

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

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 11/3/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Belinda Benassi 781-1841	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve the 2015-2020 San Luis Obispo County California Child and Family Services Review System Improvement Plan (Clerk's File) to identify policies, resources, and action steps that will be taken to further improve the services provided to foster youth and families. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve the 2015-2020 San Luis Obispo County Child and Family Services Review System Improvement Plan.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(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 type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Morgan Torell			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services / Belinda Benassi
781-1841

DATE: 11/3/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve the 2015-2020 San Luis Obispo County California Child and Family Services Review System Improvement Plan (Clerk's File) to identify policies, resources, and action steps that will be taken to further improve the services provided to foster youth and families. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the 2015-2020 San Luis Obispo County Child and Family Services Review System Improvement Plan.

DISCUSSION

Every five years the County's Department of Social Services (DSS) and Probation Department are required by the Federal and State governments to conduct a performance review and develop a plan for improvement. San Luis Obispo County's DSS and Probation Departments have agreed to jointly collaborate in the County Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) process. Both Departments work with the same population of foster youth and by joining together, they are able to benefit from each other's expertise, resources and services as well as jointly share the cost of providing a Peer Review and Community Forums.

The last C-CFSR process was completed in 2011, at which time the process was every three years instead of five. The C-CFSR process begins with a Peer Review, in which social workers, deputy probation officers and supervisors engage in discussions about case practice. After the Peer Review, Community Forums are held throughout the county to receive input and feedback from community partners, foster parents, youth, and biological parents. Once the Peer Review and the Community Forums are completed, the County Self-Assessment (CSA) Report is written and includes the findings from the Peer Review, Community Forums, and Data Analysis.

The CSA Report is used to analyze, in collaboration with community partners, DSS and Probation's performance on seven critical child welfare outcomes. The outcomes measures address safety, permanency and well-being for all foster children (e.g. maltreatment in Foster Care, and placement stability).

In addition to the outcome indicators, seven systemic factors are also considered when analyzing DSS and Probation's performance on these outcomes, including:

- Management Information Systems
- County Case Review System
- Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention
- Staff, Caregiver and Service Provider Training
- Agency Collaboration
- Service Array
- Quality Assurance System

Together, DSS and Probation identify the programmatic strengths and needs as these relate to their distinct populations.

There is no objective standard by which the County must assess its performance, and therefore, no “pass” or “fail” is associated with the CSA. However, the County must identify strengths and areas needing improvement and work in collaboration with the Office of Child Abuse and Prevention (OCAP). The areas needing improvement are addressed and analyzed further in the System Improvement Plan (SIP). Once the CSA has been submitted to the State, DSS and Probation continue to collaborate to create the SIP Report. DSS and Probation recently submitted its CSA on September 30, 2015.

The SIP Report is the final part of the review process. The purpose of the SIP Report is for DSS and Probation to take the information gathered from the CSA, primarily focusing on the outcome measures that are not being met, and choose focus outcome measures to improve. Once the focus measures have been selected, each is given strategies that will help meet the Federal standards. For each strategy, action steps are created with a timeframe of when that strategy will be implemented. The OCAP collaborates in order to provide funding for resources and services that can be used in the strategies and action steps.

DSS has selected three Federal measures (recurrence of maltreatment, re-entry in 12 months, and placement stability) and one State measure (children transitioning to self-sufficient adulthood) to focus on. Probation has selected one Federal measure (permanency in 12 months) and one State measure (least restrictive placement) to focus on.

Of these six focus outcome measures; there are a total of eleven strategies. Each strategy varies from three to eleven action steps. These strategies and action steps will be considered the work plan for DSS and Probation for the next five years until the next C-CFSR cycle begins.

Each focus measure has a baseline percentage that will be the basis to meet throughout the C-CFSR cycle. Each of focus measure has an improvement percentage for each year of the C-CFSR cycle with the final percentage meeting the Federal and State standards. Each year a SIP Annual Report will be completed to make sure that DSS and Probation are on track to meet their goals set in the work plan.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The following agencies will partner with the Department of Social Services and the Probation Department as they implement the SIP:

- Cuesta College
- Central California Training Academy
- Center for Family Strengthening
- Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County
- The Link
- Kinship Center
- Family Care Network Inc
- Independent Living Program
- Foster Parent Association
- San Luis Obispo County Office of Education
- California Youth Connection
- Behavioral Health (includes Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol)
- Children’s Services Network

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is no impact to County General Fund support.

RESULTS

Board approval of the report is required prior to submission to the State. After the report has been approved and submitted, DSS and the Probation can begin to implement the SIP. The implementation of each strategy will ensure that each focus measure will begin to improve in order to meet the Federal and State standards. By improving in each measure, DSS and Probation will in turn begin to improve services and practices that will benefit foster youth and families in San Luis Obispo County.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File Statement