

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

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 6/21/2016	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 788-2601		
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a FY 2016-17 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 local foster family agency in the amount of \$6,667,000. All Districts.				
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 in the amount of \$6,667,000.				
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal: 9% Realignment: 39% County: 52%	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$6,667,000 (FY 2016-17)	(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) 19001646			(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>June 16, 2015</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: 6/21/2016

SUBJECT: Request to approve a FY 2016-17 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 local foster family agency in the amount of \$6,667,000. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 in the amount of \$6,667,000.

DISCUSSION

In 2014 nationally the foster care system served over 415,000 children that were either temporarily removed from abusive or neglectful homes, or no longer had a parent(s) that could provide care for other reasons [(Administration for Children and Families, The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), Statistics, Report #22, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcarsreport22.pdf>).

Statewide there are approximately 60,000 children and youth in foster care annually (2014, Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.kidsdata.org; Topic: Child and Youth Safety; Foster Care) and countywide the Department of Social Services of San Luis Obispo County (DSS) provides foster care services to roughly three hundred and fifty (350) children and youth each year ([Department of Social Services Snapshot of Children in Foster Care, June 30, 2015](#)).

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 safety and health needs of each child served, while also meeting Federal and State foster care mandates.

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 approximately 1,600 children, youth and families annually ([2015 FCNI Annual Report](#)). The agency provides extensive foster care services and currently operates nineteen (19) distinctive programs within five (5) service divisions:

1. Therapeutic Foster Care
2. Family Support

3. Transitional Housing
4. Prevention and Early Intervention
5. Community-Linked

DSS contracts for three (3) programs that fall within the FCNI Therapeutic Foster Care division:

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)
3. Wraparound Foster Care (WFC)

Services are available upon request for children, youth and families served by DSS.

Emergency Shelter ensures ten (10) shelter beds with a certified or County-licensed family are available 24/7 to provide service to DSS 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 any time 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 ([2015 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

Although DSS prefers to place children in emergency situations with a relative, or non-relative family member, it is not always possible. The increased number of higher needs children placed in County care prior to identifying a longer term placement has increased, while the number of existing shelter beds is limited resulting in the need to put children/youth into non-shelter homes at a higher cost. DSS and FCNI have been working collaboratively to address the issue of limited shelter beds by placing high needs children in other (non-shelter) homes, such as county foster homes or Foster Family Agencies (FFA) homes with additional resources such as rehabilitative supportive services in the home and other services including transportation of children to and from school. This has resulted in additional costs since emergency shelter providers get a higher rate as they accommodate higher needs of children in emergency situations. The need for a mid-year increase of \$300,000 to the Emergency Shelter budget in FY 2015-16 brought the total from \$605,000 to \$905,000. The budget amount for Emergency Shelter will increase by \$145,000 in FY 2016-17 bringing the new budget to \$1,050,000 in anticipation of these additional costs. DSS continues to collaborate with FCNI to improve and develop recruitment efforts. The Resources Family Approval (RFA) program and Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention funding from the state will assist with these recruitment efforts.

Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC) services have been available through FCNI since 2004 and 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 Rehabilitation Specialist support *and* a behavioral management system with the intent of reunifying the child/youth to their home or prior placement. With the goal of six (6) available beds, FCNI has served one hundred eighty (180) children/youth between 2004 and 2015 with eighty two percent (82%) of those placements 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 ([2015 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

In the recent past, CFC has also experienced a shortage of beds. This is due to an increase in high needs children who are staying in CFC longer than expected because of the unavailability of a longer term living arrangement. Because of this, the CFC program budget also needed a mid-year increase in FY 2015-16 in the amount of \$35,000. This increase brought the total from \$235,000 to \$270,000 in FY 2015-16. The contract amount for CFC will increase by \$35,000 in FY 2016-17 bringing the new budget to \$305,000 in anticipation of these additional costs. DSS continues to collaborate with FCNI to improve and develop recruitment efforts. The Resources Family Approval (RFA) program and Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention funding from the state will assist with these recruitment efforts.

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 Rehabilitation Specialists, tutors, clinical supervision, and social workers to the family based on an approved service plan. 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. 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 funded at Rate Classification Level (RCL) Level 13 and is the only local provider of these services for foster children and youth ([2015 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

The WFC program budget will increase by thirty percent (30%), or \$1,210,596 in FY 2016-17 to account for an anticipated 2.5% rate increase determined by the state and for an increase of 10 Wraparound slots. This will bring the number of slots from 50 to 60. The increased slots will allow FCNI to serve children/youth who are currently placed in out-of-county group homes to begin implementation of AB 403, Continuum of Care Reform.

