between the Victim/Witness Assistance Center and the two women shelter programs link victims with services that reduce their confusion and frustration with the criminal justice system and enhance the domestic violence victim's ability to reclaim and reorganize their lives.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Attachment A (Clerk's Filed) - Domestic Violence Shelter Contracts