



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

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services		(2) MEETING DATE 1/23/2018		(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 788-2601	
(4) SUBJECT Request to 1) approve a sole source FY 2017-18 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care program services with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., in the amount of \$89,090; and 2) authorize a corresponding budget adjustment for Fund Center 180-Social Services Administration in the amount of \$89,090 for the program, by 4/5 vote. All Districts.					
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Waive the Board adopted contracting for services policy and approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a new sole service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO) for Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care program services in the total amount of \$89,090 for the period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018; and Authorize a corresponding budget adjustment for Fund Center 180-Social Services Administration in the amount of \$89,090 to cover program expenses, by 4/5 vote. 					
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) 100% Federal		(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$89,090		(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	
(9) BUDGETED? No					
(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) 19001834				(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: 1718078 <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's 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/Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 788-2601

DATE: 1/23/2018

SUBJECT: Request to 1) approve a sole source FY 2017-18 new service contract (Clerk's File) for the Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care program services with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc., in the amount of \$89,090; and 2) authorize a corresponding budget adjustment for Fund Center 180-Social Services Administration in the amount of \$89,090 for the program, by 4/5 vote. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Waive the Board adopted contracting for services policy and approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a new sole service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO) for Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care program services in the total amount of \$89,090 for the period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018; and
2. Authorize a corresponding budget adjustment for Fund Center 180-Social Services Administration in the amount of \$89,090 to cover program expenses, by 4/5 vote.

DISCUSSION

Background¹

When abused and neglected children are removed from their home they are in crisis and need to be immediately stabilized in the best possible environment with family or a non-related extended family member (NREFM) whenever possible. Unfortunately, due to the shifting economy and changing demographics, many resource families, including relative caregivers and NREFM, who may care for foster children, work outside the home and lack access to affordable child care during work hours. The lack of child care is one of the primary barriers to accepting an emergency foster care placement. In California, a resource family/relative caregiver/NREFM does not receive child care funds when s/he provides a home for a child that's in need of an emergency placement. The California Department of Education estimates cost of child care for a child in the 0-5 age range to be around

¹ California Department of Social Services (CDSS) All County Letter [ACL 17-109](#)

\$1,000² per month when child care is available. And according to Urbansitter, hourly child care rates can range from \$12 to \$17 per hour.³ Since the average foster care payment for young children is under \$700, and due to the high cost and often lack of availability of child care, this often means a resource family/relative caregiver/NREFM has to initially decline the child placement which can translate into multiple moves for a child. In addition, relative caregivers and NREFM often have the added challenge of meeting state training and education requirements immediately to become a resource family.

However, in support of placing children in homes rather than congregate care and to reduce child placement moves, in June 2017, Senate Bill (SB) 89⁴ (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2017) authorized the Emergency Child Care Bridge program for foster children (FC Bridge program) and later funding was allocated to cover the child care costs for children and families in some situations. SB 89 child care funding is focused on covering costs when a child is placed in foster care in an emergency and the placement parent(s) works or goes to school and child care would be needed so the placement parent(s) could continue to do these activities while providing a safe home for the child. All child care payments are time-limited and issued as a monthly voucher. To assist in finding a quality, long-term child care provider, resource families/relative caregivers/NREFM will have access to a child care navigator. There will also be trauma-informed care training for those providing child care services to foster children. Prior to SB 89 nine states offered some child care assistance to working resource families (Arizona, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Wisconsin and Washington).

The County submitted the Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care program application on November 30, 2017 and was notified of funding in December 2017. A total of \$89,090 was awarded and the state specifically asked that counties not charge for administrative activities due to the funding being an opt-in program with capped funding. Therefore, the County is contracting for services in the total amount of funding, \$89,090. Based on the short timeline of applying and being awarded funding by the State, the department is asking for approval of this contract effective January 1, 2018, which covers the period funding is available.

Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Care Program (FC Bridge)

The FC Bridge program consists of three components:

1. **Emergency Child Care Voucher/Payment:** Eligible families may receive a time-limited child care voucher or payment to help pay for child care costs for foster children from birth through age 12, and for children with exceptional needs or severely disabled up to age 21. The County will issue child care vouchers with first priority given to children ages 0-5.
2. **Child Care Navigator:** The local Resource and Referral (R&R) child care program will provide a child care navigator to eligible families (see below). The navigator will assist with finding a child care provider, securing a subsidized child care placement if eligible, completing child care program applications, and developing a plan for long-term child care appropriate to the child's age and needs. Navigator services are NOT contingent on a family receiving child care payment/voucher.
3. **Trauma-informed care training and coaching:** Child care programs participating in the FC Bridge program will receive access to trauma-informed care training. The training will include, but not limited to, infant and

² [Regional Market Rates \(RMR\) for San Luis Obispo County](#)

³ [Urbansitter.com](#)

⁴ [SB 89](#) (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2017)

toddler development and research-based, trauma-informed best practices. Child care providers will also receive access to coaching to assist them in applying training curriculum and learn strategies and techniques for working with children in foster care.

The California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (Network) will develop and coordinate the training content to be used by the local R&R.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) specifies that the local County Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) program provide child care information to all parents needing child care and that they provide navigator and trauma-informed care training and coaching. In San Luis Obispo County, the local R&R agency is Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO). The County currently contracts with CAPSLO to provide child care services for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) families in a separate contract. This contract would provide emergency child care bridge for County foster care children only.

The Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO), previously known as the Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (EOC), a private nonprofit, began providing services in San Luis Obispo County in 1965 and offers many programs for low-income individuals and families including child care. The County has contracted with CAPSLO since 1998 to administer CalWORKs Stage 1 child care which includes facilitating child care services and making direct payments to child care providers. CAPSLO is approved by CDSS to handle State child care funds and have been serving an estimated four hundred (400) CalWORKs children per year.

For the FC Bridge program contract, CAPSLO will be responsible for assessing the eligibility for emergency child care for eligible resource families/relative caregivers/NREFM, providing child care navigation services, and offering trauma-informed care training and coaching to child care providers working with children, and children of parenting youth, in the foster care system.

Request to Waive Contracting for Services Policy

Because CDSS named the local R&R agency to partner with the County, the department is asking that the contracting for services process be waived. It should be noted that while the Board of Supervisors approved changes to the Contracting for Services policy on December 12, 2017, including increasing the Purchasing Agent contracting authority for services from \$50,000 to \$100,000, this contract was already in process, and is therefore being presented to your Board for approval. Services provided by CAPSLO for this contract will focus on providing child care and supports to resource families/relative caregivers/NREFM, enhancing child development understanding, and bring additional nurturing adults into foster children's lives.

The approval of this new contract will enable CAPSLO to provide emergency child care bridge services to foster children that empower families to make decisions that maximize the health and safety of children in their care. These services also aid in meeting the long-term welfare reform goals and 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) that focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting outcomes. In addition, these services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in our 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 CAPSLO and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The total contract amount for CAPSLO FC Bridge program services in FY 2017-18 is \$89,090. The contract is for a six-month timeframe starting in January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018. The funding is an opt-in program with capped funding, however it is anticipated that additional funding will be available in FY 2018-19. However, if funding is discontinued services will also terminate as stipulated in the contract. The contract will require no General Fund contribution.

Agency	FY 16-17	Budgeted FY 17-18	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
				Federal	State	County
CAPSLO	\$0	\$89,090	Emergency Child Care Bridge Foster Care Srvs	100%	0%	0%

RESULTS

CAPSLO shall serve all Child Welfare Services (CWS) families referred for emergency FC bridge child care. Every effort shall be made to serve referrals received during the funding period.

CAPSLO shall provide navigation services to a minimum of thirty (30) referred CWS families.

CAPSLO shall provide at a minimum, 5 trauma-informed training sessions, with up to 3 offered on-site at child care provider locations using curriculum provided by CDSS.

CAPSLO shall provide trauma informed training to a minimum of 33 outside and internal agency child care programs including license-exempt providers, licensed family child care providers, and licensed child care staff.

CAPSLO shall provide training and coaching to at least 40 child care provider including license-exempt providers, licensed family child care providers, and licensed child care staff.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File Statement for CAPSLO FC Bridge Contract