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 you may visit their website at 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

On June 16, 2015, Board Item No. 30, the Board approved the original FCNI/Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services contract in the amount of \$4,941,404. Due to the increased need for Emergency Shelter and Crisis Stabilization Foster Care services as discussed above, the contract was increased in FY 2015-16 by \$335,000 using the County General Services Purchasing (GSP) approval process. Based on this increase the total approved contract amount was \$5,276,404 in FY 2015-16.

The total contract amount for FCNI Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services in FY 2016-17 is \$6,667,000 and funds three programs: Emergency Shelter, CFC, and WFC in the amounts of \$1,050,000, \$305,000, and \$5,312,000 respectively. This is an increase of \$1,390,596 from the adjusted contract budget in FY 2015-16. The Emergency Shelter budget will be increased by \$145,000 due to the shortage of emergency shelter beds and the anticipated requirements for high needs children to be placed in other living arrangements with additional rehabilitative and support services. The CFC budget will be increased by \$35,000 due to the shortage of CFC beds and the anticipated requirements to care for an increase in high needs children who are staying in CFC longer than expected because of the unavailability of a longer term living arrangement. The WRAP budget will be increased by \$1,210,596 due to an increase of 10 slots, in addition to an increase in pay rates to providers of foster care. The contract is included in the DSS adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency		Budgeted FY 14-15	Adjusted FY 15-16	Budgeted FY 16-17	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
						Federal	Realignment 2011	County
FCNI	Shelter	\$ 458,000	\$ 905,000	\$1,050,000	Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services	13%	35%	52%
	CFC	\$ 382,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 305,000				
	WFC	\$3,751,404	\$4,101,404	\$ 5,312,000				
Total Contract Amount		\$4,591,404	\$5,276,404	\$6,667,000				

RESULTS

Fiscal Years 14-15 and 15-16

FY 15-16: As of March 31, 2016, a total of ninety seven (97) foster children and families received services during the contract year (15 Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care and 82 Wrap Placements). It is anticipated that this number will be higher by June 30, 2016, which is the end of the contract term.

FY 14-15: Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, a total of one hundred and twenty (120) foster children and families received services last year (16 Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care and 104 Wrap Placements).

Emergency Shelter

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services that resulted in 2,028 available shelter days with a seventy six percent (76%) utilization rate as of March 31, 2016. The current utilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of fifty five percent (55%). The number of shelter days and the utilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2016.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, of the 2,354 available shelter days a total of 1,004 were filled resulting in a forty three percent (43%) utilization rate.

In FY 15-16 FCNI met the performance outcome and provided services that resulted in no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect as of March 31, 2016, meeting the target.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, FCNI met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect.

Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided 1,417 CFC placement days with a ninety percent (90%) utilization rate as of March 31, 2016. Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the contract which is June 30, 2016, the placement days will most likely be lower than the anticipated contract performance outcome of 2,555 due to a lack of available beds.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, of 2,092 actual available placement days (based on year-end actual beds/placements available) a total of 2,088 placement days were utilized resulting in a ninety nine percent (99%) utilization rate.

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services that resulted in fifteen (15) teens receiving short-term (90-120 days) CFC services as of March 31, 2016. Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the contract which is June 30, 2016, the number of teens served may 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.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, a total of sixteen (16) teens received short-term (90-120 days) CFC services.

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services that resulted in eight seven percent (87%), or thirteen (13) of fifteen (15), children/youth utilizing CFC services stabilizing and being diverted from placement in a Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home or hospital as of March 31, 2016. The current stabilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of eighty five percent (85%). The number of child/youth serviced and the stabilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2016.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, a total of thirteen (13) of sixteen (16), or eighty one percent (81%), of children/youth served had successful outcomes.

Wraparound (WRAP) Foster Care

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services that resulted in eighty two (82) Wraparound placements, with at least fifty four (54) per month, as of March 31, 2016. The current Wraparound placements are slightly below the anticipated contract performance outcome of one hundred (100) placements. However, it is anticipated this number will be higher based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2016.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, FCNI exceeded its performance outcome to service one hundred (100) and provided services for a total of one hundred and four (104) Wraparound placements were made last year.

In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services that resulted in eighty nine percent (89%), or seventy three (73) of eighty two (82), of clients served being successfully stabilized and/or diverted from Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home placement as of March 31, 2016. The current stabilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of eighty percent (80%). The number of child/youth serviced and the stabilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2016.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, a total of eighty eight (88) of one hundred four (104), or eighty four percent (84%), of children/youth served had successful outcomes.

In FY 15-16 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 as of March 31, 2016, meeting the target thus far in the FY.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2014-15 and received July 20, 2015, 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 16-17

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 2,300 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 sixty (60) 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 Statement for FCNI FC Shelter and Intervention Services Contract