

**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 the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) in the amount of \$1,200,000. 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), for CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) in the amount of \$1,200,000 for FY 2016-17.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal 80% State 20%	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,200,000 (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) 19001649		(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>August 25, 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 the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility for Kids (CalWORKs) Housing Support Program (HSP) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI) in the amount of \$1,200,000. 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), for CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) in the amount of \$1,200,000 for FY 2016-17.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Background**

The US 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. The HUD rating was based on the 2013 enumeration count that identified almost 2,200 homeless persons, with 1,951 of those being unsheltered. Fortunately due to expanded funding and community partnerships, the numbers have improved, though there is still more work to be done.

In 2015 another countywide homeless enumeration count was conducted and 1,515 people were identified as homeless with approximately seventy four percent (74%), or 1,123 of those being unsheltered. Based on this data there continues to be a high percentage of the homeless population that lack shelter or affordable housing choices which results in people sleeping in cars, tents or other places not intended for human habitation. Through continued partnerships and funding the hope is that all identified people who are homeless in our community will have human choices of where they sleep at night.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) operates State funded temporary and permanent Homeless Assistance programs, however 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. In order to access the HASLO funds, CalWORKs families must be in compliance with Welfare-to-Work (WTW) participation requirements. To further expand housing services for homeless families, DSS applied for and started receiving in FY 2014-15 additional grant funding from California Department of Social Services (CDSS). Using this funding DSS created the Housing Support Program (HSP) to provide housing and supportive services to homeless families who meet the unique eligibility criteria and are experiencing a housing crisis. This will be the third FY the County has received state funding that is used to house the homeless families and individuals in our community.

## 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. Since services began in 2014 an estimated one hundred and sixty six (166) families have secured permanent housing using these best practices. Services for the County CalWORKs HSP 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 to 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 (County RFP# 1316). Based on the RFP evaluation criteria, FCNI was selected to provide CalWORKs HSP services. It was the only agency that responded to the RFP. In accordance with County Purchasing it is acceptable that the contract established by the RFP can be renewed for approximately three (3) fiscal years. 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 ([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 the FY 2016-17 is \$1,200,000 for the term of the contract. The contract is included in the DSS adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency	Budget FY 15-16	Budget FY 16-17	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
				Federal	State	County
FCNI	\$1,270,750	\$1,200,000	CalWORKs Housing Support Services	80%	20%	0%

**RESULTS**

*Fiscal year 2015-16 was the first year FCNI contracted with the County for the CalWORKs HSP service contract with an effective date of September 1, 2015.*

**FY 15-16**

*Services began September 1, 2015, and outcomes are available through March 31, 2016. Reported results cover a seven (7) month period.*

*In FY 15-16 FCNI provided services to one hundred and fifteen (115) families that resulted in thirty three (33) families securing permanent housing as of March 31, 2016. The number of families who secured permanent housing is below the estimated one hundred (100) HSP families due to a lack of eligible referrals to housing. All 115 families have participated in case management and received supportive services to assist with existing and future housing needs. It is anticipated that the number of families to secure permanent housing will be higher by June 30, 2016, which is the end of the contract.*

*In FY 15-16 FCNI provided supportive services to one hundred and fifteen (115) families who received housing assistance and that included supportive services and case management services as a March 31, 2016. The number of families receiving housing assistance which included supportive services and case management services is below the estimated two hundred (200) HSP families due to a lack of eligible referrals. It is anticipated that the number of families to receive supportive services and case management will be higher by June 30, 2016, which is the end of the contract.*

*In FY 15-16 FCNI exceeded its performance outcome to provide intensive HSP case management services to fifty (50) households as of March 31, 2016. All one hundred and fifteen (115) families served have received intensive HSP case management services. Families referred to the HSP program generally have numerous housing barriers and need a high level of services to remain stable. It is anticipated that the number of families to receive intensive HSP services will be higher by June 30, 2016, which is the end of the contract.*

*In FY 15-16 FCNI provided housing services that resulted in thirty three (33) families securing permanent housing. Of these families, two (2) were placed in permanent housing six-months ago and remain in housing as of March 31, 2016. The remaining families have been in housing for less than six (6) months and their status will be reported on in the final quarterly report. The contract with FCNI started September 1, 2015, therefore as of March 31, 2016 the contract has been active for seven (7) months. It is anticipated that the number of families to retain permanent housing for a six-month period will be higher by June 30, 2016, which is the end of the contract.*

**FY 16-17**

*Based on the first year outcomes the performance outcomes have been modified to set realistic outcomes based on the number of referrals received for HSP services.*

FCNI will secure permanent housing for eighty five percent (85%) of referred HSP families.

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

FCNI will provide intensive HSP case management services for up to seventy five (75) households.

FCNI will provide services that result in eighty five percent (85%) of households remaining housed in permanent housing at the six-month contact.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Clerk's File Statement for FCNI HSP Contract