

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

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 8/25/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 788-2601		
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a FY 2015-16 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) in the amount of \$1,270,750. All Districts.				
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a FY 2015-16 new service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) in the amount of \$1,270,750.				
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal 50% State 50%	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,270,750	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,270,750	(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) 19001587			(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <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>n/a</u>		
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Morgan Torell				
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts				

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services/Trish Avery Caldwell  
(805) 788-2601

DATE: 8/25/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve a FY 2015-16 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) in the amount of \$1,270,750. All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a FY 2015-16 new service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) in the amount of \$1,270,750.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Background**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2013 Homeless Assessment Report to Congress indicated that San Luis Obispo County has the third highest rate of *unsheltered* homeless persons out of any Continuum of Care (CoC) in the country, with ninety percent (90%) of its homeless population being unsheltered on any given night. In 2013, San Luis Obispo County counted almost 2,200 homeless persons, with 1,951 of those being unsheltered. The overwhelming majority of homeless families in the County have no shelter or affordable housing choices which results in people sleeping in cars, tents or other places not intended for human habitation.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) operates State funded temporary and permanent Homeless Assistance programs, but the duration of these programs is often too short to stabilize families. In addition, DSS has a contract with the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo (HASLO) to assist with security deposits and eviction prevention funds. However, CalWORKs families must be in compliance with Welfare-to-Work (WTW) participation requirements to access these funds. To help address the local housing crisis for homeless families, DSS applied and received grant funding from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide housing and supportive services, better known as the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) in San Luis Obispo County. DSS first applied for and was awarded funds in FY 2014-15.

### **CalWORKs Housing Support Program**

The County CalWORKs HSP focuses primarily on family stabilization by assisting families with housing acquisition and retention through case management services and short-term rental subsidies. Once a family is identified, DSS staff works with the family to complete a Housing Barrier Assessment (HBA). The HBA identifies specific barriers like credit history, criminal history, and landlord-tenant issues. Based on the specific barriers, a case manager is assigned to work with a family and provide services that will help the family create a credible profile based on improved behaviors and expectations. In the first year the County received funding (2014), permanent housing was secured for 101 families using these best practices. Services for the County CalWORKs HSP will focus on three (3) subpopulations:

1. CalWORKs families that include at least one mandatory or voluntary WTW participant. These families are eligible to CalWORKs WTW supportive services including subsidized employment, child care and transportation

assistance.

2. CalWORKs families that include an eligible child(ren), but the parent(s) is ineligible to CalWORKs and WTW supportive services. These families are ineligible for the CalWORKs WTW supportive services.
3. CalWORKs families with eligible children, but the parent(s) is ineligible to CalWORKs and WTW supportive services due to being disabled. The parent(s) is receiving either Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) or needs assistance applying for or appealing for these benefits. These families are ineligible for the CalWORKs WTW supportive services.

In May 2015, the County released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the CalWORKs HSP for FY 2015-16 that closed on June 19, 2015. Based on the RFP evaluation criteria, FCNI was selected to provide CalWORKs HSP services. It was the only agency that responded to the RFP. 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 FCNI serves approximately 1,600 children, youth and families annually ([2013-2014 FCNI Annual Report](#)). Additionally, the agency provides extensive foster care services and currently operates seventeen (17) accredited programs within five (5) service divisions:

1. Therapeutic Foster Care
2. Family Support
3. Transitional Housing
4. Prevention and Early Intervention
5. Community-Linked

The County CalWORKs HSP falls under the FCNI Family Support service division.

Specific to the contract, FCNI will provide housing support services including housing identification, landlord engagement, case management, rental and move-in assistance, and housing retention assistance including rental subsidies and financial assistance. Services will focus on helping families improve the quality of life for CalWORKs parents and their children. Housing outcomes will be tracked by subpopulation, assistance provided, and categories of housing barriers. For more information about services offered by FCNI you may visit their website at [www.fcni.org](http://www.fcni.org).

Approval of this contract will allow FCNI to provide needed CalWORKs HSP 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 FCNI and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The total contract amount for FY 2015-16 is \$1,270,750. The contract term is effective September 1, 2015 and ends on June 30, 2016 (10 months). Funding for this contract will come from the CalWORKs Housing Support grant allocation as well as from the CalWORKs WTW allocation, and will require no General Fund Support.

Agency	Budget FY 15-16	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
			Federal	State	County
FCNI	\$1,270,750	CalWORKs Housing Support and WTW Services	50%	50%	0%

**RESULTS**

This is a first year contract with FCNI for CalWORKs HSP. However, the following are intended results of the program in FY 2015-16:

FCNI will secure permanent housing for one hundred (100) HSP families.

FCNI will provide subsidized HSP rent payments and supportive services payments for up to two hundred (200) households.

FCNI will provide intensive HSP case management services for up to fifty (50) households.

FCNI will provide services that result in eighty percent (80%) of households will remain housed in permanent housing at the six-month contact.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Clerk's File Statement for FCNI HSP Contract