

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Human Services Division

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Cheryl S. Davis, Director of Human Services

DATE: June 8, 2010

SUBJECT: Contract with Placer County Office of Education for Childcare Services

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a contract with Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) for Childcare Services for CalWORKs/Welfare to Work operations for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 in the amount of \$2,748,460, and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement and subsequent amendments. This is an eight percent reduction from the prior contract. In addition, authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign subsequent amendments, up to \$49,999. This contract is fully funded with Federal and State funds. No County General Funds are required. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget.

BACKGROUND:

Since the implementation of the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program in 1998, a "welfare to work" program, PCOE has assumed the responsibility for making direct childcare provider payments, a task previously handled by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The childcare funding continuum for CalWORKs clients is comprised of three stages. Stage one funds are allocated to county human services agencies for childcare to families receiving cash assistance who do not have stable employment. Stages two and three are allocated to PCOE for childcare for families who have stable employment or have transitioned off of cash assistance. By contracting with PCOE for the administration of Stage one funds, a seamless system for the delivery of childcare services is established, maximizing the ability to manage these three program stages.

Under this contract, an average of 350 children per month will receive childcare services for FY 2010-11, which facilitates their parents' efforts in finding and maintaining employment. This is a decrease of 38 children per month from the prior year amount due to the high unemployment rate and struggling local and State economies. For FY 2009-10 and 2010-11, as a cost savings measure the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a budget provision that increased the number of families exempted from work requirements to include those with a child under 24 months and with all children under 6 years. The intent was to save the cost of the most expensive type of child care – infant care. While Human Services Welfare to Work staff have increased the number of parents in work activities over the past year, some parents did opt to take the exemption causing the decreased demand in child care.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This agreement is funded exclusively with Federal and State funds. No County General Funds are required. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget.

A copy of this contract is on file with Clerk of the Board for review.

